

INDEPENDENT BOARD OF INQUIRY
Regarding St. Anthony's Seminary
P.O. Box 1065
Santa Barbara, California 93102

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF OPERATION

By signing below, the undersigned acknowledges that he or she has read and understands this statement regarding the purpose and scope of operation of the Board of Inquiry, and freely and voluntarily decided to communicate and provide information to the Board and/or its individual members in light of this knowledge:

1. The Independent Board of Inquiry was established by the Provincial Council of the Franciscans of the Province of St. Barbara and convened to investigate and assess instances of sexual conduct with students by faculty members of St. Anthony's Seminary, during the period from 1964 to closure of the school in 1987. Its purpose is to help victims get necessary therapy, to identify perpetrators, and to make recommendations to the Province of St. Barbara to insure that such sexual molestations do not recur.

2. The Board is composed of one friar and five professionals and concerned lay people, who are receiving compensation for their time and out-of-pocket expenses from the Province of St. Barbara.

3. Although members of the Board are professionals, the Board and its individual members do not undertake or attempt to offer legal, mental health or any other type of professional advice or services, and individuals communicating with the Board should not rely on it or its members for same.

4. Individuals communicating or dealing with the Board or its individual members should consult an independent legal, mental health or other outside professional in the event they have any question or concern of a legal, therapeutic or other professional nature.

5. The mental health professional board members are mandated child abuse reporters under reporting provisions of the California Penal Code, and must and will report any instances of reasonably suspected child abuse to an identifiable victim under the age of eighteen years.

6. The Board of Inquiry is charged with rendering a report of its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Provincial Minister. It is otherwise independent of the Province of St. Barbara or its administration, and is not a subentity, agent or representative of the Province or the Provincial Minister. Neither the Board, nor any of its individual members is authorized or able to speak or act for the Province or the Provincial Minister, nor can the Board or its members legally bind the Province or the Provincial Minister in any manner or form whatsoever.

(Print Name)

(Date)

(Signature)