SOCIETY OF JESUS



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Oregon Jesuit Province Files Chapter 11

Portland, OR. --- The Society of Jesus, Oregon Province (Jesuits) today filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code.

Fr. Patrick J. Lee, S.J., Provincial of the Oregon Province Jesuits said, "Our decision to file Chapter 11 was not an easy one, but with approximately 200 additional claims pending or threatened, it is the only way we believe that all claimants can be offered a fair financial settlement within the limited resources of the Province."

The Oregon Province has worked diligently to resolve claims of misconduct by Jesuits. Since 2001, the Oregon Province has settled more than 200 claims and paid in excess of \$25 million from its own resources. This amount does not include additional payments made by Oregon Province insurers.

"Chapter 11 will allow the Oregon Province to resolve pending claims, manage its financial situation, and continue its various ministries in the Northwest in which it has been engaged since 1831," Lee said.

"Our hope is that by filing Chapter 11, we can begin to bring this sad chapter in our Province's history to an end," Lee said. "We continue to pray for all those who have been hurt by the actions of a few men, so that they can receive the healing and reconciliation that they deserve."