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Judge to Inspect Diocese Records

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Kane County—The Rockford Diocese will have to hand over documents about a priest convicted of sexual abuse to a judge for inspection. Mark Campobello worked for Rockford and Belvidere churches. He pled guilty to molesting two teenage girls at churches in Geneva and Aurora years ago and is serving an 8 year sentence in prison.

The women filed civil suits against Campobello, Bishop Thomas Doran and the Rockford Diocese. Their attorney wants the Diocese to hand over Campobello's mental health records and personnel files of other clergy members accused of inappropriate conduct.

Thursday, a Kane County judge says the Diocese has to give the court records on Campobello. The judge will then decide whether the women's attorney, Keith Aeschliman, can have them. The Diocese does not have to turn over documents about other priests. Instead, the court will conduct an "in camera" inspection of portions of the personnel files relating to allegations of priest misconduct. The files will be from May of 1991 to December of 2002. Aeschliman wanted files from 1960 to 2004. The judge will then determine whether any of those documents should be turned over to the women's attorney.