

# THOMAS MORE SOCIETY

*A National Public Interest Law Firm*

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October 22, 2013

*Feast of Blessed John Paul II*

Fr. Frank Pavone  
Priests for Life  
P.O. Box 141172  
Staten Island, NY 10314

Dear Father Frank Pavone,

Please accept our heartfelt congratulations on your Silver Jubilee, celebrating twenty-five years of priesthood! Our Church and our entire society have been blessed to have you as spiritual leader and prophetic witness for our pro-life movement!

At Thomas More Society, we cherish fond and vivid memories of your ardent and enduring support, especially during the tough times when we were defending the *NOW vs. Scheidler* case – in which the abortion industry and the National Organization for Women tried to smear Joe Scheidler, other pro-life leaders, and “up to a million [alleged] co-conspirators” with the unseemly tag of “racketeers” in defiance of the federal “RICO” law. Driving home on one dark day in late April, 1998, after a jury had just returned a verdict of “guilty” after a two month trial, our spirits were lifted when the Chicago radio news announced that Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago, had spoken out to condemn the verdict. Then the announcer went on, “And another statement was issued today from Rome, where Fr. Frank Pavone of the Vatican Pontifical Council for the Family criticized the verdict as a travesty of justice,” in those or very similar words. Needless to say, this vital support buoyed our hopes in those times of great adversity. Most of all, we cherish the memory of your celebrating Holy Mass in the Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel at the National Basilica in Washington, D.C., to help us prepare for one of our oral arguments before the United States Supreme Court in the *NOW* case. Justice finally prevailed for the pro-lifers by an 8-1 vote of the Justices in 2003 and then again by 8-0 in 2006. No doubt, your prayers and others’ helped to turn the tide in favor of the pro-lifers.

Rest assured that we shall always keep you in our prayers, and we now humbly pray and implore that God may bless you with many more years of priesthood in which to serve Him. Please also pray for us, your dedicated allies in service to our growing pro-life movement!

Very truly yours,

  
Thomas Brejcha  
President & Chief Counsel

  
Peter Breen  
Vice-President & Senior Counsel