#090535 11/5/09

Subject: ADDRESS TO CITY COMMISSION re.SHELTER FORCED TO LIMIT HOLIDAY MEALS (REQUEST FOR VARIANCE)

Madam Mayor Honored Commissioners City Manager Blackburn, I'm here to speak to you about the 130 meal limit which will be enforced on Thanksgiving and Christmas day at Saint Francis House. Traditionally Saint Francis House has served several hundred people in previous years on these holidays. They are now being limited to 130 meals, per day, as per city ordinance, which has only been recently enforced.

I certainly hope that before we sit down in our homes, to our dinners, we will give pause to consider the words of Mathew 25:40 "and the King will answer and say to them, assuredly, I say to you ,Inasmuch as you did this for one of the least of my brethren, you did this for me."

Madam Mayor I'm reasonably certain, that you are a Woman of Faith and Wisdom. As I also noticed you and your family at a Church picnic recently, at the Church where I also attend. I'm also quite certain that I know where Commissioner/Reverend Jack Donovan would stand on this issue. I Implore you both, Please prevail upon the other commission members to grant a variance to Saint Francis House for these two holidays.

Please, let us, act as we should according to the wishes of "Our Creator" and make these days a bit more pleasant for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Thank You

Richard E. Mellin

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