

June 14, 2007

Office of the Bishop

Dear Father Frank:

I am sorry to have to inform you that several more women have come forward accusing you of sexually abusing them when they were minors. Fortunately, they do not want to go public.

Under the circumstances, I feel that I should repeat the directions I gave to you in December 2002:

- 1. You may not celebrate Mass publicly (this includes public concelebration) or administer the sacraments.
- 2. You may not wear clerical garb, and you may not present yourself publicly as a priest.
- 3. You may not participate in the annual convocation and assemblies for priests.

Once again, I appreciate your cooperation in abiding by these directives and I encourage you to continue to lead a life of prayer and penance as reparation for your past misconduct.

Fraternally in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego

Reverend Frank Sierra Nazareth House 6333 Rancho Mission Road San Diego, CA 92108

Catherine Stephenson, Deputy District Attorney Office of the District Attorney County of San Diego

County of San Diego 330 West Broadway

San Diego, California 92130

Office for Civil Affairs

June 13, 2003

Dear Ms. Stephenson:

San Diego District Attorney's Office in July and August, 2002. information were included in the Diocese's Stage I disclosure to the retired priest of the Diocese of San Diego. This letter updates the residence address Fr. Sierra's name and of Fr. Frank Sierra

Valley, CA, 91977, and his telephone number is 619.660.2079. Fr. Sierra's new residence address is 1047 Fairhill Terrace, Spring

whereabouts to the requested by you. The Bishop of San Diego has not published Fr. Sierra's name and community; however, he will do so, if he is

General. This letter has also been sent to Peter Quon, Esq., Deputy Attorney

Wicheal Sawage

Peter Quon, Esq.,
Deputy Attorney General
Department of Justice
110 West A Street, Suite 1100
San Diego, California 92101



June 13, 2003

Dear Mr. Quon:

San Diego District Attorney's Office in July and August, 2002. information were included in the Diocese's Stage I disclosure to the retired priest of the Diocese of San Diego. Fr. Sierra's name and This letter updates the residence address of Fr. Frank Sierra

Valley, CA, 91977, and his telephone number is 619.660.2079. Fr. Sierra's new residence address is 1047 Fairhill Terrace, Spring

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1001 N. Grand Avenue Pueblo, Colorado 81003-2948 (719) 544-9861 Fax (719) 544-5202



DIOCESE OF PUEBLO

April 11, 2003



Reverend Msgr. Steven F. Callahan Chancellor, Diocese of San Diego P.O. Box 85728 San Diego, CA 92186-5728

Dear Msgr. Callahan,

Diocese of San Diego. I am writing to you once again relative to Father Francis Sierra, a retired priest of the

of the Holy Family, as well as Father Sierra. enclosed documents you will see that the release includes the Diocese of Pueblo, the Sons last month with With this letter I am sending on to you a copy of the Settlement Agreement entered into When you review the

include the fee of \$1,667.50 for Judge Neighbors of the Judicial Arbiter Group Inc. who attorney, Mr. Timothy Schimberg, who represented the Diocese of Pueblo. Nor does it settlement reached was for \$59,600.00. However, this does not include the fees for the negotiated the settlement. I have enclosed all of these documents for inclusion in Father Sierra's file.

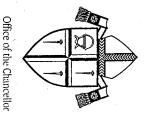
appreciated. matter of some delicacy and so your considered comment would be very much possible financial reimbursement to the Diocese of Pueblo. I fully realize that this is a been asked to inquire whether Father Sierra himself would be in a position to see to some Diocese of Pueblo has settled a legal claim, which obviously is of benefit to him, I have to send a copy of the settlement agreement on to Father Sierra himself. Also, since the Also, could I ask for your comment and assistance in this matter? I have also been asked

Could I respectfully request to hear from you in the weeks after Easter about this?

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. Mark A. Plewka, J.C.L Chancellor

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MEMORANDUM

Date: December 23, 2002

File

To:

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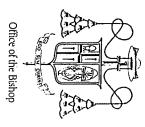
From: Monsignor Steven Callahan

Subject: Reverend Frank Sierra

On Friday, December 20, 2002, Bishop Robert Brom and I visited Father Sierra at Nazareth House. Bishop Brom explained the provisions contained in his letter to Father Sierra dated December 20, 2002. Father Sierra agreed to abide completely by them.

