Gerry P. Fagan Christopher T. Sweeney Jordan W. FitzGerald MOULTON BELLINGHAM PC 27 North 27th Street, Suite 1900 P.O. Box 2559 Billings, Montana 59103-2559 Telephone: (406) 248-7731

Fax: (406) 248-7889

Gerry.Fagan@moultonbellingham.com

<u>Christopher.Sweeney@moultonbellingham.com</u> Jordan.FitzGerald@moultonbellingham.com

Attorneys for Defendant Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA BILLINGS DIVISION

TRACY CAEKAERT and CAMILLIA MAPLEY,

Plaintiffs.

-VS-

WATCHTOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, INC., WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, and BRUCE MAPLEY SR.,

Defendants.

Case No. CV-20-00052-SPW-TJC

DEFENDANT WTPA'S
UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR
LEAVE OF COURT TO FILE
RESPONSE BRIEF TO
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
SANCTIONS RE:
INTERROGATORY NOS. 9
AND 15

Defendant Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania ("WTPA") respectfully requests leave of Court in order to file a short response brief to

Plaintiffs' "Motion for Sanctions Re: Interrogatory Nos. 9 and 15 (ECF No. 85 & 318)", filed on April 4, 2024. (Doc. No. 331)

Plaintiffs assert their Motion for Sanctions Re: Interrogatory Nos. 9 & 15 against only WTNY. (See Doc. No. 331) Their Motion is related to their previous Motion for Sanctions against WTNY, which the Court ruled upon in Doc. No. 318. However, as Plaintiffs did in their previous Motion for Sanctions (see Doc. no. 288), some of the sanctions sought by Plaintiffs in their Motion for Sanctions Re: Interrogatories Nos. 9 and 15 against WTNY would significantly impact WTPA. Plaintiffs request in their Motion as a sanction against WTNY a ruling deeming admitted the alleged facts that "[d]uring the period 1973 to 1992, the Governing Body acted through WTNY and WTPA when it promulgated the policies and procedures elders at local congregations were to follow when handling allegations of child sexual abuse" and "[d]uring the period 1973 to 1992, the Governing Body was acting through WTNY and WTPA for all purposes relevant to this case." (Doc. No. 332, at p. 14) (emphasis added) These alleged facts, if deemed admitted as additional sanctions against WTNY, would obviously also impact WTPA even though it is not a party to Plaintiffs' Motion for Sanctions Re: Interrogatory Nos. 9 and 15 and is not even accused of any improper conduct.

WTPA respectfully requests the opportunity to respond to Plaintiffs' request for sanctions which would affect or impact WTPA. WTPA would only address the

remedies sought in the Motion that affect WTPA. WTPA requests to be allowed to file a response brief by April 18, 2024.

The undersigned contacted Plaintiffs' counsel about this Motion. Plaintiffs do not object to this Motion.

 ${f DATED}$ this 10^{th} day of April, 2024.

MOULTON BELLINGHAM PC

By <u>/s/ Gerry Fagan</u>

GERRY P. FAGAN CHRISTOPHER T. SWEENEY JORDAN W. FITZGERALD 27 North 27th Street, Suite 1900 P.O. Box 2559 Billings, Montana 59103-2559

Attorneys for Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Pennsylvania

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on 10th day of April, 2024, a copy of the foregoing was served on the following persons:

- 1. U.S. District Court, Billings Division
- 2. Robert L. Stepans Matthew L. Merrill (pro hac vice)

Ryan R. Shaffer

James C. Murnion

MERRILL LAW, LLC

1863 Wazee Street, #3A

MEYER, SHAFFER &

Denver, CO 80202

STEPANS, PLLP 430 Ryman Street Missoula, MT 59802 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

3. Jon A. Wilson Joel M. Taylor, Esq. (pro hac vice)

Brett C. Jensen MILLER MCNAMARA & TAYLOR LLP

BROWN LAW FIRM, P.C. 100 South Bedford Road, Suite 340

315 North 24th Street Mount Kisco, NY 10549

P.O. Drawer 849

Billings, MT 59103-0849

Attorneys for Defendant Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc.

4. Bruce G. Mapley, Sr. 3905 Caylan Cove Birmingham, AL 35215 *Pro se*

By the following means:

1, 2, 3 CM/EC	F	Fax
Hand D	elivery	E-Mail
4 U.S. Ma	ail	Overnight Delivery Services

By	/s/ Gerry Fagan	
DУ	/s/ Ochry ragan	