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July 31, 2017

VIA EMAIL and REGULAR MAIL

Judy Jones, Midwest Regional Leader
Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests
P.O. Box 56539
Saint Louis, MO 63156
Snapjudy@gmail.com

RE: SNAP DEFAMATION OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG AND THE MOST REVEREND EDWARD C. MALESIC, BISHOP OF GREENSBURG

Dear Ms. Jones:

I am counsel to the Diocese of Greensburg. On Tuesday, July 25, 2017, at approximately 8:45 a.m., you, on behalf of SNAP, released what could only be construed as a libelous and defamatory press release via email and on SNAP's webpage. This press release, titled "Victims group to Greensburg Bishop: Turn over secret files on arrested priest," purports that "[m]embers of SNAP believe that Greensburg Bishop Edward C. Malesic may be withholding evidence." The press release compounds this by then asserting "men like Bishop Malesic" will produce to law enforcement "a sanitized file" and claim to know "nothing about [abuse] allegations."

These statements are categorically false. Neither the Diocese of Greensburg nor Bishop Malesic has withheld documents concerning child sexual abuse from law enforcement, including documents purportedly residing in the Diocese's "secret files." As such, your press release, which imputes criminal conduct or behavior to the Diocese and the Bishop, is arguably defamatory *per se*.

Because neither the Diocese of Greensburg nor Bishop Malesic have engaged in the conduct of which SNAP falsely accuses them, we demand that you immediately remove the press release from your webpage and issue a retraction as to its defamatory content.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW H. HAVERSTICK

cc: Barbara Dorris, Managing Director (bdorris@SNAPnetwork.org)
Mark E. Seiberling, Esquire

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