SIERRA-RCBSD 0130

December 20, 2002



Dear Father Sierra:

instances of the sexual abuse of minors, I direct you as follows: the Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual This is to put in writing what I communicated to you in our meeting today. In accord with Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons, and given that you have admitted multiple

- You may not celebrate Mass publicly or administer the sacraments. You may not wear clerical garb, and you may not present yourself publicly as a
- You may not participate in the annual convocation and assemblies for priests.

I appreciate your cooperation in abiding by these directives and I encourage you to continue to lead a life of prayer and penance as reparation for your past misconduct

Prayerful best wishes to you as we prepare to celebrate the Christmas mystery.

Sincerely in our Lord

Bishop of San Diego

6333 Rancho Mission Road Reverend Frank Sierra San Diego, California 92108 Nazareth House

Chancellor Very Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan

Diocesan Seal



November 1, 2002

Bishop of El Paso Most Reverend Armando X. Ochoa, D.D. 499 St. Matthews Street

El Paso, Texas 79907

Dear Bishop Ochoa:

Diocese of San Diego. I am responding to your inquiry regarding Father Francis Sierra, a retired priest of the

residence in a Catholic retirement home that includes a section for priests. Father Sierra participated in a residential treatment program at St. Luke's from February for an evaluation at Saint Luke Institute in Suitland, Maryland on January 17-22, Father Sierra by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe on November 12, 1992. Father Sierra went The diocese was informed of allegations of sexual misconduct involving minors against 1993 to July 27, 1993. Father Sierra then returned to San Diego and took up 1993.

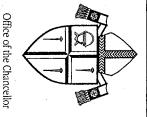
contemplative sisters. Father Sierra has faithfully abided by these conditions. Luke, Bishop Brom granted Father Sierra limited faculties to celebrate Mass and hear confessions of adults Given that Father Sierra was faithful to the aftercare treatment program set up by Saint only at the retirement home and at the house of a group of

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely yours in Christ

Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan

Chancellor



MEMORANDUM

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Date:

July 23, 2002

To: Fil

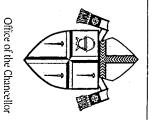
From: Monsignor Steven Callahan

Subject: Father Francis Sierra

Pueblo. He informed me that three women (sisters) are accusing Father Sierra of sexual abuse stemming from the late 1950s when he was assigned to a parish in southern Colorado. I spoke by phone today with Monsignor Mark Plewka, Chancellor of the Diocese of

SIERRA-RCBSD 0157

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July 23, 2002

Reverend Monsignor Mark Plewka Chancellor, Diocese of Pueblo 1001 North Grand Avenue Pueblo, Colorado 81003

Dear Monsignor Plewka:

retired priest of the Diocese of San Diego. I write as a follow-up to our phone conversation today regarding Father Francis Sierra, a

abided by these conditions. retirement home that includes a section for priests. Given that Father Sierra was faithful to the aftercare treatment program set up by Saint Luke, Bishop Brom granted Father Sierra I am providing a copy of a memo we provided to the Albuquerque Journal in 1993. home and at the house of a group of contemplative sisters. limited faculties to celebrate Mass and hear confessions of adults only at the retirement Maryland, he returned to San Diego in August, 1993 and took up residence in a Catholic Father Sierra completed a residential treatment program at St. Luke Institute in Suitland, Father Sierra has faithfully After

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Steven S. Callalan
Reverend Monsignor Steven F. Callahan

Enclosure

Chancellor

From:

Date: <u>.</u>0: Rodrigo Valdivia Steve Callahan Fri, Jul 12, 2002 11:55 AM Fr. Sierra

Subject:

Steve:

Msgr. Mark Plewka, Chancellor in Pueblo, CO, called to inquire about the status of Fr. Sierra on account that allegations dating back to the 1950's had now surfaced there.

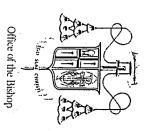
I told him that Fr. Frank has been in retirement for quite some time and his ministry restricted

This led Msgr. Plewka to conclude that we had reason to restrict Fr. Sierra's ministry so he asked if we were aware of any allegations to which I answered in the affirmative.

I suggested that if he needed any further details that he contact you.



