

January 11, 1988

Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1890

Dear Phil:

I was pleased to hear from you and to learn that your accomplishments as a free-lancer have led to full-time, even though temporary, status, with the Houghton-Mifflin Publishing Company. As you say, that kind of status provides more stability to your overall situation.

Your proposal in regard to your financial status seems fair, and I am pleased to approve it with one minimal modification. Your monthly stipend will continue for six months, at the end of which time we shall review your overall financial position.

I would be happy to meet with you as you suggest, but the date you suggested, January 18, is being observed as a holiday. Consequently, the building will be closed. A call to Mrs. Connor, my secretary, will enable you to select another date convenient for both of us.

Be assured of a remembrance in my prayers.

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

4 January, 1988

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Bishop of Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Gendron:

As you are aware I have been working since last August as a freelancer at the Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company in Boston. Due to the number of hours I work and the regularity of my work schedule, my supervisor offered me a one-year contract for 1988. I have accepted the offer and therefore am a full-time/temporary employee, which entitles me to some limited benefits.

This turn of events increases my stability for the coming year, and prompts me to review my financial situation. I am proposing the following modifications to the assistance I receive from the diocese.

- 1) I have opted to accept the health insurance offered by Houghton Mifflin rather than continue under the plan offered through the diocese. I spoke by telephone with Eleanor Evans, and she said this might be done as of 1 January, but certainly by 1 February.
- 2) I will submit the bills for my therapy with Craig Evans to the insurance company, and I will be responsible for any unpaid balance for sessions during 1988.
- 3) I will reimburse the diocese for the insurance on my car for 1988. I have enclosed my personal check in the amount of \$351.00, and will pay the difference should there be an increase in June.
- 4) I ask that the diocese continue my monthly stipend for the time being. The amount is sufficient to pay my room and board as well as any unpaid balance for therapy.

I hasten to add that I do not wish to alter my status with the diocese at this time, and still consider myself on leave of absence for reasons of health. I do believe that, in consideration of the diocese's considerable financial support during the past two years, I should take greater personal responsibility since I am now able to do so.

page 2

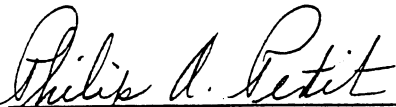
4 January, 1988

Most Rev. Odore J. Gendron, D.D.

As I mentioned some time ago, I would like to meet with you to discuss some possibilities for long-range planning which might affect my standing as a priest of the diocese. I am planning to be in New Hampshire on Monday, 18 January for some personal business. If you have some time available that day I would do my best to meet you at your convenience.

I hope you had a pleasant Christmas season, and wish you God's continue blessing during the coming year. I look forward to your response to these proposals.

Peace



Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

Enc.

May 17, 1988

Reverend Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

Dear Phil:

Thank you for your letter of May 15th.

In response to your request, I grant a leave of absence from active ministry effective for a period of one year commencing on July 1, 1988. Based on our conversation, the Diocese will no longer be responsible for any of your benefits. However, you may stay on the diocesan automobile insurance plan, and I will have the premium for that billed directly to you. I wish to assure you as well that I have, in fact, removed from the diocesan archives all the psychological reports from the House of Affirmation and that they have been appropriately destroyed.

Please be assured of my prayers, Phil, during the period of this year. I pray that the Lord will lead you in the direction best suited for you and your talents. If I can be of any assistance during this time, please do not hesitate to call upon me. Should you change your address, please make my office aware of this as soon as possible.

Again assuring you of my best wishes, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

15 May, 1988

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Gendron:

I enjoyed our visit and conversation on 18 April, and was especially appreciative of your candidness. Planning for my future will involve consideration of various options, including some type of priestly ministry. Therefore, your input is very helpful to me in this process.

In accord with the terms of our discussion, I hereby request a leave of absence from active ministry for a period of one year to begin on 1 July, 1988. I understand that I will not be entitled to any further financial support or benefits from the diocese. However, I request continued coverage under the diocesan automobile insurance plan, and I agree to pay the full annual premium.

I would also like to confirm that, in accord with the terms of your letter of 3 December, 1986, all psychological reports of my residential treatment at the House of Affirmation have in fact been removed from diocesan files and destroyed.

I thank you for your continued support and encouragement. I will advise you of any change in my living and/or employment situation.

Peace



Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890



From the Desk of

REV. PHILIP A. PETIT

31 August, 1988

Ms. Eleanor Evans
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Eleanor:

It is my understanding that a priest of the diocese on sick leave receives full insurance coverage (health and car). Since I was on sick leave from 1 February, 1986 thru 30 June 1988, I presume that my insurance premia were paid by the Sick Priests Fund for that period.

In my letter to Bishop Gendron, dated 4 January, 1988, I voluntarily offered to take responsibility for my own health insurance and pay the premium for the diocesan car insurance. The letter clearly states that this applied for 1988, and Bishop Gendron agreed to these terms in his letter to me dated 11 January, 1988. The continued coverage for car insurance was approved by Bishop Gendron at the time he granted me a leave-of-absence, in a letter dated 17 May, 1988.

In view of this I believe that I am indeed paid-up for car insurance through 30 June, 1989. You can verify this information with Bishop Gendron. Thank you again for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Petit

Philip A. Petit

134 Norfolk St.
Cambridge, MA 02139-1890

Mr. Petit officially on leave

As of 1 July 1988

has paid in 1 1/2 years while on

sick leave. Payment in 1987-88 should

have been from clergy fund. Therefore

clergy fund with pick up in balance

JEM

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: +JBM
FROM: EJA
RE: Philip Petit
DATE: 27 September 2001

As the attached letter indicates, your agreement with Philip Petit is through 31 December 2001. This is a friendly "90 day reminder" so that we know what to do from the Personnel Office in December.

