



## Diocesan Pastoral Center

*Diocese of San Bernardino*

October 14, 1988

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Reverend Peadar Brennan  
St. Francis of Assisi  
Post Office Box 1503  
La Quinta, California 92253

Dear Father Brennan:

This is a follow-up to our meeting of Monday, October 10, 1988, regarding your resignation from the office of Pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in La Quinta. I regret that given the circumstances, your ministry was severely compromised and you were forced to tendering your resignation. Be assured that I am willing to assist you in any way possible to re-establish yourself in priestly ministry.

Father Philip A. Behan, Vicar General, is making the necessary arrangements for a temporary administrator for St. Francis of Assisi Parish Community until a new pastor can be appointed. Kindly be in touch with Father Behan regarding the sabbatical stipend that will be paid to you until, such time as, you receive a pastoral assignment.

For the present, I ask that you to be in touch with me regarding a sabbatical and possible parish ministries. During our telephone conversation of October 11, 1988, I mentioned the possibility of your studying Spanish for several months and also, considering a Military Chaplaincy for three years.

I understand you will be staying with Father Finnerty in San Diego. If you should move, please inform Father Behan, so we can contact you if needed. I hope, within a short time, we can make some definite plans as to how you will spend your time.

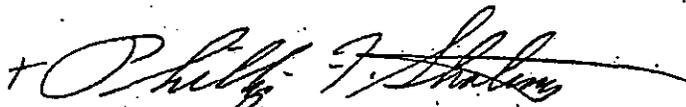
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If you wish to continue to be a priest all relationships with the woman, with whom you have become involved, are to be severed and no contact is to be maintained with her now or in the future. I understand that you are making the necessary arrangements for child support through her attorney and I presume that you have your own legal counsel to assist you. If all contact with this woman is not broken off, I will be forced to suspend you from all exercise of your priestly ministry. I believe you understand the seriousness of the present situation and that you cannot in any way, be involved with a woman. If she continues to pursue you, and you still wish to remain a priest, this may necessitate your accepting a pastoral assignment in another diocese, where you are unknown and she will be unaware of your whereabouts.

Be assured of my continued assistance, and with prayers and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Phillip F. Straling  
Bishop, Diocese of San Bernardino

PFS/jm