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*Counsel for the Debtor
and Debtor in Possession***UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT****NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA****OAKLAND DIVISION**

In re:

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF
OAKLAND, a California corporation sole,

Debtor.

Case No. 23-40523 WJL

Chapter 11

**DECLARATION OF IVELINA VELIKOVA
IN SUPPORT OF FIRST INTERIM FEE
APPLICATION OF NATIONAL
ECONOMIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATES,
INC., FOR ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT
OF COMPENSATION AND
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR
THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2025, THROUGH
AUGUST 31, 2025**

Judge: Hon. William J. Lafferty

Date: December 3, 2025

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: United States Bankruptcy Court
1300 Clay Street
Courtroom 220
Oakland, CA 94612

Objection Deadline: November 5, 2025

1 I, Ivelina Velikova, do hereby declare as follows:

2 The following facts are personally known to me, and if called to do so, I could and would
3 competently testify thereto.

4 1. I am a Director with National Economic Research Associates, Inc. ("NERA"), which has
5 been retained as an expert witness for the Debtor.

6 2. I submit this declaration in Support of the *First Interim Fee Application National Economic*
7 *Research Associates, Inc. for Allowance and Payment of Compensation for the Period of May 15, 2025,*
8 *through August 31, 2025* (the "Interim Application").

9 3. I have personally reviewed the information contained in the Interim Application, and
10 believe its contents to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

11 4. NERA is not seeking reimbursement of any expenses in the Interim Application.

12 5. NERA has not been paid or promised any compensation from any source for services
13 rendered in connection with this case, other than the Debtor's funds.

14 6. NERA has not entered into any agreement or understanding with any other entity for the
15 sharing of compensation received or to be received for services rendered and/or to be rendered in
16 connection with this case.

17 7. NERA believes that the compensation sought in the Interim Application is in conformity
18 with the *United States Bankruptcy Court Northern District of California Guidelines for Compensation*
19 *and Expense Reimbursement of Professionals and Trustees*, except to the extent that certain of the monthly
20 billings are for amounts in excess of \$20,000 per category. Because those categories involve substantially
21 similar issues, NERA has not attempted to break them into subcategories. Given the size and complexity
22 of this case, NERA submits that limiting each category to \$20,000 is not practicable.

23 8. As made clear in the Interim Application, the compensation sought therein were billed at
24 rates no less favorable than those customarily billed by NERA and generally accepted by NERA's clients.

25 9. I have personally reviewed the bills in this matter, and the bills represent true and correct
26 charges to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

27
28 DECLARATION OF IVELINA VELIKOVA IN SUPPORT OF NERA FIRST INTERIM FEE APPLICATION

1 Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and
2 correct.

3 Executed this 15th day of October, 2025.

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5
6 /s/ Ivelina Velikova
Ivelina Velikova
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DECLARATION OF IVELINA VELIKOVA IN SUPPORT OF NERA FIRST INTERIM FEE APPLICATION