October 22, 2001

Philip Petit

Dear Phil,

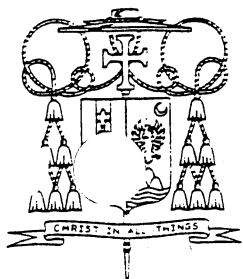
I recently met with Father Arsenault who reminded me that the agreement which you and I reached regarding assistance with your monthly sustenance was through December 31, 2001. I wanted to write to you now to determine whether your circumstances have stabilized economically and also to see how you are doing since your mother's (father's) death. I know that the loss of a parent is unlike any other challenge and you have been on my mind and in my prayers.

I would be grateful if you would write to me to let me know how you are and whether our agreement through December 2001 will be sufficient to help with your needs. Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

cc: Bishop Francis J. Christian
Rev. Edward J. Arsenault
file



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

4588

October 22, 2001

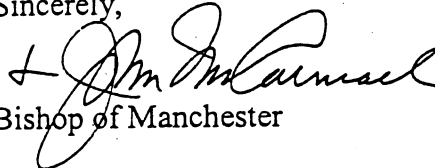
Philip Petit
416 Duncan Street, #4
San Francisco, CA 94131-1943

Dear Philip:

I recently met with Father Arsenault who reminded me that the agreement which you and I reached regarding assistance with your monthly sustenance was through December 31, 2001. I wanted to write to you now to determine whether your circumstances have stabilized economically and also to see how you are doing since your mother's death. I know that the loss of a parent is unlike any other challenge we deal with in life. You have been in my thoughts and prayer.

I would be grateful if you would write to me to let me know how you are and whether our agreement through December 2001 will be sufficient to help with your needs. Assuring you of my prayerful best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,


Bishop of Manchester

Philip A. Petit

20 November, 2001

Most Reverend John B. McCormack,
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0

J. Asenault
Confidential

PERSONAL / CONFIDENTIAL

What do you advise?
JA

Dear Bishop McCormack,


Please pardon my delay in r
inquire about my financial situation.
hoped to write, that I no longer need financial assistance from the diocese. Instead, I request that you
continue the financial assistance I receive from the diocese.

Last March I told you that I would seek a better-paying employment situation so as to
become more financially independent, and I must confess that I have not done so. I decided to wait
until after my mother's death before changing jobs, principally because my current employer has a
very generous policy for family and bereavement leave. It seemed prudent to take advantage of
those benefits as an employee of nearly three years rather than take my chances elsewhere as a newly
hired employee.

After I returned home in mid-August from my mother's wake and funeral, I decided to begin
a job search right after Labor Day. My plan, like that of countless other U.S. citizens, became
virtually irrelevant the morning of 9-11. As a direct result the terrorist attack, the SF Bay area is
attaining unemployment levels not seen in decades, and the worst probably lies ahead of us. Hardly
a day passes when the media does not report more layoffs, so changing jobs at this time in the hope
of higher pay is not very realistic.

Uncertainty about my current employment is an unexpected development. I work for a
psychiatrist at the San Francisco VA Medical Center who holds a contract with NASA to do research
on the astronauts and cosmonauts while they are onboard the International Space Station. The
contract is scheduled to end on 30 April 2002 and the psychiatrist is preparing a request for an
extension of the contract, however it will be January or February before NASA replies. Only a

Philip A. Petit



20 November, 2001

Most Reverend John B. McCormack, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

PERSONAL / CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Bishop McCormack,

Please pardon my delay in replying to your letter dated October 22, 2001 in which you inquire about my financial situation. I would have replied sooner were I able to write what I had hoped to write, that I no longer need financial assistance from the diocese. Instead, I request that you continue the financial assistance I receive from the diocese.

Last March I told you that I would seek a better-paying employment situation so as to become more financially independent, and I must confess that I have not done so. I decided to wait until after my mother's death before changing jobs, principally because my current employer has a very generous policy for family and bereavement leave. It seemed prudent to take advantage of those benefits as an employee of nearly three years rather than take my chances elsewhere as a newly hired employee.

After I returned home in mid-August from my mother's wake and funeral, I decided to begin a job search right after Labor Day. My plan, like that of countless other U.S. citizens, became virtually irrelevant the morning of 9-11. As a direct result the terrorist attack, the SF Bay area is attaining unemployment levels not seen in decades, and the worst probably lies ahead of us. Hardly a day passes when the media does not report more layoffs, so changing jobs at this time in the hope of higher pay is not very realistic.

Uncertainty about my current employment is an unexpected development. I work for a psychiatrist at the San Francisco VA Medical Center who holds a contract with NASA to do research on the astronauts and cosmonauts while they are onboard the International Space Station. The contract is scheduled to end on 30 April 2002 and the psychiatrist is preparing a request for an extension of the contract, however it will be January or February before NASA replies. Only a

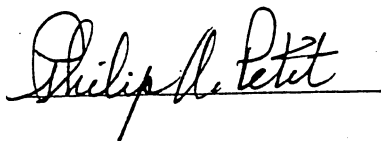
couple of months ago the psychiatrist was certain that NASA would readily grant his request, but he's far from certain now. As inauspicious as it may be for me to begin a job search at this time, I would be foolish to wait for NASA's reply.

