

BOSTON COLLEGE

James M. Smith
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27 March 2012

Mr. Alan Shatter, T.D.
Minister for Justice, Equality and Defense
Office of the Minister for Justice
94 St. Stephen's Green
Dublin 2
Rep. of Ireland

Ms. Kathleen Lynch, T.D.
Minister for State, Disability, Equality and Mental Health
Office of the Minister for Justice
94 St. Stephen's Green
Dublin 2
Rep. of Ireland

Dear Minister Shatter and Minister for State Lynch,

I am writing to inform you that Justice for Magdalenes (JFM) is actively engaged in the process of gathering written testimony from survivors of Ireland's Magdalene Laundries and, as requested by Senator McAleese, we expect to submit transcript copies of the testimony together with signed consent forms to the Senator within a matter of weeks. We hope this testimony might (i) enhance the work of the Inter-Departmental Committee and (ii) provide the basis for a potential follow-up face-to-face meeting between the Senator and survivors.

There is one point of detail on which we would welcome your guidance. Would it be preferable if we were to arrange for the testimony to be sworn to and witnessed (insofar as it is possible logistically to do this)? If you can direct us in this regard we would appreciate it.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

James M. Smith (Electronic Signature)

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[Until June 30, 2012]
52 Henry Street
Galway
353-87-187-1654

cc. Senator Martin McAleese, Independent Chairperson, Inter-Departmental
Committee *to establish the facts of state involvement with the Magdalen Laundries*

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