DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF CORPORATE SUCCESSION

The undersigned, Joseph A. Pepe, as Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Las Vegas, hereby certifies and declares as follows:

- 1. That the Roman Catholic Bishop of Reno, and His Successors, a Corporation Sole, was duly organized as such by the authority of and in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada on October 13, 1931, by Thomas Gorman, the then Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Reno, for the purpose of administering and managing the property and temporalities of the Roman Catholic Church within said Diocese of Reno, and has since continued to be and to act as a corporation sole for such purpose.
- 2. That on or about October 13, 1976, the Sacred Congregation of Bishops entered a decree authorizing and changing the name of the Diocese of Reno, and his successors, a Corporation Sole to the name Diocese of Reno Las Vegas, and his successors, a Corporation Sole. By virtue of the decree, the Most Reverend Norman F. McFarland, then the duly appointed constituted and acting Roman Catholic Bishop of Reno, as successor in said corporation sole, amended the Articles of Incorporation so that the corporation sole was known as The Roman Catholic Bishop of Reno Las Vegas, and his successors, a Corporation Sole, and a Certificate of Amendment of the Articles of Incorporation was duly filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada on April 4, 1977.
- 3. That on or about March 15, 1995, His Holiness John Paul II, Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, by proclamation, order or bull issued by him entered a decree authorizing and changing the name of the Diocese of Reno Las Vegas, and his successors, a Corporation Sole to the name Diocese of Las Vegas, and his successors, a Corporation Sole. By virtue thereof, the Most Reverend Daniel F. Walsh, then the duly appointed

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constituted and acting Roman Catholic Bishop of Reno - Las Vegas, as successor in said corporation sole, amended the Articles of Incorporation so that the corporation sole was known as The Roman Catholic Bishop of Las Vegas, and his successors, a Corporation Sole, and a Certificate of Amendment of the Articles of Incorporation was duly filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada on June 29, 1995.

- 4. That a vacancy in the incumbency of the aforesaid corporation sole occurred on May 22, 2000, when the Most Reverend Daniel F. Walsh, the then Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Las Vegas took canonical possession of another diocese; that thereafter in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations of the Roman Catholic Church, Monsignor Patrick R. Leary, was duly elected as Diocesan Administrator by the College of Consultors, and accepted that election, to act as such successor in the aforesaid corporation sole and was vested with all the rights and powers granted by law to the aforesaid corporation sole until a new Bishop was chosen to take canonical possession of the Diocese of Las Vegas.
- 5. That the undersigned Joseph A. Pepe was duly appointed on May 31, 2001, as the Bishop of the Las Vegas by the duly constituted head of said Church, to-wit. His Holiness POPE JOHN PAUL II, and that the undersigned assumed said office in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations of said Church on May 31, 2001; and, thereupon, the undersigned became, ever since has been, and now is, the duly appointed, constituted and acting Bishop of the Diocese of Las Vegas and as such, the successor in said corporation sole.
- That a true and correct copy of the Decree of Appointment is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" and by this reference made a part hereof and incorporated herein.

7. That the undersigned, as such successor in said corporation sole is, and continuously since May 31, 2001, has been, vested with all the rights and powers granted by law to said corporation sole.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this instrument on this day of August, 2001, as Bishop of the Diocese of Las Vegas and as the successor in said corporation sole, and gives notice of the foregoing to all to whom it may concern.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF LAS VEGAS, AND HIS SUCCESSORS, A CORPORATION SOLE

The Most Referend Joseph A. Pepe

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STATE OF NEVADA) ss.

I, Joseph A. Pepe, do hereby swear under penalty of perjury that the assertions of this affidavit are true:

That I am the duly constituted, appointed and acting Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Las Vegas and the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument; that I have read the foregoing instrument and know the contents thereof; that the facts therein stated are true of my own knowledge.

The Most Reverend Joseph A. Pepe

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me this Own day of Hugast 2001.

Shiftlis brelient MOTARY PUBLIC

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEVADA Courty of Clark PHYLLIS BACHANT My Appointment Expires July 21, 2005

when recorded mail to:

John H. Mowbray Morse & Mowbray 300 South Fourth Street, Suite 1400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

D EDJSCOPILS Seaves Seavocum

Contra Constantium 11,5:16C10,588. Gratia Dei sit sempre tecum et cum ecclesiali communitate Camtus ubeccima poscimus bona, guibus abiutus ita ablabores ut fíbeles tibi crebiti crescant cotibie in fibe, spe et caritate itemque concorporentur Christo, Domino ac Rebemptori nostro -cfr S. Harius Pictaviensis, ea ut Se his Litteëis facias certiores cherum ac populum istinió Sioecesis: quos hostamuz ut te libentes ac cipiant recumque comuniti maneant. Oco te benique bilecte Sili, auspice Sugine Daria, Daracliti Spicitio ac Modezatori Tilliae et Nicario Episcopali pro Clezicis duchidioecesis Sanctae Sibii in America Septentrionali, electo Episcopo Campensi, saluten et Tipostolican Denedictionem. Cum providendum sit cathebra-li Sedi Campensi, vacanti post constitutum Venerabilem Frattem Danielem & Walsh Braeswlem Sanctae scopó tectae fibei, formulasque abhibitas áb memoratan Conquegationen mittere. Manbamus praetertis incibus impositisque obligationibus. Permittimus ut ordinationem a qualibet catholico Episcopo extionis pro Episcopis, summa Apostolica porestate te Campensem Episcopum nominamus, cunctis tribunen faceie atque ius iucanbum nuncupace fibeliratis ecga Nos et Nostcos Successoces, testé quovis Épi ornatum rezumque ecclesialium pezitum, puramus iboneum ab illam regenbam. De consilio igitur Congrega-Rosae in California. Nos solliciti se rotius Dominici gregis bono te, Silecte Sili, cláris mentis et corbis botibus lesimo primo, Pontificarus Mostri vicesimo tecrio Loman accipias secundum linuegicas leges. Emizea autem trum exir catholicae fibei peofessio Pepe, e Seco archivioccesis Philabelphiensis Latinorum, hactenus Cancella Komae, apus Sanctum Petrum, bie sexto mensis Apcilis, anno Vomini bis **EXHIBIT A**

Joannes Panhy Ex

becuster Everyma, Robert Apo

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Morse & Mowbray

Auugst 29, 2001

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