January 14, 1998



Dear Father Frank:

fidelity to your aftercare program. Congratulations on the good report you received from St. Luke's which indicates your

extension but still limitation of your faculties: I have visited about your report with Dr. Valcour and he agrees with the following

- and may accept other offers for Eucharistic supply, but this should not extend to You may continue to supply for Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Otay, other sacramental or pastoral ministry in the parishes
- 5 the sacrament of reconciliation if the sisters request this for themselves, but not You may serve as chaplain to the Missionaries of Charity for Mass and provide
- ယ You may offer Mass and hear the confessions of residents at Nazareth House.

confessions are limited to the Missionaries of Charity and the residents at Nazareth any situation that would require further ministry. Moreover, your faculties for hearing Mass you should not take on supply in a fuller sense, e.g. for a priest on vacation, or in Consequently, while you may make yourself available to supply for the celebration of

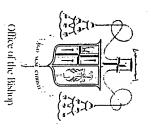
I am grateful for your cooperation in reference to your health and priestly ministry.

Fraternally in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego

Rev. Frank Sierra
Nazareth House
6333 Rancho Mission Road
San Diego, CA 92108

RHB/lj



October 30, 1997

316 East "H" Street, Suite #1407 Terra Nova Travel Chula Vista, CA 91910

To whom it may concern:

recently purchased for Rev. Frank Sierra. November 16, 1997-November 25, 1997. Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$492.20 in payment for airline tickets for travel between San Diego and Washington D.C. The invoice number for these tickets was (Dulles Airport)

Should you have any questions regarding this payment, please contact me at: (619)490-8315

Sincerely,

Rev. Edward P. McNulty Most is Oran

Assistant to the Bishop

344 E 'H' Street #1407 Chule Viste, CA 91910 (819) 426-2010 Fex (619) 426-2075 SALES FERSON: 90 90





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THANK YOU FOR CALLING TERRA NOVA INAVISERVICE CHARGES AND/OR FEMALTIES WILL FOR PERMITTED CHANGES AND REFUNDS Y Jack

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHARGE A THANSMITTAL AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE FEE IN THE EVENT OF YOUR PROMPT REMITTANCE IS APPRECIATED, LATE PAYMENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO A PENALTY OFFICE COPY CANCELLATION OR CHANGE.

COPY



July 24, 1997

Dear Father Sierra:

Having reviewed your situation and with the assurance that your health so permits, I am extending your faculties to function as a priest but only at Nazareth House and at Our Lady of Guadalupe any age. Parish, Otay, and excluding, however, situations in which you would be alone in the physical presence of a minor or a woman of situations in which you

Please communicate this permission as stated to Father Mario Vesga when you present yourself for supply in his parish.

Thank you for your cooperation with me and with the grace of

Fraternally in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego

Reverend Frank Sierra Nazareth House 6333 Rancho Mission Road San Diego, California 92108

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June 14, 1995

Fr. Frank Sierra
Nazareth House
6333 Rancho Mission Road
San Diego, CA 92108

Dear Frank:

Mass during your trip to Rome and other places in the spring of 1996. Bishop Brom received your letter of May 25, 1995, requesting permission to celebrate

weekend Mass in his parish you should decline. offer Mass with other priests on your trip. I'm putting in writing what we talked about on the phone last week. If a pastor asks you to take a weekday or You are free to

years. I am happy to hear you are doing well and continue to be active in your retirement

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Steven F. Callahan Assistant to the Bishop

MOST REV. ROBERT H. BROM ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO



DEAR BISHOP,

ORDAINED MARCH 16,1946, BY ARCHBISHOP TRAGLIA. IN THE HOLY PLACES CATHEDRAL OF SAINT JOHN .. I WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE THE PRIESTHOOD I HUMBLY ASK FOR PERMISSION TO CELEBRATE HONG KONG. WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE MAYKNOLL FATHERS IN THAILAND, IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST ON MY TRIP BACK TO ROME, WHERE I WAS , ST. PETERS CHURCH IN SINGAPORE IN ROME AND THE HOLY LAND. RETURNING I ON THE OCCASION OF MY FIFTY YEARS OF

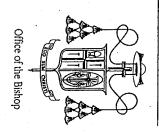
JESUS OUR SAVIOUR RISEN FROM THE DEAD. SINCERELY GRATEFUL I BEG TO REMAIN YOUR BROTHER IN

