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Rev Indicted for Kid Sex

By Pete Donohue
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A Catholic priest who worked as a psychologist has been indicted on charges he sodomized a 15-year-old boy he was hired to counsel.

The indictment, handed up yesterday in Kew Gardens Supreme Court, also claims that the Rev. Thomas Morrow took nude photographs of the boy and gave him crack to smoke before sodomizing him in the priest's Forest Hills home on June 6.

The Queens grand jury indicted Morrow, 51, on two counts of nonforcible sodomy, sex abuse, endangering the welfare of a minor and drug possession.

Each sodomy count is punishable by up to four years in prison.

Police arrested Morrow June 11 after the 15-year-old boy complained Morrow had snapped nude photographs of him several days earlier. Morrow had allegedly asked the boy to come over and do work on his house.

Police found a small amount of cocaine and more than 150 photographs of nude males some of whom appeared to be minors in Morrow's 65th Ave. house, authorities said.

At a later date, the teen told investigators the priest had also sodomized him after taking the pictures.

Morrow, who has been on leave from the Brooklyn Diocese since 1987, also has outstanding charges for allegedly stabbing a man in the chest and possessing drugs on another occasion.

"The conduct charged is that of a person that is out of control and is a menace to others," Assistant District Attorney Denise Tirino said in court.

Morrow's attorney, Michael Prieto of Manhattan, could not be reached yesterday afternoon.

According to the state Department of Education, Morrow was licensed as a psychologist in August 1985. The Board of Regents hit him with a one-year suspension in June 1995, but stayed the penalty. He was placed on probation for one year.

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