Affidavit of Father Jeffrey McBeth

I, Father Jeffrey McBeth, having been duly sworn, state as follows:

- 1. I am over the age of 18 and competent to testify to the facts below based on personal knowledge.
- 2. I am an ordained priest in the Roman Catholic Church. Since 2013, I have been pastor at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Huron, Ohio.
- 3. For some time, I have been aware that two of my parishioners, Jason and Stacy Hinners, have been critical of the City of Huron government because they believe that it has not been adequately transparent.
- 4. At some time in April 2019, Huron City Councilman Glen Ginesi approached me shortly before a city council meeting. He asked for a moment of time to express his concerns about Mr. Hinners, who is currently in formation to become a deacon in the Church.
- 5. Councilman Ginesi told me that as a member of council, he felt Mr. Hinners was attacking him personally by causing problems at city council meetings and criticizing the government for a perceived lack of transparency.
- 6. Councilman Ginesi felt that Mr. Hinners was acting in a non-Christian way when he criticized council and said he was "bewildered" to learn that Mr. Hinners was under consideration for the diaconate or any prominent leadership role within the Church.
- 7. Councilman Ginesi asked me if I could be "part of some solution" to his disputes with Mr. Hinners over issues at City Council. I was hesitant about disclosing what Mr. Ginesi might consider a confidential communication, but Mr. Ginesi told me to "tell him you heard it from me."
- 8. I have separately reached out to Chief Bob Lippert about the charges against Ms. Hinners and received a voicemail message from saying him that he could not yet discuss the case with me but expected that he would need to pull me in at some point to help resolve it.
- 9. Because I do not yet have enough facts about how Mr. Hinners has behaved in his interactions with city government, I have not yet taken any action based on Councilman Ginesi's complaint. Interacting with government is not inconsistent with Catholic teaching, which calls us to speak out against injustice whereever we see it, though we must do so with charity and respect.

Dated: May 23, 2019

Father Jeffrey McBeth

STATE OF OHIO
) SS.

COUNTY OF ERIE
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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 23rd day of May, 2019.

I declare the preceding facts to be true under penalty of perjury.

Notary Public, State of Ohio My commission expires:

> JAMES L. MURRAY, Attorney at Law Notary Public - State of Chio My Commission has no expiration date. Section 147.03 R.C.