As far as my financial situation is concerned, little has changed since our meeting in March. My 2001 gross earned income will be \$27,985 as compared to \$28,945 for 2000. That my 2000 earned income was nearly \$1,000 more than will be my 2001 earned income, even with a 2001 pay increase, is due to a one-time bonus that I received in 2000. In one aspect then, I am even more in need of financial assistance now than I was in March.

The diocese has been exceedingly generous to me and I suspect that Fr. Arsenault views me as a cost-cutting target in the diocesan budget, perhaps even more so now since the diocese must also be experiencing some financial distress as a result of 9-11. Mindful of that but also realistic about my financial situation, I ask you to continue the financial assistance that I receive from the diocese until 30 June 2002. Barring an unforeseen personal catastrophic event, e.g., total disability from an accident, or becoming destitute in my senior years, I will never again request financial assistance from the diocese.

I was very touched that you took the time to come to my mother's wake, and the other members of the family were surprised by and grateful for your prayerful presence. Estelle's life was difficult and painful – by any standard, so I focus on my belief that her quality of Life has improved infinitely, now that she is in God's care, rather than on the fact that she is no longer with us. Thank you again, and may God continue to bless your episcopal ministry to the Church of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,



Libr

4592

TELEPHONE MESSAGE

TO: Bishop McCormack
FROM: Philip Petit
TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]
RE: Reply to your request
DATE & TIME: November 20, 2001 12:10 AM

He mailed an update to you today as you had requested in your note.

Philip A. Petit

20 November, 2001

Most Reverend John B. McCormack, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
FILE: confidential
AUTHORIZED: gp

PERSONAL / CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Bishop McCormack,

Please pardon my delay in replying to your letter dated October 22, 2001 in which you inquire about my financial situation. I would have replied sooner were I able to write what I had hoped to write, that I no longer need financial assistance from the diocese. Instead, I request that you continue the financial assistance I receive from the diocese.

Last March I told you that I would seek a better-paying employment situation so as to become more financially independent, and I must confess that I have not done so. I decided to wait until after my mother's death before changing jobs, principally because my current employer has a very generous policy for family and bereavement leave. It seemed prudent to take advantage of those benefits as an employee of nearly three years rather than take my chances elsewhere as a newly hired employee.

After I returned home in mid-August from my mother's wake and funeral, I decided to begin a job search right after Labor Day. My plan, like that of countless other U.S. citizens, became virtually irrelevant the morning of 9-11. As a direct result the terrorist attack, the SF Bay area is attaining unemployment levels not seen in decades, and the worst probably lies ahead of us. Hardly a day passes when the media does not report more layoffs, so changing jobs at this time in the hope of higher pay is not very realistic.

Uncertainty about my current employment is an unexpected development. I work for a psychiatrist at the San Francisco VA Medical Center who holds a contract with NASA to do research on the astronauts and cosmonauts while they are onboard the International Space Station. The contract is scheduled to end on 30 April 2002 and the psychiatrist is preparing a request for an extension of the contract, however it will be January or February before NASA replies. Only a

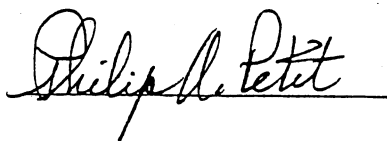
couple of months ago the psychiatrist was certain that NASA would readily grant his request, but he is far from certain now. As inauspicious as it may be for me to begin a job search at this time, I would be foolish to wait for NASA's reply.

As far as my financial situation is concerned, little has changed since our meeting in March. My 2001 gross earned income will be \$27,985 as compared to \$28,945 for 2000. That my 2000 earned income was nearly \$1,000 more than will be my 2001 earned income, even with a 2001 pay increase, is due to a one-time bonus that I received in 2000. In one aspect then, I am even more in need of financial assistance now than I was in March.

The diocese has been exceedingly generous to me and I suspect that Fr. Arsenault views me as a cost-cutting target in the diocesan budget, perhaps even more so now since the diocese must also be experiencing some financial distress as a result of 9-11. Mindful of that but also realistic about my financial situation, I ask you to continue the financial assistance that I receive from the diocese until 30 June 2002. Barring an unforeseen personal catastrophic event, e.g., total disability from an accident, or becoming destitute in my senior years, I will never again request financial assistance from the diocese.

I was very touched that you took the time to come to my mother's wake, and the other members of the family were surprised by and grateful for your prayerful presence. Estelle's life was difficult and painful - by any standard, so I focus on my belief that her quality of Life has improved infinitely, now that she is in God's care, rather than on the fact that she is no longer with us. Thank you again, and may God continue to bless your episcopal ministry to the Church of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Petit



J. Aschmann
Confidential

4595 11/27

What do you advise?

JJ

Most Reverend John B. McCorr
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

Ed - please draft a response!!

PERSONAL / CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Bishop McCormack,

Please pardon my delay in replying to your letter dated October 22, 2001 in which you inquire about my financial situation. I would have replied sooner were I able to write what I had hoped to write, that I no longer need financial assistance from the diocese. Instead, I request that you continue the financial assistance I receive from the diocese.

Last March I told you that I would seek a better-paying employment situation so as to become more financially independent, and I must confess that I have not done so. I decided to wait until after my mother's death before changing jobs, principally because my current employer has a very generous policy for family and bereavement leave. It seemed prudent to take advantage of those benefits as an employee of nearly three years rather than take my chances elsewhere as a newly hired employee.

After I returned home in mid-August from my mother's wake and funeral, I decided to begin a job search right after Labor Day. My plan, like that of countless other U.S. citizens, became virtually irrelevant the morning of 9-11. As a direct result the terrorist attack, the SF Bay area is attaining unemployment levels not seen in decades, and the worst probably lies ahead of us. Hardly a day passes when the media does not report more layoffs, so changing jobs at this time in the hope of higher pay is not very realistic.

