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18 March 2004

John Witham
 Executive Officer
 Anglican Board of Inquiry
 PO Box 8168
 Station Arcade
 Adelaide SA 5001



Dear Mr Witham

I note the terms of reference of the Inquiry are to identify process failure in relation to various matters. Regarding the allegations received by Anglicare in relation to Brandenburg, I do not believe a process failure has occurred.

I believe Anglicare and myself as its CEO did all that was possible and appropriate at the time.

To facilitate your Inquiry I have produced a statement about events alluded to in the transcript material you have provided to me.

Any questions pertinent to the transcript will be referred back to the transcript as it is a full an account as is possible of the events of the time.

I am happy to meet with the Board and answer questions on other matters of interest to them outside of those in the transcript.

I note the material is supposed to be privileged and confidential. I note that you have put a number of confidential questions to individuals but I have been privileged to receive such information by way of the transcripts provided. Needless to say, I am angered by some of the accusations and statements made and I find some statements defamatory and of deep concern.

As such, I must insist that my response to the Inquiry is confidential; that is, I insist that the attached statement and any evidence I give to the Inquiry must not be disclosed to anyone other than the members of the Inquiry Board and yourself without my express permission.

The events apparently surrounding Mr Brandenburg are indeed tragic and I am concerned that the passing of time and knowledge in hindsight is perhaps serving to obscure the facts and processes that were available at the time.

I am concerned, too, that my integrity and the good reputation I have earned as a manager and as a strong advocate against abuse is undermined by some of the unfounded allegations presented. I believe it is important that we do not create a new round of people unfairly and unjustly hurt as a result of the alleged past events within the diocese.

I look forward to assisting you with your work on the understanding that these conditions will be fulfilled.

Yours sincerely

Gerard Mansoor