FR. FRANCIS SIERRA Ashank Ricita

6333 RANCHO MISSION ROAD

SAN DIEGO, CA. 92108

MAY 25TH, FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD 1995



March 3, 1994

Jennifer Edmonson, LGSW Suitland, Maryland 2420 Brooks Drive Saint Luke Institute 20746-5294

Dear Jennifer:

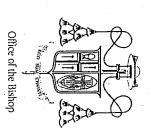
sending him for the program that would justify the expense involved. that his recovery program here is well-established, we did not see any additional benefit in Sierra back to Saint Luke Institute for the aftercare program in May. Given Father's age and I am writing to inform you that the Diocese of San Diego has decided not to send Father Frank

and with the assistance that you have provided to Father in making the transition from his stay at Saint Luke to life back here in San Diego. We are pleased with the recovery program that Father Sierra has set up for himself in San Diego,

Sincerely,

Reverend Steven F. Callahan

Assistant to the Bishop



24 November 1993 Confidential

Dear Father Sierra:

nave your request Nazareth House, as confessions there. and regarding permission your request for li limited to say Mass publicly mited faculties to he ly at hear

Given the earlier report from your counsellors which indicated these kinds of activities would not be such as to pose risks, more importantly, so long as you are faithful in your program wellness, I am pleased to be able to permit you to say mass put ly and to hear the confessions of adult men at Nazareth House of program gram for publiconly. and, that

My prayers remain with you.

Fraternally in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego

Rev. Steven Callahan Vice-Chancellor

Rev. Francis Sierra Nazareth House 6333 Rancho MIssion Road San Diego, CA 92108



July 15, 1993

Office for Communications

TO: Michelle Melendez, Albuquerque Journal, FAX: 505-983-2523

FROM: Mark Brumley, Office for Communications, Diocese of San Diego, 619-574-6365

RE: Response to Inquiry Concerning Fr. Frank Sierra

Diocese of San Diego. time when Fr. Sierra was in ministry in New Mexico and before he was incardinated in the received at least one allegation of sexual misconduct against Fr. Francis Sierra dating from the In November 1992, the Archdiocese of Santa Fe informed the Diocese of San Diego that it had

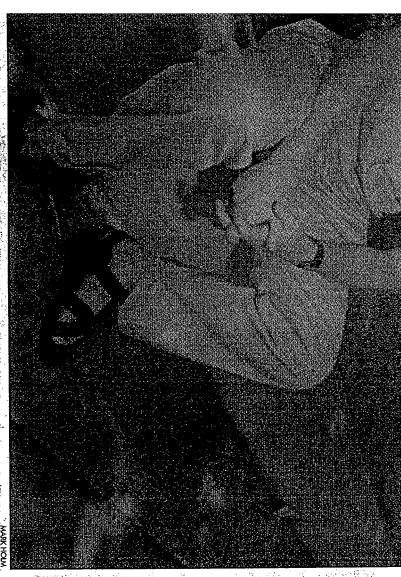
retirement, he had been engaged in only limited ministry. Fr. Sierra began ministry in the Diocese of San Diego in 1970, and retired in 1988. Since

Promptly upon receiving the information from the Archdiocese of Santa Fe regarding Fr. Sierra, Bishop Brom met with him and, as a result of this meeting, prohibited Fr. Sierra from further agreed to and is presently receiving. ministry and directed him to professional evaluation and assistance, which Fr. Sierra readily

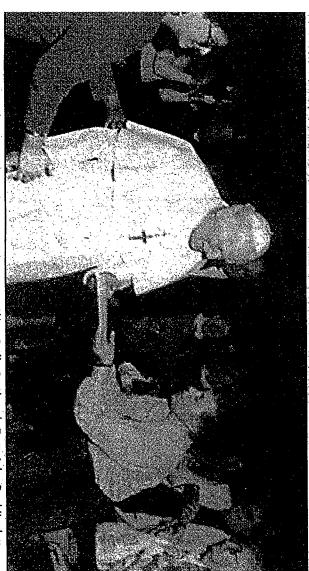
When sexual misconduct is alleged against a priest of the Diocese of San Diego, prompt and appropriate action is taken. Should such allegations be raised against Fr. Sierra in San Diego, the Diocese of San Diego will respond appropriately.

those involved, dealing openly with the community. for victims and families, and, within the confines of respect for the privacy and well-being of treatment, respect for canonical and civil legal requirements, pastoral outreach to and concern careful inquiry, relief from ministerial duties and referral Diocesan policy regarding allegations of sexual abuse by clergy includes the following elements: for appropriate evaluation and

SIERRA-RCBSD 0189



markome Nelson sits outside Our Lady of Fatima Church in Albuquerque, where he says he was abused as in altar boy 30 years ago.



