Promenade II, Suite 3100 1230 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3592

Tel: 404 815-3500 Fax: 404 815-3509 www.sgrlaw.com

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

Attorneys at Law

Stephen M. Forte

Direct Dial: (404) 815-3556 Direct Fax: (404) 685-6856 Email: <u>sforte@sgrlaw.com</u>

November 18, 2009

Mr. Dale Chappell 3415 Harding Avenue Atlanta, Georgia 30345

Re: Communications with Archbishop Gregory

Dear Mr. Chappell:

I write to you on behalf and at the request of our client, the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

We are concerned about the purpose of your email, dated November 16, 2009, as well as your prior meeting with Archbishop Gregory. During your meeting with Archbishop Gregory, you stated that you were engaged in a consensual adult relationship with a priest of the Archdiocese. You also disclosed to Archbishop Gregory at that meeting that there was a second relationship that you had with another priest that was likewise consensual in nature. You told Archbishop Gregory that the relationships that you had with these priests were independent of their clerical duties and completely voluntary on your part.

Your letter makes clear your intention to go "public." The reasonable interpretation of this expressed intention is that you seek to embarrass and humiliate others for the consensual behavior that you freely engaged in. While the Archdiocese takes seriously any allegations of impropriety concerning its priests, your motive is obvious. You indicate in your e-mail that you are "open to other possibilities of resolving this matter without making this public". Please be advised that the Archdiocese of Atlanta has no intention to compensate you or otherwise buy your silence in any respect. If you feel you must go public as you have threatened, then that is your prerogative. However, our client will reserve its rights to protect its interests as may be appropriate under the circumstances.

Sincerely yours,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

Stephen M. Forte

SMF/cw





Wednesday 28 October, 2009

Mr. Dale Chappell 3415 Harding Avenue Atlanta, Georgia 30345

Dear Mr. Chappell,

I am in receipt of your communication of 26 October, 2009. I would like to invite you to meet me at my office on Thursday 12 November, 2009 at 9:30am. If that is not a convenient time, please contact my Secretary: Kenya Graham [404-888-7812] to arrange for a more convenient time.

Yours sincerely,

Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Atlanta

WDG:wdg