

John Andrew Ellis

REDACTED



9 September 2004

Michael Salmon
Director, Professional Standards
Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Polding Centre
133 Liverpool Street
Sydney NSW 2000

by e-mail psa@cathprofstandards.com

Dear Michael

Re: Towards Healing Complaint, Mr John Ellis and Rev Aidan Duggan OSB

Thank you for your letter dated 7 September 2004 clarifying the status of my complaint.

I trust that you understand that I was not seeking to be confrontational or antagonistic in writing to you. I simply misunderstood the intent of your letter and did not know what practical effect closure of the file would have, while there were things remaining to be followed up and completed.

In particular, given that you had said that the matter of closure of the file was to be put as a recommendation for consideration by the Professional Standards Resource Group on 17 September, I thought I should promptly raise the question of the remaining outstanding issues, in case these things were considerations which may have led the Resource Group to wish to keep the file open for the time being.

However, I appreciate that you are saying that the usual practice and procedure of the Professional Standards Office is that when litigation is commenced, the Towards Healing process is effectively terminated *ipso facto*. I assume that the matter of closure of the file is therefore being put to the Resource Group as a matter of formality only, so that they are updated on the status of the file.

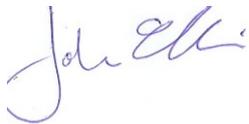
I must say that I still do not fully understand why it is that in the circumstances my commencement of litigation has resulted in termination of the Towards Healing process. If you could, I would appreciate an explanation of why this is so. I had always understood (including from discussions with you) that the spiritual and relationship issues could be dealt with within the Towards Healing process, even if the financial aspects needed to be hived off to a more formal legal process.

However, it does not appear from what you have said that this issue will be of great practical relevance, as I understand that the outstanding issues will be followed through in the same way as they would have been if the Towards Healing process were still on foot.

I am, of course, gravely disappointed that a meeting with the Archbishop and a formal acknowledgement and apology was not able to be achieved through the Towards Healing process, as from the outset that was my primary and foremost request in terms of tangible outcomes of the process. I remain hopeful that when the litigation is finally resolved, we can work together to put steps in place to address the harm that has been done to my relationship with the Church through the abuse and its subsequent effects.

In relation to the review of process, could you please confirm that all of the documents referred to and listed in my e-mail to you on 4 August 2004 were made available to the National Committee for Professional Standards.

Yours sincerely in faith



John Ellis