

More Natives allege sex crimes against Jesuit priests

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A few of the victims came forward Thursday to by Ted Land

share stories, pictures, and documents with the Thursday, February 5, 2009

media in Seattle. (KTUU-TV)

[Redacted]

They also say the sexual perpetrators were

intentionally sent to remote villages where they

believed Natives had little access to law

enforcement. (KTUU-TV)

ANCHORAGE, Alaska -- Another high-ranking Jesuit priest has been added to a sex abuse lawsuit, and 20 new Alaska Native victims allege sex crimes were perpetrated against children in villages.

A few of the victims came forward Thursday to share stories, pictures, and documents with the media in Seattle.

The suits allege Father Francis Case was well aware of the abuse and tried to cover it up.

They also say the sexual perpetrators were intentionally sent to remote villages where they believed Natives had little access to law enforcement.

"It's absolutely imperative you understand that most perpetrators in Alaska came from somewhere else and then they perped on our Native clients," said Pat Wall, an advocate for the survivors.

"The Jesuits have a terrible secret and that is in Alaska, in Canada, and in the Lower 48," said attorney John Manly. "They knowingly and intentionally placed molesters in a position to molest Native people."

Past sex abuse lawsuits involving the Jesuits in Alaska have been settled with payouts as high as \$50 million.