



ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA

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22nd April 2013

The Secretariat
Family and Community Development Committee
Parliament House, Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Secretariat,

Subsequent to the attendance of Bishop Iakovos to the inquiry on criminal abuse of children, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia (GOAA) has identified *one* case of indecent assault of a minor that is relevant to the inquiry that occurred in 2002.

Bishop Iakovos was not aware of this incident prior to his attendance to the Parliamentary Inquiry which was an oversight on the part of the GOAA. The Bishop together with the GOAA would like to correct the situation immediately.

The specific matter in question is a matter of public record that resulted in a suspended sentence for the person involved.

The individual involved confessed to his immediate Bishop and as well as to the whole congregation of the Church to which he serves. In addition to the criminal prosecution by the State, the individual was suspended at a Canonical level, and forbidden from ever receiving confession from anyone. He also had his remuneration affected and was relieved of his duties as chaplain at Caulfield General Medical Centre and The Alfred Hospital.

As reported by Bishop Iakovos to the Inquiry, there are no other cases that the GOAA has any records of or any official has any knowledge of same.

The GOAA brings this matter to the attention of the inquiry as a true account of the event and in the public interest which is the concern of the inquiry.

I remain prayerfully yours,

Bishop Ezekiel of Dervis
Assistant Bishop to His Eminence in Melbourne

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