

ET
gmu

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

KRISTINE KOUMENTAKOS,
ET AL

Plaintiff

VS.

METROPOLITAN HERMAN, ET AL

Defendant

§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§

Case No. 13-C-08-073089 OT

FILED
2013 OCT 17 11:03 AM
CLERK OF COURT
HOWARD COUNTY

AFFIDAVIT OF CONSTANTINE WHITE

COMES NOW your Affiant, and upon personal knowledge states:

1. My name is Constantine White. I am over the age of 18, competent to testify and I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.

2. In February 1985 I was ordained a priest in the Orthodox Church in America. I am presently the Rector of the St. Nicholas Cathedral which is located at 3500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. I have held this position, which is my main position, since 1998. My duties as Rector of the Cathedral make me the head of the parish of St. Nicholas Cathedral, which takes up the greatest portion of my time.

3. In November 2005 I was elected the District Dean (hereinafter "Dean") of the Washington Deanery by the priests of the Deanery. In the Orthodox Church in America, a Deanery consists of a group of Orthodox Church parishes, including mission parishes, located in a specific geographical area of a particular Diocese. The Washington Deanery is a part of the Diocese of Washington and New York. The Washington Deanery is not an

800000

entity which exists in law. The Orthodox Church of St. Matthew is one of the seven separate parishes in the Washington Deanery.

3. As Dean of the Deanery, when I receive a report which contains allegations of sexual misconduct, it is my obligation pursuant to the Policies, Standards and Procedures of the Orthodox Church in America to inform the diocesan Bishop of the allegation. (Attached hereto as Exhibit A is the subject OCA policy.) After informing the Bishop, my obligation in regard to such a report is then complete. Pursuant to the policy, the matter is then referred to the OCA's Office for Review of Sexual Misconduct Allegations for its handling. I followed this Procedure when I received a report which contained such allegations directed at Father Raymond Velencia by Ms. Koumentakos.

4. The entity known as St. Matthew Housing Development, Inc. (SMHD, Inc.) is a Maryland Corporation which is organized as a not-for-profit entity. Neither I nor the Washington Deanery has any ownership in or control over SMHD, Inc. or over its affairs. Neither individually nor in my capacity as Dean of the Washington Deanery do I exercise control or ownership over the operation of SMHD, Inc. or its affairs.

5. As Dean of the Washington Deanery I have competence in supervising the activities of the clergy located within the Washington Deanery. This does not mean, however, that I directly control all the conduct of all the priests at all the parishes throughout the Deanery. I do not have such control. I do not possess in either my official capacity as Dean of the Washington Deanery or in my individual capacity, the right to control Father Raymond Velencia as relates to the operation of SMHD, Inc., including any hiring or firing decisions as to its employees. SMHD, Inc. is not a parish, and thus is

not included among the group of parishes within the Washington Deanery. In addition, I do not control Fr. Velencia's day-to-day conduct as a priest, including his private encounters with parishioners, such as in private counseling sessions he personally conducts or in his maintaining confidence over his conduct of the sacrament of confession for parishioners, including for Mr. and Mrs. Koumentakos. These encounters are private matters between the priest and parishioner.

6. Fr. Raymond Velencia is not and never has been my employee, my agent nor my servant. No written agreement has ever existed as to any agency between me and Fr. Raymond Velencia. I have never given Fr. Raymond Velencia any power to alter any of my legal relations with anyone or any entity. I have never consented to Fr. Raymond Velencia acting on my behalf with respect to either the operation of SMHD, Inc. or insofar as his conduct with respect to his maintaining confidence as to confessions which he hears. Fr. Raymond Velencia has never requested and never received my consent to act on my behalf with respect to either the operation of SMHD, Inc. or in the maintenance of confidence with regard to confessions he hears. I did not have any knowledge of, any participation in nor did I ever consent to the alleged wrongful conduct by Fr. Raymond Velencia.

7. My duties as Dean of the Washington Deanery were not performed in my individual capacity. My conduct as Dean is and always has been in a representative capacity on behalf of the Washington Deanery.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF
PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE FOREGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE
TRUE AND CORRECT.

Date: 12/15/08

V. Rev. Constantine White
V. REV. CONSTANTINE WHITE