

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE:
THE FORTIETH STATEWIDE
INVESTIGATING GRAND JURY

: SUPREME COURT OF
: PENNSYLVANIA
: 2 W.D. MISC. DKT 2016
:
: ALLEGHENY COUNTY COMMON
: PLEAS
: CP-02-MD-571-2016
: NOTICE NO. 1

SEALED RESPONSE TO REPORT 1 OF THE FORTIETH STATEWIDE GRAND
JURY

TO THE HONORABLE NORMAN A. KRUMENACKER, III
Supervising Judge
Fortieth Statewide Investigating Grand Jury

1. You can consider this a sealed response by Monsignor Thomas Benestad to the above captioned Investigating Grand Jury Report.
2. Monsignor Thomas Benestad officially retired in June of 2009.
3. The alleged victims came forward in 2011 to make allegations regarding Monsignor Benestad.
4. The summary of the Grand Jury Report implies that Monsignor Benestad retired as a result of allegations made by the alleged victims
5. Monsignor Benestad clearly did not retire because of allegations made by the alleged victims in this matter as he had retired two (2) years before any allegations were made.
6. When allegations were made by the alleged victims in 2011, the Bishop of Allentown informed Monsignor Benestad that he was to refrain from all forms of public ministry until the matter had been investigated and a resolution had been reached.

7. In the spring of 2014, the officials in Rome had adjudicated Monsignor Benestad case and notified the Diocese of Allentown of their decision, at which time Bishop Barres sent a decree revoking any restrictions upon Monsignor Benestad's ministry.
8. Monsignor Benestad has never done anything that would be deemed inappropriate with any individual.
9. Monsignor Benestad has never done anything that would be deemed immoral by the church with any individual.
10. Monsignor Benestad has never done anything illegal with any person as judged by any civil or criminal authority.

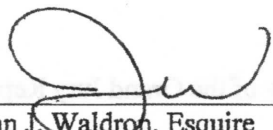
WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that this be a sealed response by Monsignor Benestad to the above captioned report of the Fortieth Statewide Investigating Grand Jury.

Respectfully Submitted,
HUBER WALDRON & WILLIAMS, LLC

Dated:

6/8/2018

BY:



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