

Reply to Paul Rosser

From: Bishop Brian <"/o=ad/ou=first administrative group/cn=recipients/cn=bishopbrian">
To: John Cleary [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, 21 Dec 2010 08:15:22 +1100

Dear Paul

In regard to your resignation I have only reported that you resigned as Chancellor and that I had contacted you after receiving your resignation. I have publicly expressed my appreciation for you as Chancellor and my warm regard for you. I have not commented beyond this.

I also understand that the DPS has made no comment to Joanne McCarthy on this matter. I do not know Joanne's source although clearly there are people unknown to me who are speaking to her.

Like you I would be upset if spin were embraced.

In regard to the perception of conflict of interest, this was a factor that I thought and that was raised to me by others. I checked this out with two other Chancellors—one a District Court Judge whom I have known for many years and one a member of the Church Law Commission. Both were adamant in the view that if you acted for a person who was accused of sexual abuse when identified as a church worker there would be a general perception of a conflict of interest.

I appreciate the depth of your feeling. I simply do not know what information Joanne McCarthy has acquired or from whom. But I do not think it is from Diocesan staff.

I have appointed Justice Peter Young as the Acting Chancellor and Judge Chris Armitage as Acting Deputy Chancellor. Justice Young attended last week's Diocesan Council meeting.

Grace and peace,

+Brian

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