

POOR
ORIGINAL

Cody



February 3, 2004

Dear Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]

I want to thank you for coming forward to our Pastoral Outreach Coordinator, Jessie Dye, to tell the story of [REDACTED] experience of abuse by Michael Cody. I am deeply sorry for the pain this has caused, and I extend not only my apology, but the apology of the entire Church. There is no excuse for this behavior and I am determined to do everything I can to see that this will never again happen in our Archdiocese.

Jessie Dye informed me that you have some questions regarding what happened to Michael Cody after the abuse was reported. It is my understanding that in the spring of 1962, shortly after the abuse of [REDACTED] was reported, Michael Cody was sent away for treatment. He returned from treatment one year later and held a number of pastoral assignments in the archdiocese over the next 16 years. During this time, the Archdiocese received no other complaints of abuse by Michael Cody. In 1979, he was placed on permanent disability for medical reasons. He later moved to Florida. In 1988, the Archdiocese of Seattle received a request from a bishop in Florida about the possibility of Michael Cody returning to ministry as a priest in his diocese. Archbishop Hunthausen notified the bishop about Michael Cody's background and did not recommend him for ministry. In 1989 and again in 1994, the Archdiocese received complaints regarding child molestations that occurred in 1958. Michael Cody was reported to the authorities at that time and, again, in 2003, when we once again received [REDACTED] complaint. It is currently our understanding that Michael Cody is living in Nevada. We have reported him to the authorities in that area as well.

I am aware that the healing process is a long journey. During your initial meeting and subsequent conversations with Jessie, I know she offered you counseling on my behalf. I encourage you to consider this offer and know that it

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remains available to you in the future. As Jessie has already offered, I would be happy to meet with you personally. This meeting can be arranged by contacting Jessie.

This has been a tragic and sad period for our Church. I cannot change the past; however, I want you to know that I have been and continue to be fully committed to ensuring that none of our children will ever have to experience what [REDACTED] suffered.

I wish you, your children, and your grandchildren all the best for the coming year. You are in my prayers.

With warmest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

+ 

Most Rev. Alex J. Brunett
Archbishop of Seattle

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