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Explanation of the Court decision requiring the Vatican to turn over documents and answer questions about child sex abuse by clergy

The following information was prepared by Jeff Anderson and Associates to provide background on the Opinion and Order issued by United States District Judge Michael W. Mosman in the case of *John V. Doe v. Holy See*. Copies of the original Opinion and Order are available on the documents page at www.AndersonAdvocates.com. Questions regarding the following information should be directed to the attorneys listed on the last page of this document.

WHAT:

On April 20, 2011 the Honorable Judge Michael Mosman ordered the Vatican to respond to a number of discovery requests in a clergy sex abuse case.

The Decision Requires that the Vatican:

- 1) Turn over all secret documents on Andrew Ronan, a confessed child molester, in the Vatican
- 2) Turn over all secret documents about the Vatican's policies and procedures regarding child sexual abuse
- 3) Provide an Explanation of the Vatican's authority over and policies on child sex abuse by clergy
- 4) Produce Documents and an Explanation regarding the Vatican's control and authority over individual priests

WHY this is Important:

- 1) This is the first time that a Court in the world is making the Vatican turn over documents and answer questions about clergy sexual abuse
- 2) This is the first time that there might be any transparency regarding the Vatican's role in the sexual abuse of thousands of children by clergy worldwide

3) The case involves the worldwide movement of an admitted sex offender priest from Ireland to Chicago, IL to Portland, Oregon showing the effects of the Vatican's policies and procedures worldwide

WHEN the Vatican must respond: Within 60 days – **JUNE 20, 2011**.

WHO is involved:

The honorable Judge Michael Mosman ordered Vatican officials to produce documents and answer questions in a clergy sex abuse case brought by a courageous survivor John V Doe.

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