

**The emails below (read from bottom up) show Fr. Frank's communications with his canonical advisors in Rome and the United States indicating his compliance with the Vatican's order, the fact that this was communicated to the Congregation for Clergy, and that they were happy with this step. It also indicates that Fr. Frank's request for clarity on what the law actually requires or permits did not yield much clarity.**

**From:** Rome Canonical team  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 1:06 PM  
**To:** Fr. Frank and Priests for Life team  
**Subject:** Re: canonical analysis

*Dear all, please see the update below....*

Dear all,

Yesterday afternoon I officially communicated to the Congregation for the Clergy that Fr. Frank resigned from Catholics for Trump and Pro-Life Voices for Trump. ...

Msgr. Ripa and Msgr. Shane greatly appreciated and recognized the great lengths Fr. Frank went to so as to make all of this happen. They indicated that, in accordance with administrative and judicial law, in the coming days the Congregation is obliged to procedurally authenticate that Fr. Frank's name has been taken off and then will confirm with Bishop Sheridan his willingness to welcome Fr. Frank in the diocese of Colorado Springs. Msgr. Ripa will then be in contact with me again.

It is thus very important that the news of the resignation from Catholics for Trump and Pro-life Voices for Trump be communicated as soon as possible to Bishop Sheridan.

**From:** Rome Canonical Team  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 9, 2020 8:33 AM  
**To:** Fr. Frank and Priests for Life team  
**Subject:** Re: canonical analysis

*«There are some Bishops that are registered Republicans too. So are they breaking some Canon too?»*

As I mentioned in the canonical analysis document, the law is not very clear here and the doctrine is divided. Some commentators retain that it is legitimate to be registered with a party as long as one does not hold an official position and does not engage in public activity. Others say that even membership is prohibited.

We cannot forget another aspect, which is that Bishops have more autonomy than priests. Here though as well, a more unknown priest would have more autonomy in a certain sense than Fr. Frank, who is known throughout the world. The thinking is that a lesser known priest could give scandal to hundreds of people, but a priest as a public personality could give scandal to thousands. It is the price of success!

**From:** Rev. Frank Pavone  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** Canonical advisors and Priests for Life Team  
**Subject:** update

All,

OK, the Campaign has now removed my photo/name from the two advisory board websites, <http://Catholics.DonaldJTrump.com> and <http://ProLifeVoices.DonaldJTrump.com>.

After we discuss if I am now in compliance with the law, we can discuss how to communicate this to the Congregation.

Fr. Frank

**From:** Rev. Frank Pavone  
**Sent:** Monday, July 6, 2020 6:30 PM  
**To:** Canonical advisors and Priests for Life Team  
**Subject:** FW: Removal from Catholics for Trump & Pro-Life Voices for Trump Advisory Board

Dear Team,

Below is the email from the Trump Campaign indicating that I am no longer on the advisory boards of Catholics for Trump and Pro-life Voices for Trump.

Now they are still in the process of removing my photo/name from the respective websites:

<http://Catholics.DonaldJTrump.com>

and

<http://ProLifeVoices.DonaldJTrump.com>

Therefore we may want to wait until that happens, which should be pretty soon, in order to then communicate this to the Congregation.

Given the confidentiality notice at the bottom of their email, the Congregation is not authorized to share this email. We would simply be showing it to them -- which I told the Campaign we would do -- to demonstrate that I am in compliance with Church law. They do not have permission to show it to any bishop in the United States, to any reporter, or to anyone else.

We have also taken off of our own website and materials any indication that I am on those advisory boards.

As far as how we proceed from here, I want to go carefully step by step and ask you to not get ahead of me.

First, for instance, I will want to know legally whether the step taken below, combined with the fact that there is no other position I hold with any political party, puts me in conformity with Canon 287 §2. I would like to have an official letter from one of you as a canonical advisor to that effect.

Then we can talk about next steps.

But my first concern is simply am I currently breaking the law or not?

Thanks  
Fr. Frank