

**Amanda Zaicos**

copy - original to

**From:** Paul Rosser [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 December 2010 9:01 PM  
**To:** Bishop Secretary  
**Subject:** FOR THE EYES OF THE BISHOP ONLY

†B via email  
 17/11/10

Dear Bishop Farran

As you will recall, in my notice of resignation I offered no reasons. It appeared to me to be pointless (and uncharitable) to outline my reasons. My intention was to put behind me a chapter of my life that was disillusioning if nothing else.

I have maintained my reticence on the issue and yesterday afternoon declined to speak to a Newcastle Herald reporter about my reasons, other than to correct the impression, which she appeared to have gleaned from the Diocesan statement, that I had said I was resigning 'for personal reasons'.

You may well imagine my dismay when I was then asked to comment upon the suggestion that my resignation arose from concerns expressed within the Church that there existed a conflict of interest between my position of Chancellor and my representation, in the course of my profession, of persons connected with the Church.

As you are aware we discussed this matter some months ago. You told me that 'concerns' had been expressed concerning my representation of a particular individual. I told you then that I could perceive no such conflict. Certainly your predecessor could see no such conflict at a time when I held the office of Deputy Chancellor. No person possessing any degree of intellectual honesty, not to say common sense, could have perceived a conflict of interest.

At the least, the assertion represents an entirely unworthy attempt at 'spin'. It may also, fairly, be regarded as a lamentable deliberate misrepresentation

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You did not disclose to me in our discussion the source of the supposed 'concerns'. Notwithstanding that, it was not difficult to discern the identity of the person who had expressed these 'concerns'. I have little doubt that the person in question is also the press' source of the assertion upon which I was invited to comment. I am also entirely sure that you will have little difficulty in identifying the person who has made this assertion to the press.

The situation is entirely unacceptable. I have declined comment on the reasons for my resignation and at this stage intend to continue to do so. From within the Church a false and unwarranted assertion is made.

If the assertion to the press is published I shall take the matter very seriously. You are, I believe, aware of the source and it lies within your power to require that the assertion is withdrawn and disavowed.

Regrettably this situation is but symptomatic of the issues which led to my unwillingness to continue as your Chancellor.

I have not attempted in any way to 'play' my resignation. The Diocese, as a matter of basic decency ought to do the same

Yours faithfully

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Paul Rosser

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