According to the September 24, 1988, edition of the Washington Post, “A Catholic priest who pleaded guilty in 1986 to molesting three youths was ruled liable for civil damages yesterday by a Montgomery County [MD] judge who said the priest had "unlawfully impeded" a lawsuit filed by one of the victims' families. In pretrial proceedings, the Rev. Peter M. McCutcheon, formerly a Prince George's County parish priest, has repeatedly refused to give permission for psychologists and fellow clerics to testify in the lawsuit about counseling sessions they had with him in the early 1980s, about the time McCutcheon was committing the assaults.”

But there is so much more to what happened here. In our webinar, Adjunct Professor of Law Bruce Adelson discusses the pain and consequences of clergy sexual assault and abuse of children that he witnessed while litigating multiple lawsuits against the Catholic Church, and a seminary, university, and clergy treatment centers in the 1980’s.

Professor Adelson will talk about the legal challenges of these cases, the high stakes and stress inherent in such litigation, and the hurdles to overcome when suing priests and Archdioceses.

This program has been approved by the Pennsylvania CLE board for one (1) hour of ethics credit. There will be a $30 fee for processing CLE credit for this event. This presentation is free to Pitt faculty, staff, and students, and those not seeking CLE credit.