



## THE ARCHDIOCESE OF AGANA

CHANCERY OFFICE

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### **Archdiocese of Agana Statement**

Catholic Cemeteries of Guam, Inc. is an entity of the Archdiocese of Agana. Pope Francis entrusted full pastoral responsibility and administrative authority of the Archdiocese to Archbishop Savio Hon Tai Fai, SDB, as Apostolic Administrator of Agana in June, 2016.

Late this afternoon, the Archdiocese learned second-hand, from local news media, that an individual had filed a complaint against Monsignor James Benavente with the Guam Police and Attorney General's Office on behalf of the Catholic Cemeteries.

The subject matter which the complaint mentions was addressed and the findings determined Monsignor James to be cleared of any financial irregularities.

Archbishop Hon wishes to make very clear that in no way has he authorized any individual to represent the Archdiocese nor file such a complaint on behalf of the Catholic Cemeteries and the Archdiocese.

Such misrepresentation constitutes a grave wrong and disobedience that the recognized leadership of our Catholic Church on Guam will not tolerate. Indeed, we were not consulted or contacted regarding this act. No such document was forwarded to the Archdiocese.

Archbishop Hon will take immediate and appropriate action to discipline the person or persons involved as he would do with any act of insubordination by persons under his pastoral care.