During a papal audience in Rome last December, Bernadette Stella See hands Pope John Paul II a letter telling of her childhood abuse by a priest.

ell her father because she was afraid he wouldn't believe her pecause she said the perpetrator was the priest.

"What really grinds me is when parents of victims don't come out and say, 'That's enough. Ya Basta.' I would do everything in my power to throw light on it," she said.

Recovery road

"My life is recovery - from alcoholism from drug addiction

... and from sexual, physical, emotional and spiritual abuse. I eat it, live it, drink it, and talk about it."

Bernadette Stella See wrote those words to her brothers and sisters as part of her road to recovery. A road she still travels.

During therapy, she discovered she had been sexually abused as a young child. One of her abusers, she said, was her narish priest

When she was in elementary school, her father would drop her and her older sister off before 7 a.m. at Holy Cross School in Santa Cruz, N.M. During the winter, one of the teachers would open her classroom for the two and go back to her residence until school started.

The young assistant pastor would come in and send See's older sister on an errand. Then he would tell See, who was 7 at the time, to sharpen pencils.

While she was doing so the would fondle her. This was repeated throughout the winter.

"When the abuse is going on, you don't breathe. You leave your body," she recalled, adding that is when she started swallowing air.

For as long as she can remember, See has had a terrible problem with uncontrollable burping, which experts tell her can be a physical manifestation of abuse.

She had other problems: She never enjoyed sex, got hooked on prescription drugs, developed a drinking problem and even abused – both physically and emotionally – her own children.

She tried to kill herself in 1989 after a confrontation with a co-worker over her burping problem.

That's when she saw a psychologist, who for the first time asked if she had been sexually abused. Then she began having flashbacks.

She reluctantly admitted herself in 1990 to a residential treatment center. And after a month there, she knew she had to confront the church and her abuser. Late last year, she said, she contacted the priest, who'd left the diocese, by telephone, and he admitted abusing her.

See went to Rome in December to see a friend ordained, and was able to hand a letter to Pope John Paul II during a special audience for the deacons' friends and family. The letter told of her abuse and asked him to declare a worldwide day of prayer for victims and abusers.

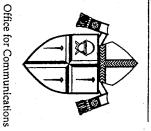
She also saw then-Archbishop Robert Sanchez earlier this year and wrote him a letter, saying he'd done too little, too late, "and it's time for you to step down."

She also met with Chancellor Wolf. Wolf said he contacted the diocese to which the priest had moved, and the priest has been sent elsewhere for treatment.

See said she has made amends to her children and is thankful to the church for paying for counseling — for herself her husband and her children I I

"I think it's important the cycle of abuse stops here now."

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO



July 15, 1993

TO:

Michelle Melendez, Albuquerque Journal, FAX: 505-983-2523

FROM: Mark Brumley, Office for Communications, Diocese of San Diego, 619-574-6365

RE: Response to Inquiry Concerning Fr. Frank Sierra

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SIERRA-RCBSD 0191

Albuquerque Publishing Company
7777 Jefferson N.E
P.O. Drawer J-T Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103 (505)8: (505)823-7777

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NOTE: If you did not receive all of the pages, please contact <u>Michelle</u> at 1-505-823-3585 as soon as possible		Transmission Time: 405	TAX
NOTE: If you did not receive all of the pages, please contact Michelle at 1-505-823-3585 as soon as possible.	No. Pages: Z	AM 4:05 4:05	Date: July 13, 1993

Message: written inquiry memo.

