Statement of Archbishop Anthony Sablan Apuron, O.F.M.Cap., DD

after the dismissal of the nine claims against him

May 7th, 2025

Over the past decade, I have been unjustly condemned by the media and in the public opinion because of certain false accusations made against me. In silence, I have accepted this injustice out of love for Jesus Christ, praying for those who were doing evil against me. Today, the claims made against me in nine cases have been dismissed permanently. Contrary to false recent media reports, I have never entered into any settlement agreement and I have always refused to do so. I also never paid any sum of money to my accusers. Today's dismissals come from the plaintiffs and are further evidence of my innocence.

Today I can speak freely, also about the canonical process. The canonical process did not result in my laicization. No priest or bishop who has been found guilty of these crimes has remained a priest or a bishop as I have. This indicates my innocence. Today I pray to God to have mercy on those who smeared my reputation and destroyed my life for economic and political reasons, spreading unproven rumors, and also for those who judged me listening to them. United to the Lord I can say: Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing.

It is very sad that today in the Church, which taught justice to the nations, the rights of the accused, and the presumption of innocence, there are some in powerful positions who do not follow these basic principles. I know that many people in the Archdiocese of Agana know the truth. Many have expressed their solidarity and support to me. Today, there remains a climate of fear in the Church of Guam created by people who want to destroy our land transforming it into a place of casinos, drugs and prostitution and who have no shame in using the priesthood and the Church to gain money and power, uniting themselves to powerful people and corrupt regimes.

I pray that one day my exile may be lifted and that I may return to my beloved motherland. I keep living this time in prayer and offer my sufferings also for my enemies and for those who condemned me. I pray also for the current Archbishop of Guam, may the Lord give him strength, discernment, and courage to seek the truth and to do what is right.

May God bless all of you,

Archbishop Anthony Sablan Apuron, O.F.M.Cap., DD

Archbishop Anthony Sablan Apuron, O.F.M.Cap., DD