Report of the Chancellor

Mr. Thomas Christopher, Chancellor
Mr. John "Pat" Brumbaugh, Vice Chancellor
Mr. Richard P. Perry, Chancellor Emeritus

Mandate

Canon 2.1.a

The Chancellor of the Diocese shall be elected annually by the Diocesan Council upon nomination by the Bishop, but in the event of a vacancy occurring in the office, a successor may be appointed by the Bishop, to serve until the next following Council. The Chancellor shall be a lay person learned in the law and must be a confirmed communicant of the Church in this Diocese.

Canon 2.1.b

The Chancellor shall be the legal advisor and consultant of the Bishop. Upon the request of any official of the Diocese, or of any corporation, board or committee operating under the authority of the Diocese or the Diocesan Council, the Chancellor shall furnish a written opinion upon any question of law, together with the Chancellor's recommendation in the premises. It shall be the Chancellor's duty to submit at each Diocesan Council a written report covering the Chancellor's performance of duty in the preceding twelve months.

Summary of Work

The legal affairs of the Diocese are in good order. There is no court litigation pending against the Diocese other than a routine condemnation matter where the State is seeking to obtain a small piece of property to use as a right of way and the compensation must be settled.

The chancellors have assisted parishes in resolving claims regarding solar panel issues and for related damage.

The chancellors have routinely provided assistance with real estate issues, including the real estate aspects of foundation loans. Assistance has also been provided in connection with issues concerning the sale of property formerly held by a closed parish.

The chancellors have also provided assistance to a parish in dealing with an administrative claim.

The chancellors routinely provide advice to the Bishop and his staff regarding legal issues that arise.