From: Michelle Melendez

Selegations trade

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Marian Way, Diocesa Brumley, Office of San Diego University for Communications of San Diego

Brumley,

for a wri H04 Father confirmed Pather Sierra family's questions has come written inquiry Ron ned that he Sierra. A which allegedly my specific questions. about counseling. your Wolf, 4010 pecific questions. But first, I will tell you t the story I am writing. A woman in her mid-forward with an allegation of sexual abuse by memo Also chancellor of has That's all the regarding Father Frank received occurred 40 Ha X archdiocese today ם the she wanted. 1east and understand Archdiocese of Santa years has paid one o D D allegation Sierra. əus in Santa Cruz, HOR TS not 9 4 the need woman This against O H furns. letter ànd 186

E DE Hf so, the allegation a the Archdiocese of against what Santa Father H (P Sierra? apprised the S TEM taken? Diocese 0 Hi San

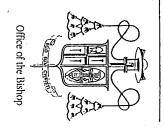
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よっいよ i Qu CO am pushing my do deadline. 4 these Н questions would be will be very fair greatly appreciated, and accurate

Michelle Journal Staff Melendez

SIERRA-RCBSD 0193

(505) 988-8883



for the exercise of orders Decree in regard to irregularity

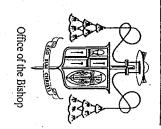
priestly ministry, and I therefore prohibit exercise of priestly ministry (except for the completely in private) until such time as I minested and perhaps determine to permit Fr. siministry again and having consulted with Fr. Sierra and that Fr. Sierra is, at present, incarat priestly minister. ministry again. & 1983 CIC 1044 § 2, n.2, experts, I have determined le of rightly carrying out r the celebration of Ma I might again confer wi rr. Sierra the exercise ਸ ਜ Sierra confer with from the Of

Done Center in ב by me this San Diego. this 25th day O fi January, 1993, at the Pastoral

Ξ. Brom

Bishop Robert Fishop of San Diego

Sigillum Diocesis Vice-Chancellor Steve Callahan



Dear Father Sierra:

Your duct I am accepting your priestly ministry, e private celebration Was s grateful for your participation demonstrated willingness to address to which you have admitted. In fo your effective immediately, Of, resignation ad tempus inc Mass. address tempus indeterminatum from r L the with the our conversation and for incidents of miscon-to our conversation, exception of miscon-

which directing Н Will e be you contact with you. at . St. Luke's Institute, after

My prayers are with you.

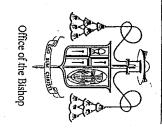
Fraternally in our Lor

Bishop of San Diego

Rev. Francis Sierra

Chancellor

Our Lady of Guadalupe 124 East Fifth St. Calexico, CA 92231



Dear Father Sierra:

your demonstrated willingness to address duct to which you have admitted. In following accepting your resignation ad tempuriestly ministry, effective immediately, private celebration of Mass effective immediately, ation in our conversation and address the incidents of miso In follow up to our conversating tempus indeterminatum from with the conversation and for incidents of misconto our conversation, exception of misconthe

I am which directing n I will be əd you in to evaluation at contact with you. at st. Luke's Institute, after

My prayers are with you.

Fraternally in our Lor

Bishop of San Diego

Rev. Francis Sierra Our Lady of Guadalupe 124 East Fifth St.

Rev.

Msgr.

niel

Dillabou

Chancellor

Calexico,

CA

92231

Dear Father Sierra:

can sympathize with the stress hope you can appreciate that diocese as well. эq conduct ile I was aware that certain questions had arisen regarding your nduct in Santa Fe, I have just been informed that there now might some questions regarding your past conduct here in San Diego. In sympathize with the stress you must be experiencing now, and I this places experiencing now, certain burdens of on the

I want to assure you of my commitment to fairness and honesty with all concerned, including you, and in that spirit, I would like to receive your voluntary assurance that, for the time being, and until I can get a clearer picture of this matter, you will not engage in the public exercise of priestly ministry. Could I ask you please to communicate your cooperation in this respect to Msgr. Dillabough by phone as soon as you receive this letter?

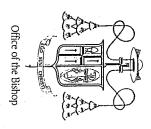
into about am t this r things also inviting you at matter to Msgr. matter t s during Λm absence this Dillabough, this week. time ţ whom I present t whatever you have asked to know

My prayers are with you.

Fraternally in our Lord,

Bishop of San Diego

Rev. Francis Sierra
Our Lady of Guadalupe
124 East Fifth St.
Calexico, CA 92231



Dear Msgr. Dillabough:

In confirmation of our discussion cautious inquiry into the facts a activities of Rev. Francis Siera Siera and this afternoon, please conduct a and circumstances of the alleged in accord with 1983 CIC 1717.

Fraternally in our Lord

Bishop of San Diego

Msgr. Daniel Dillabough, Chancellor Diocese of San Diego