



**Catholic Diocese of Jackson**  
P.O. Box 2248 - Jackson, Mississippi 39225

October 16, 2019  
Communications Office  
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### **STATEMENT REGARDING ARIE MATTHEUS DE LANGE**

JACKSON – The Diocese of Jackson is aware of Mr. Arie Mattheus (Aad) de Lange’s complaint filed in the Hinds County Circuit Court on Oct. 2, 2019. It is the general policy of the Diocese not to comment on pending litigation and personnel matters. However, the complaint itself provides the reasons for Mr. de Lange’s termination of employment and the Diocese stands by the following reasons:

- (1) the weakened financial and administrative condition of the diocese;
- (2) the internal problems reflected in last year’s audit report (2017-2018) and anticipated in this year’s (2018-2019) report;
- (3) the unexpected large deficit this fiscal year (2018-2019); and
- (4) the lack of leadership, communication and collaboration between the office of Finance and Temporal Affairs with diocesan leadership, including but not limited to the Bishop and the Diocesan Finance Council.

These points are set forth in the Oct. 4, 2018 letter to Mr. de Lange from Bishop Joseph R. Kopacz which is attached as Exhibit A to Mr. de Lange’s complaint.

We will refrain from further comment about the complaint and will let the process be dealt with by the legal system.

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