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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 FOURTH 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, 2026, THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2026

Judge: Hon. William J. Lafferty

Date: December 2, 2026
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Place: United States Bankruptcy Court
1300 Clay Street
Courtroom 220
Oakland, CA 94612

Objection Deadline: November 20, 2026

I, Ivelina Velikova, do hereby declare as follows:

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

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

2. I submit this declaration in Support of the *Fourth Interim Fee Application National Economic Research Associates, Inc. for Allowance and Payment of Compensation for the Period of May 1, 2026, through August 31, 2026* (the "Interim Application").

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

4. NERA is seeking the allowance of expenses that were previously paid through Monthly Fee Statements in the Interim Application.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Executed this 30th day of October, 2026.

/s/ Ivelina Velikova
Ivelina Velikova