



## AVE MARIA SCHOOL OF LAW

August 15, 2006

Dean Bernard Dobranski  
Ave Maria School of Law  
3475 Plymouth Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Dear Bernie:

Thank you for your letter of August 11<sup>th</sup> informing me of your decision not to reappoint me as a Visiting Professor at Ave Maria School of Law [AMSL] for the Fall term. I do not concede here the validity of that decision. Rather, I raise two other points which I hope will be useful.

First, I reject your characterization of my letter of May 5, 2006 as containing "baseless and personal attacks... upon the Board and its individual members." My letter criticized not the members of the Board personally but rather only one action of the Board—its decision not even to discuss with the faculty the serious questions the faculty had raised concerning your leadership. That action of the Board, in my opinion, was indefensible, even "disgusting." I stand by my opinion to that effect as stated in my letter of May 5<sup>th</sup>. My opinion as to that one action of the Board does not alter my repeatedly stated view that the members of the Board, as well as Tom and yourself, are acting in what you and they regard as the best interests of AMSL.

The second, and more important, purpose of this letter is to request that you, Tom and the members of the Board meet personally with the faculty, as a group, without delay and definitely before the beginning of the Fall term. I hope that such a meeting will include discussion of the proposal, mentioned in my May 5<sup>th</sup> letter, that you, Tom, and the members of the Board who so desire, resign your AMSL positions and start a new law school under the AMSL name in Florida. That would enable a reconstituted Board and faculty of the present AMSL, with the support of alumni and students, to continue this school, under a new name, in service to the community and the Church. This solution, implemented without recrimination and with mutual respect, appears to offer, in my view, perhaps the only realistic chance for the survival of this important apostolate.

I hope that you, Tom and the members of the Board will give serious consideration to this proposal. I am sure you can count on the prayers of the AMSL community for the guidance of Our Lady in your deliberations.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Rice  
Visiting (for the moment) Professor of Law

cc: Thomas S. Monaghan

P.S. I do not have the addresses of the reconstituted Board. I would appreciate it if you would pass this on to them.