

On June 20, 1999 I finally broke down and explained the entire financial mess to Rob Taylor, a partner of the CPA Firm responsible for auditing the accounts of the Church. Within days, a meeting was convened with Jonathan Russin, the legal counsel for the Church, the Audit Committee and the Officers of the Church. It is ironic that after working for the church for over 20 years, surrounded by priests and bishops, the first real confession of “*everything*” that transpired over my ten years at the chancery is given to a lawyer – Mr. Russin and I actually joked about this in my meeting with him. In subsequent meetings, Mr. Russin worked out a strategy in agreement with Mr. Taylor and the Audit Committee to address the issues of what now had become the Metropolitan’s “*Discretionary Account*”.

It is telling that within a week of this meeting, Metropolitan Theodosius retained the services of a private lawyer, Michael Kennedy, and Father Kondratik retained the services of David Chesnoff, a lawyer from Las Vegas provided through the connections of Richard Rock and William Tarbey of Martinez and Murphy fame (*a google on David Chesnoff is really fun reading*). The resolution signed by the Holy Synod during the All American Council in 1999 calling for the Metropolitan to deny any type of audit of the “*Discretionary Account*” was actually prepared by legal counsel for the Metropolitan.

It should also be noted that during this meeting of the Holy Synod during the All American Council, Metropolitan Theodosius falsely accused me of wanting control over the “*so-called*” private accounts, and the only reason he did not remove me from my position much earlier was because of his compassion for me and my family. For the record, I never, never wanted to see any individual records of the accounts – what I did want was an accounting and audit of the funds by an independent auditor, showing total funds received, total funds expended and balance of account. An independent audit would also make sure that accounting procedures were followed, that no one was utilizing church funds for personal use and the audit would provide the Boards (*Holy Synod/Metropolitan Council*) with management recommendations.