## Holy Ukrainian Autocephalic



## Orthodox Church in Exile Archdiocese of St. Michael the Archangel



Archbishop + 90ASAPH

## **AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF ALACHUA

Before me this day personally appeared **Archbishop +IOASAPH** who, being duly sworn, deposes and says: That during my serving as Sccretary and Chancellor to His Beatitude, +NIKOLAUS, Metropolitan Archbishop of this Jurisdiction, I received the following information from Very Reverend Perry. Fr. Perry, at that time, served as my assistant and later as my Secretary and Chancellor. It is my obligation to bring forth this information to the Hierarchy of the Holy Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church in Exile pertaining to the former excommunication of Mr. Paul W. Seese by His Beatitude, Metropolitan +NIKOLAUS.

It was brought to my attention at that time that Mr. Seese was engaged in a homosexual affair with a Priest by the name of Fr. Mark. Fr. Mark, prior to this occurrence, had worked under my mentorship as a seminarian and then Deacon in the parish I founded in Gainesville, Florida.

Fr. Mark was ordained to the Priesthood by Mr. Seese against my strong protest. My protest was for the following reasons: 1.) Fr. Mark had not completed the seminary or any formal training for the Priesthood,

2.) He was not of canonical age for ordination to the Priesthood, 3.) He had minimal knowledge of the Orthodox Church, Her Cannons and an understanding of the eternal commitment that is made upon ordination to the priesthood. Fr. Mark was Ordained to the Sacred Priesthood without regard to my protest. He was then elevated to Archpriest by Mr. Seese and appointed to serve as his Secretary and Chancellor.

Fr. Mark and his wife, Presbytera Brenda sold their possessions in Florida; including property that she had inherited from her father. Fr. Mark then moved in with Mr. Scese in Smock, Pennsylvania while his wife remained at her mother's residence in Bell, Florida. Fr. Mark reported to Fr. Perry that this is when the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property to property that the sexual activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with accept to property the sexual activity to property

activity between himself and Mr. Seese increased with great regularity.

Fr. Mark and Father Perry had been friends for a number of years and both entered the Orthodox Church

through my parish. For Fr. Mark to relate this information to Fr. Perry is not unusual as their friendship was close enough to share very personal information. It was further reported that this homosexual relationship continued until Mr. Seese forced Fr. Mark from his residence after the money from the sale of Fr. Mark and his wife's inherited property was spent. Fr. Mark further stated to Fr. Perry that he was forced to leave his personal car in Pennsylvania with Mr. Seese when he departed.

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## PAGE TWO PAUL SEESE AFFIDAVIT

Fr. Mark returned to Florida with his wife and has refused to have any further contact with the Orthodox Church, or any other church for that matter.

Fr. Perry also reported that he had been advised on several occasions that Mr. Seese was a practicing homosexual and has continued to remain active in this lifestyle throughout his priesthood and episcopacy. I also have received several reports corroborating this same information.

Mr. Seese stated to me on prior occasions that he did not have a problem with members of the clergy practicing a homosexual lifestyle. During these same conversations, he stated on more than one occasion that he did not have a problem with clergy smoking marijuana and that he did so himself. Mr. Seese stated that he was advised to leave the Roman Catholic seminary due to being caught in a homosexual relationship with another seminarian.

It was also known that Mr. Seese had other clergy under his authority that were performing same sex marriages. Another Archbishop, who was affiliated with this jurisdiction and Mr. Seese was performing same sex marriages and authorizing other priests to do so.

Fr. Gary, a Priest who served under Mr. Seese for many years, who was in prison during part of this time, was forbidden by prison officials to function as a member of the clergy at the prison because it was discovered by prison officials that he was performing same sex marriages.

Fr. Perry also reported to me that during several telephone calls to Fr. Mark and Mr. Seese in Pennsylvania, that their speech was slurred and he could hear the sounds of a noisy party in the background.

This information was brought to the attention of Metropolitan +Nikolaus prior to Fr. Mark's return to Florida, and a spiritual court was convened consisting of Metropolitan +Nikolaus, myself, Fr. Perry and Fr. Lance. After presentation and discussion of the facts, the decision was made to excommunicate Mr. Seese from this Holy Church. The documents were drafted, signed by Metropolitan +Nikolaus, and sent by U.S. mail via return receipt.

Further information of this and other circumstances of clergy affiliated with Mr. Seese can be provided as needed. It should be noted that Fr. Perry reported that upon Mr. Seese's excommunication from this jurisdiction he performed a Black Candle Mass against me. Mr. Seese did not make any request or attempt to come before a spiritual court to answer to these allegations.

Signature of Affiant

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 21 day of 21 day of 1999 by Archbishop +Ioasaph.

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NCPÁRY PHRLIC