Uncertainty about my current employment is an unexpected development. I work for a psychiatrist at the San Francisco VA Medical Center who holds a contract with NASA to do research on the astronauts and cosmonauts while they are onboard the International Space Station. The contract is scheduled to end on 30 April 2002 and the psychiatrist is preparing a request for an extension of the contract, however it will be January or February before NASA replies. Only a

TO: Bishop McCormack
FROM: Father Arsenault *JA*
RE: Philip Petit
DATE: 28 November 2001

McCormack

I have reviewed the letter which you received from Philip Petit and would recommend the following:

1. That you offer to provide him \$350 per month of contribution toward his sustenance from 1 January 2002 - 30 June 2002, subject to review again on or before 1 April 2002.

While I appreciate the circumstances in which he finds himself, the reality is that he is receiving the same support than others receive who are not nearly as gainfully employed. His compensation for his work seems commensurate with his profession. Like many others, he may have to consider where he lives (high cost of living), his profession and its income potential and the possibility of supplementing his income with a second job.

My recommendation for a reduction in the amount but a continuation of support is meant to help to "move him" toward financial independence.

If you choose, I would be happy to draft a response to him that outlines my points. Nonetheless, please advise me of your decision in this regard so that I can notify Eve Mongeau.

TO: Bishop McCormack
FROM: Father Arsenault
RE: Philip Petit
DATE: 28 November 2001.

I have reviewed the letter which you received from Philip Petit and would recommend the following:

1. That you offer to provide him \$350 per month of contribution toward his sustenance from 1 January 2002 - 30 June 2002, subject to review again on or before 1 April 2002.

While I appreciate the circumstances in which he finds himself, the reality is that he is receiving the same support than others receive who are not nearly as gainfully employed. His compensation for his work seems commensurate with his profession. Like many others, he may have to consider where he lives (high cost of living), his profession and its income potential and the possibility of supplementing his income with a second job.

My recommendation for a reduction in the amount but a continuation of support is meant to help to "move him" toward financial independence.

If you choose, I would be happy to draft a response to him that outlines my points. Nonetheless, please advise me of your decision in this regard so that I can notify Eve Mongeau.

FK 1000

4598

December 20, 1988

Mr. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

Dear Phil:

I received your recent letter in reference to granting you faculties for the marriage of your sister in July of 1999. I have considered your request prayerfully and feel that, because of all of the circumstances which have resulted in your leave of absence, it would not be appropriate to grant you faculties for the wedding. I know this may be disappointing to you and your family, but trust you will understand the many considerations which have gone into this decision.

Hoping that the Lord will bless you during this holiday season, and wishing you a blessed New Year, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

15 December, 1988

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Gendron:

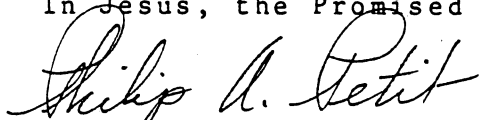
My sister, [REDACTED], was recently engaged to be married to [REDACTED]. They are planning to be married at St. John the Baptist Church in Allenstown, which is my family's home parish. Though the date of the wedding has not been set, they are hoping to be married in July of next year.

After discussing the matter between themselves, [REDACTED] have asked me to officiate at their wedding ceremony. I am willing and would like to officiate, but have explained to them that I need your permission in order to do so. I also explained to them that while I could assist them with planning their wedding ceremony, I could not be involved with their marriage preparation.

I request that you grant me faculties so I may officiate at their wedding. I understand that this is a special request, and will accept your pastoral decision.

May God bless you during this season of joyful anticipation of the Feast of the Nativity.

In Jesus, the Promised One



Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

February 28, 1989

Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1890

Dear Father Petit:

As I promised you in my letter of February second, I am responding at this time to your concerns expressed in your letter of January 23rd. I would prefer to discuss these matters with you personally and, therefore, would ask you to call my office to arrange for an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

Looking forward to seeing you in the near future, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

23 January, 1989

PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Gendron:

Your decision not to grant me faculties to officiate at my sister's wedding was a great disappointment to my sister and her fiancée, as well as to the rest of my family. I, however, was more shocked and confused than disappointed. Certain points in your letter are the cause of this shock and confusion.

Firstly, I wonder why you chose to address the letter to me as "Mr." rather than "Rev.". Does this indicate some change in my canonical status as a priest of the diocese?

Secondly, your decision seems contrary to the spirit of your letter dated June 23, 1987 - "If, however, special circumstances should arise where, for family or other reasons, it would be spiritually beneficial for you to function on a specific occasion, please be in touch with me regarding such an instance." It also seems contrary to the spirit of our conversation in your office on April 18, 1988 when you stated that at some point in the future you might be willing to consider an assignment for me within the diocese. Is there some reason for this apparent change in your attitude?

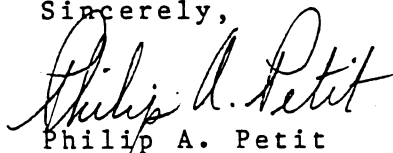
Thirdly, I am concerned about the very general reason you gave - "all the circumstances which have resulted in your leave of absence". [REDACTED]

Having benefited from therapy at the House of Affirmation, at Golden Valley Health Center, as well as after-care, I do not understand what you mean by this phrase. Is there a persistent situation that makes it inappropriate to grant me faculties to officiate at my sister's wedding?

lost Rev. Odore J. Gendron
23 January, 1989
page 2

My initial reaction to your denial was to merely accept it, seeing no point in pursuing the matter further nor in trying to persuade you to reconsider. However, after further reflection over these past weeks, I realize that the points I have raised are of significance and deserve to be addressed forthrightly. I would appreciate a clarification of these points, but in particular I am interested in a more detailed and specific explanation of your reason(s) for denying my request. I look forward to your response in this matter.

