

DETECTIVE JOSHUA CAVELLO
OPI-0808
#MPF-122218-II

On December 22 2018, I was dispatched to a cabin on Lake Drydenne regarding a missing person's report.

Maxwell Alexander, local preacher of Sojourn Church, was sitting on the front lawn with a young girl, Catherine DeAugustine. Maxwell was still dressed for service, in his usual black dress shirt, black slacks and white priest's collar. Catherine was in a blue nightgown, with Maxwell's suit jacket around her shoulders. A small gray cat could be seen in the bay window.

Catherine told me that her "father had been missing for maybe a week" and that she had been "too afraid to talk to the police about it because dad says I'm not supposed to talk to anyone who comes by the house that he doesn't let in himself." She added that "anyone who had any business being at the house would be able to let themselves in anyways, so dad said not to worry about that sort of thing."

Maxwell said that Catherine had called him when the house had begun running low on cat food. She expressed great concern over "what would happen to Taffy if he didn't have anything to eat," and listing that as her main impetus behind making the phone call to her local priest. She "wasn't sure if Taffy could eat people food, because there was a lot of that, but he's a cat, not a person."

Anthony DeAugustine, Catherine's father, had a habit of doing a weekly grocery shop in Drydenne, given the distance of the lake from the main commercial district in Drydenne. Food, water, and sanitary supplies were in sufficient stock within the household. Catherine had ~½ of a bag of kibble left, as well as 6 cans of wet cat food.

Anthony was highly reclusive, often working from home as the Chief Financial Officer of Herald Solutions. It wasn't unusual for him to be absent from the main office in downtown Drydenne. Telecommuting was normal for him, outside of quarterly board meetings or media conferences that demanded his physical appearance.

Maxwell agreed to take Catherine into his care while the investigation behind Anthony's disappearance was launched. She happily accepted this arrangement, and Maxwell assured me he would bring Catherine along with him to the store when they went grocery shopping for more cat food and household supplies. Normal protocol would dictate a new placement for Catherine, as she is a minor. However, I have full confidence in Maxwell Alexander's ability to care for Catherine. As of this report, I believe it is in her best interest to remain in a familiar environment with a familiar caregiver.