

Dear Bishop Farran

It feels strange to write to you. It's been a very long time since I first heard your voice over the radio expressing how dreadfully sorry you were for what had happened to me. That was way back in October 2009. The process of making my complaint was a deeply emotional time for me, and you can't imagine how important those words of regret were for me to hear at the time. I happened to be on the road when the AM story was broadcast, driving between REDAC and Wagga. I had to quickly pull over by the side of the road to recover. I don't cry very easily, but those words you said were very special, and I was left crying and emotional.

I would've loved to have expressed my appreciation to you for those words at the time, but I'm sure you would agree that it was more appropriate to allow the independent processes to take their course in response to my complaint. I did not want to be seen to be in any way unduly sidestepping those processes with what others may construe as undue influence via my writing directly to you.

As you can imagine, it's been a very long and arduous three years for me and my family. The Board's recommendations were both heart-wrenching but also a powerful vindication of the integrity and bravery I and my family have invested into the church's disciplinary hearings process. As I made clear in my victim impact statement, I feel privileged to have had my complaint heard through the new and more transparent processes that the Anglican Church has established, and was deeply disturbed by the pathetic attempts made by those who had abused me to question the integrity of that process through their Supreme Court action.

We are glad that the hearings are over, and greatly appreciate the way they were conducted. Now we are waiting on your decision in response to the recommendations, and – to be honest – are finding it a bit frustrating that this decision is taking so long. I understand and appreciate your caution. However, I have also put my faith and trust in the independent process set up by the church, and would be critically disheartened if the Board's recommendations were not adopted. To me, the delay is just drawing out the inevitable, potentially feeding speculation about the integrity of the process, and perhaps even the veracity of my complaints.

I hope you can appreciate my concerns. Thank you once again for having the integrity to acknowledge my pain when I needed to hear it the most.

Yours sincerely,

CKH