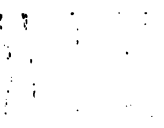
Sincerely,



Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

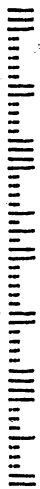
4003

Phillip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890



Most Reverent Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Post Office Box 310
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL



*I have acknowledged - only,
 responded to. Bishop wishes
 I discuss the ~~letter~~^{one} with
 Msgr. Christian.*

February 2, 1989

Rev. Philip A. Petit
 134 Norfolk Street
 Cambridge, Ma. 02139-1890

Dear Father Petit:

I wish to respond to your most recent letter dated January 26, 1989, requesting my permission for you to concelebrate at Bishop Joseph's Mass of Thanksgiving and Farewell this coming Sunday, February 5, 1989. This permission, of course, would entail my granting you faculties for that occasion.

Having carefully considered your request, however, I regret that I do not think it would be proper, given the present circumstances of your leave, to grant this one-time permission. Although I understand your long standing ties to Saint Anselm College and your affiliation with Bishop Joseph, because you are on leave, I do not think that a permission to concelebrate at one public liturgy would be in order. You are, of course, welcome to participate at the Liturgy, and I would look forward to having you join us as we bid formal farewell to Bishop Joseph, and express our congratulations to him on his appointment as Bishop of Portland.

I realize I have not yet fully responded to your letter of January 23, 1989. I shall do so, Phil, in the very near future.

In the meantime, be assured of my prayers and best wishes.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

26 January, 1989

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Gendron:

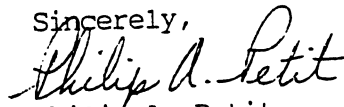
I plan to be in New Hampshire the weekend of 4/5 February, and am considering attending the farewell liturgy at the cathedral church Sunday night for Bishop Joseph.

I have known Bishop Joseph since my days as a student at St. Anselm. I was able to attend his abbatial consecration as well as his episcopal ordination, and would like to be present for this event as well.

I wonder if my status of being on leave-of-absence, or some other reason, prohibits me from con-celebrating the liturgy with you and the other priests of the diocese?

I thank you for your consideration of this inquiry, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

January 30, 1989

Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1890

Dear Father Petit:

I write to acknowledge receipt of your three recent letters to me, January 20, January 23, and January 26, 1989. You raise several matters in them, namely, the status of your psychological reports in our diocesan files, the circumstances surrounding my decision not to grant you faculties to officiate at your sister's upcoming wedding, and your request to concelebrate at Bishop Joseph's Farewell Liturgy at the Cathedral on February 5, 1989.

First, I assure you that the last of your psychological reports have been removed from our diocesan files and destroyed. This is in accord with our previous discussions, and I have therefore taken this action as you have requested.

With regard to the other matters which you raise, I would prefer to respond to them at a later date. I shall be in communication with you about them in the very near future.

In the meantime, I extend my best wishes to you, and assure you of my continued prayers.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

20 January, 1989

PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
Manchester, New Hampshire

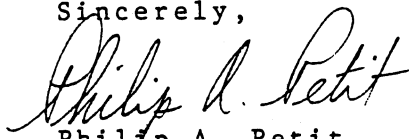
Dear Bishop Gendron:

Two years have passed since our negotiations regarding the timely removal and destruction of my psychological reports kept in diocesan files. At the time, you insisted on keeping one report from Dr. Desjardins on file, the one dated July 24, 1982, in the event of any legal action against the diocese resulting from my behavior while on assignment. I think it is important to note that no such legal action has been taken against the diocese. It is a fact that any psychological report has a limited time-value and, at some point, should be removed from the files and destroyed.

February 1st will mark three years that I have been unassigned, and that is the statute of limitations for bringing civil suit in the State of New Hampshire. This fact, coupled with the lack of any legal action taken or pending against the diocese with regard to my behavior, seems to indicate that the document in question is of no further value to the diocese. Its presence in diocesan files, however, is of lingering concern to me.

I therefore request that you remove the last of my psychological reports from diocesan files and destroy it. This action will finally bring closure to a very painful chapter in my relationship with you and the diocese. I look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

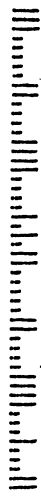
4008

Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890



Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Post Office Box 310
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL



April 18, 1989

Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1890

Dear Father Petit:

As I agreed at our recent conference, I would like to follow up our discussion by formalizing its results in this letter.

May I begin, however, by stating how pleased I am with the wonderful progress you have made in the control of your addiction. The initiative you showed in seeking treatment at Golden Valley and the continuing help you are seeking, as well as a full year of "sobriety", speaks most strongly for your desire to overcome this painful portion of your life. I will certainly pray for your continued success in this endeavor.

As you know, when we met previously, I had indicated the possibility that I would grant you faculties in the Diocese for special one-time events, and also held open the possibility that you might return to ministry here. Based on prayerful consideration of information that has been presented to Bishops on the national level, as well as the advice of our diocesan legal experts, I have changed my mind in this regard. I am not comfortable granting you "one-time" faculties because of the possibility that this might be interpreted as somehow not taking seriously the quite public problems of this nature. In the same way, given the notoriety and wide knowledge of those problems, it does not seem to me wise to return you to priestly ministry in the Diocese of Manchester due both to potential legal ramifications for the Church as well as credibility problems of the sort mentioned above. I know these decisions are difficult for you, and I assure you I make them, not with any animosity toward you personally, but out of concern for the welfare of the Diocese.

