

For Immediate Release

November 10, 2004

Statement by Archdiocese of Seattle regarding Diocese of Spokane's bankruptcy decision

(Seattle) It is with deep regret that we note the decision today by the Diocese of Spokane to file for bankruptcy protection. We know that the diocese made every effort to reach settlements with victims within the parameters of its financial resources.

To date, the Archdiocese of Seattle has settled all cases relating to clergy child sexual abuse for fair and reasonable amounts. We do not anticipate the need to consider bankruptcy protection if we continue to have the cooperation of our insurance carriers and settlement amounts in the remaining cases are fair and reasonable.

The Archdiocese of Seattle continues to reach out to all victims of clergy child sexual abuse with compassionate care. Anyone who has knowledge of clergy sexual abuse is urged to call the archdiocesan hotline at 1.800.446.7762.

For more information, contact Greg Magnoni, 206-382-4862