



**August 2, 2002 - Statement of David W. Smith, Chancellor, Archdiocese of Boston**

Press reports today have indicated that the Archdiocese of Boston might consider filing bankruptcy as a result of the clergy misconduct issue.

It is true that in the process of considering all possible options in pursuit of a global settlement legal counsel has been authorized to review how bankruptcy law might apply to the Archdiocese. What is in place is a study at the level of legal counsel. No recommendation has been received nor, obviously, has any decision been taken.

The goal of the Archdiocese is a fair and equitable settlement of all cases without putting in jeopardy the mission of the Church.

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