Rev. Philip A. Petit
April 18, 1989
Page 2.

4010

I am most willing to be of assistance to you in attempting to locate another Bishop who might be willing to offer you priestly ministry. In this regard, it is necessary for me to have in hand some sort of evaluation and recommendation from Golden Valley as to your ability to do ministry. Would you please send what is appropriate to me so that I can then, with this in hand, make inquiries for you. I will notify you when I have any results.

If I can be of any further assistance to you in the weeks ahead, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

FR. Petit

4611

May 2, 1989

Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1890

Dear Father Petit:

In response to your letter of April 26th, please be informed that I am most happy to comply with the conditions you suggested in my use of the psychological report from Golden Valley, i.e., that I alone will have access to the document and will not share it with anyone else without your prior consent; and I shall remove it from the diocesan files and destroy it at the end of one year. I understand your concerns in this regard, and will comply with your wishes.

I trust you understand why it is important for me to have the recommendations on hand. Any Bishop I might contact is going to wish to know what the concrete recommendations of the treatment center are, and specifically that the treatment center recommends you return to ministry with the problem under control. I will await to hear further from you in this regard.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

26 April, 1989

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester

Dear Bishop Gendron:

I appreciated the opportunity of meeting with you on 10 April. Though I understand your reasons in refusing faculties for me to officiate at my sister's wedding, that does not diminish the disappointment felt by her and her fiance, and by my family, nor my own feelings as I expressed them to you.

Your letter of 18 April is a very succinct summary of our conference, with the exception of one point. I do not recall that you made a request for any sort of evaluation or recommendation from Golden Valley regarding my ability to do ministry. I prefer that you had made this request during our meeting so that we could have discussed it.

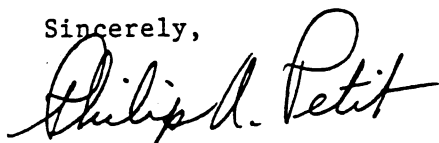
Unfortunately, your request resurrects issues that have been the source of contention between us in the past, namely the confidentiality, use, and purging of my psychological reports. In order to avoid any future conflicts, I ask that my evaluation or recommendation from Golden Valley be treated in accordance with our earlier agreement regarding my psychological reports, namely:

1. that you alone have access to this document, and that you not share its specific content with anyone without my prior written consent;
2. that it be removed from diocesan files and destroyed at the end of one year from the date you receive it.

I did not receive a written report when I completed the treatment program at Golden Valley, however I am writing to the psychiatrist who supervised my treatment and I will explain the reasons for the request.

I can agree with your reasoning that I not resume ordained ministry in the Diocese of Manchester, and I appreciate your suggestion that I consider ministry in another diocese. I hope you can agree to the conditions mentioned above, thereby allowing you to proceed with the inquiries you offered to make on my behalf. I look forward to your response, and I will then advise you of the response I receive from the psychiatrist.

Sincerely,



(Rev.) Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

August 22, 1989

Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

Dear Father Petit:

I write, at your request, in response to our recent telephone conversation concerning the letter of recommendation you received from Golden Valley Health Care Center.

As I stated to you on the phone, the evaluation is not helpful to you in pursuing ministry in the Church. As I am sure you understand only too well, Dr. Philander is clearly not hopeful that your problem will not re-surface, and because of that he indicates that he could not recommend you for duties as a parish priest or for other duties in which you would come into independent contact with people. Given this evaluation which other Bishops or other religious superiors would certainly request, I do not feel it wise for me at this time to be in touch with such people on your behalf. Obviously, if another psychological evaluation from people competent with the problems of sexual addiction were to come to different conclusions, then we could discuss this matter again in the future.

I continue to wish to be of whatever assistance to you I can, and pray that both in your personal growth and in the work place you will be happy and fruitful.

With every good wish, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

28 July, 1989

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

CONFIDENTIAL/PERSONAL

Dear Bishop Gendron:

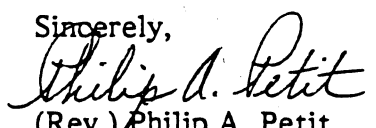
I wrote to Dennis A. Philander, M.D., the psychiatrist who directed my treatment at the Sexual Dependency Unit of the Golden Valley Health Center, requesting his professional recommendation regarding my ability to resume ordained ministry. I received his letter on 3 July, however knowing that you were on vacation for the month of July, I decided to wait until now before mailing it to you.

I am disappointed by Dr. Philander's letter, for it indicates a hesitancy regarding the advice he verbally expressed to me while I was in treatment. At that time he cautioned me not to make any rash decisions regarding Roman Catholic priesthood, but rather urged me to investigate alternatives to parish work. Along those lines he suggested that my bishop might consider, after a two to three year period of recovery, sponsoring my training as a therapist in order to assist clergy and vowed religious who struggle with sexual dependency. He also suggested that I reread my psychological evaluation by Dr. Zuehlke since it highlighted many positive aspects of my personality and character. Finally, he made an unsolicited offer of writing to my bishop on my behalf if I thought he could positively influence his decision regarding my future in ordained ministry. Based on what I remember hearing, I feel betrayed by the tenor of this recommendation.

I discussed my reaction to the letter with Steve Scruton. He was not surprised by the tone of the letter, stating that Dr. Henri Ouellette is of the opinion that GVHC/SDU has retreated from an earlier practice of advocacy on behalf of clergy and vowed religious alumni. Steve stated further that, because of this opinion, Dr. Ouellette now recommends another treatment center rather than GVHC/SDU for residential treatment of clergy and vowed religious dealing with sexual dependency.

I question the value of this recommendation in convincing a bishop to consider me for ministry in his diocese. Please let me know of your reaction to the recommendation, and advise me if I can be of further assistance at this time. In closing, I remind you that Dr. Philander's letter is provided to you subject to the conditions you agreed to in your letter of 2 May, 1989.

Sincerely,



(Rev.) Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

Enc.

20 October, 1989

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Bishop Gendron:

I write to ask that you return me to a status of "absent on sick leave". As you may recall, we agreed that I go on "leave of absence" during our meeting on 18 April, 1988 and it became effective as of 1 July, 1988. My consent was based on two factors: my apparently stable and improving employment situation, and your statement that I might be able to return to ministry in some capacity after a period of two or three years. Unfortunately, both factors have been reversed over that past year.

I have been unable to secure permanent employment appropriate to my education, experience, and talents, and am still doing temporary work as a secretary with no benefits whatsoever. Doing full-time temporary work allows me little time to search for a permanent position or make necessary contacts. However, temporary work is my sole source of income at this time.

For the past year I have been paying the full monthly premium for health insurance, but my eligibility for group coverage will soon expire. I doubt that I will be able to afford adequate coverage on an individual basis.

I have been living at St. Mary Rectory for over two years, and though there is no pressure for me to move out, I believe that it is inappropriate for me to continue living there. However, in order to get an apartment in the Boston area, I would have to commit more than 50% of my current net monthly income just to pay rent. Therefore, it is unfeasible for me to move out of the rectory at this time given my financial situation.

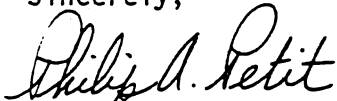
Bishop Gendron
20/10/89
page 2

On the question of my returning to ministry, you have made it clear that I shall never again be able to function in any capacity within the Diocese of Manchester. Furthermore, in your letter of 22 August, 1989 you indicated that based on the recent recommendation of Dr. Dennis A. Philander you are unable to contact any bishop or major superior on my behalf. This is a result of the likelihood that my mental health problems will resurface. It seems, therefore, that my absence from active ministry is no longer a matter of choice but rather is mandated by health concerns.

For these reasons, I ask you to return me to the status of "absent on sick leave". The monthly stipend will relieve some of the financial burden I am currently experiencing. Hopefully, this will allow me to find another living arrangement that I can afford, as well as allow me the necessary time to continue searching for permanent employment. The diocesan health insurance plan will provide better coverage than I can afford on an individual basis.

I never anticipated this turn of events, and it is quite discouraging for me to have to turn to the diocese once again. However, I have spent much time reflecting, getting advice, and praying about whether or not to seek further assistance from the diocese. I hope you agree with my reasoning, and therefore grant my request as soon as possible. I look forward to your response in the near future.

Sincerely,



Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

TR [Signature]

4019

January 10, 1990

Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

Dear Phil:

In response to your letter of January 5th, I would like to inform you that I am agreeable to assisting you financially according to the plan you propose. I will arrange to have you placed on our diocesan Blue Cross-Blue Shield program as soon as possible given the terms of their contract with the Diocese. This should take approximately one month, and I will have your Blue Cross-Blue Shield card sent to you when it becomes effective. I am also agreeable to providing you a monthly stipend of \$543.00 out of the diocesan clergy fund. These payments will begin to be made to you at the end of January, and each month subsequent. I will continue to use your Cambridge mailing address until you notify me of the new address you will ultimately find.

I am willing, Phil, to accept these responsibilities during this period of time when you find yourself in transition. Given the many demands on the clergy fund, I would request, however, that when you locate permanent employment you notify me of that fact so that we can then make other arrangements in regard to this assistance.

Trusting this will be helpful to you in the months ahead, I am

Cordially in Christ,

Bishop of Manchester

5 January, 1990

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

PERSONAL/CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Bishop Gendron:

I write in reference to my letter to you dated 20 October, 1989. I presume that you received my letter, though to date I have not received any response from you.

In that letter, I requested financial assistance from the diocese and clearly stated my reasons for making this request. It is increasingly awkward for me to live in a rectory, however my current lack of regular employment makes it financially unfeasible to live on my own. This situation has become an emotional and psychological burden, jeopardizing the progress I have made in recovery. The second major issue is my impending loss of access to affordable health insurance. I believe that the diocesan policy of benefits to priests on sick leave, 75% of my monthly salary and coverage under the diocesan health plan, would amply provide for my current needs and allow me to make other living arrangements.

It seems to me that, given the developments in my situation over the past year, my relationship with you and the diocese has become even more complicated. For this reason, I have sought advice from a canon lawyer. I repeat my request for financial assistance, and ask you to abide by my right to support from the diocese as stipulated in canon 1350.1 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law. I would appreciate a response from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Petit

Rev. Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

Handwritten:
1989
543.75

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER
PRIESTS ON SICK LEAVE, ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE, ETC.

NAME: Petit, Philip EFFECTIVE DATE: Jan 31, 90 PAYROLL #: _____

STATUS: Sick Leave BILLING # 414

SALARY: \$ 543.00 ^{543.75} PAID BY: Clergy Fund
\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

ROOM & BOARD: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

(PAY TO: _____) \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

MEDICAL INSURANCE: \$ 3650.00 ^{3125.00 (10 months)} PAID BY: Clergy Fund
3750 - 2A/yr. \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

DENTAL INSURANCE: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

RETIREMENT FUND: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

CLERGY FUND DUES: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

CLERGY AUTO INSURANCE: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

RETREATS: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

CHRISTMAS BONUS: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

PCFC ASSESSMENT: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

PREPARED BY: Francis Chustian DATE: Jan 10, 1990

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER
PRIESTS ON SICK LEAVE, ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE, ETC.

NAME: PETIT, Philip EFFECTIVE DATE: Jan 31 90 PAYROLL #: _____

STATUS: Sick Leave BILLING # 414

SALARY: \$ 543.00 \$ 543.00 PAID BY: Clergy Fund

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

ROOM & BOARD: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

(PAY TO: _____) \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

MEDICAL INSURANCE: \$ ~~3650.00~~ 3750 3125- \$ ~~3650.00~~ PAID BY: Clergy Fund

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

DENTAL INSURANCE: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

RETIREMENT FUND: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

CLERGY FUND DUES: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

CLERGY AUTO INSURANCE: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

RETREATS: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

CHRISTMAS BONUS: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

PCFC ASSESSMENT: \$ NA \$ _____ PAID BY: _____

\$ _____ PAID BY: _____

PREPARED BY: Francis Christian DATE: Jan 10, 1990

Philip A. Petit

4023

2 February, 1990

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Post Office Box 310
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0310

Dear Bishop Gendron:

In accordance with the terms of your letter of 10 January, 1990, I received today a check from the diocesan clergy fund for the month of January.

My financial situation is increasingly unstable, evidenced by the fact that I have not even had a temporary work assignment these past four weeks. While I had many bills that came due in January, the stipend was my only real income.

My chances of finding appropriate regular employment in the Boston area seem to be diminishing with each passing week, and many have suggested that I move to another part of the country where the economy is better. The monthly stipend and health insurance coverage from the diocese will provide me with a basic financial security, thereby allowing me to investigate the benefits of such a move.

I will advise you of a change of address as soon as I establish another residence, however I will continue to receive my mail at my current address for the time being. I will also advise you when I succeed in finding appropriate regular employment. I thank you for your continued support and for the financial assistance from the diocese, and I look forward to receiving the health insurance card in the near future.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Petit

Reverend Philip A. Petit
134 Norfolk Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-1890

12 March, 1990

Most Reverend Odore J. Gendron, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop Gendron:

As I mentioned in my earlier letter, several people that I had spoken with during my job search in the Boston area suggested that, given the economic outlook for New England, I consider moving to another area of the country in my attempt to secure gainful and appropriate employment.

Having reflected on this for several months and after considering the many factors involved, I have decided to investigate the employment opportunities and living situation in the San Francisco area. Among the many reasons for my interest in the Bay area are the stable economy and employment opportunities, the frequency of and easy access to SLAA meetings, as well as proximity to the Benedictine monks I knew from St. Anselm Abbey who are now at Woodside Priory. A long-term consideration is the number and accessibility to various universities should I decide to continue my education in pursuit of an advanced degree.

I am notifying you of my change of address effective immediately. I suggest that my name and address be listed in the diocesan directory, but deleted from the general mailing lists of the various diocesan offices. Since much of the information I would receive would be of little or no value to me, it would seem an unnecessary expense for the diocese. However, I would appreciate receiving any letters that you and/or Bishop O'Neil might consider of importance to me, death notices of brother priests, as well as the diocesan newspaper. I ask that you arrange to have my monthly stipend check and any insurance papers mailed to my new address.

I take this opportunity to thank you again for your continued support, and to acknowledge that this period of investigation is only possible because I receive the monthly stipend and health insurance coverage from the diocese. I am grateful to you and the diocese, and will advise you of any progress in my job search and of any further change in address.

Fraternally in Jesus, the Christ

Philip A. Petit
Rev. Philip A. Petit

[Redacted signature block]

keep this

4025

Philip A. Petit



December 28, 1990

Most Reverend Leo E. O'Neil, D.D.
Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester
153 Ash Street
Manchester, New Hampshire

Dear Bishop O'Neil:

I regret that it has taken me this long to respond to your letter of 7 December, but I am sure you understand how hectic it has been with the holidays and end-of-year business matters.

My employer, has agreed to include me in his Blue Cross - Blue Shield Group Plan through the Bar Association of San Francisco, and to pay half of the monthly premium as a benefit. The monthly premium is currently \$205.77, though the insurance agent indicates that it will increase as of 1 March.

My application for coverage is pending, but the agent thinks that the effective date will be 1 February rather than 1 January, as I had requested. He will notify me as soon as my application has been processed by BC/BS.

The insurance broker receives payment-in-full on the first of each month from the employer, with the employee portion of the premium processed as a payroll deduction. Since you have agreed to reimburse my portion of the premium, the diocesan amount will be \$102.89 monthly.

I provide the following information for the diocesan bookkeeping:

employer:
John Ward
Attorney at Law
Post Office Box 27470
Oakland, California 94602-0970
(415) 763-4261

insurance broker:
Myers - Stevens & Company, Inc.
155 Montgomery Street
Post Office Box 44161
San Francisco, California 94104
(415) 362-3030
group # 001-270076 124343485

I think you will agree that this arrangement is mutually beneficial, and I appreciate your cooperation in this matter. I shall notify you as soon as my application is approved and an effective date is set.

Philip A. Petit
Sincerely,

I thank you for your Christmas card and gift.