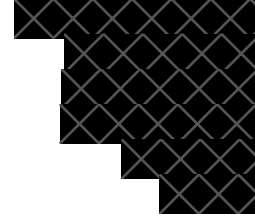


APPENDIX 4

THE FREE THOUGHT PROPHET PODCAST



www.thefreethoughtprophet.com

16th July 2019

Attn: Minister for Defence, Paul Kehoe T.D.
Department of Defence,
Newbridge,
Co Kildare,
W12 AD93.

Re: Religious Discrimination in Military Chaplaincy

Dear Minister Kehoe,

I refer to my previous correspondence to you of 16th November 2018, and of 12th February 2019, and of 20th April 2019, and of 18th June 2019. It is now exactly eight months since I wrote to you with respect to religious discrimination in appointments to military chaplaincy roles, and I have not received any substantive reply.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge this correspondence at your earliest convenience, and provide at least some indication of the steps you have taken or plan to take, in relation to this issue. Specifically, **I'd like to formally request an advance notification of any plans to recruit any additional military chaplains, as I may be interested in applying for such roles.** I understand that if I were successful, I would be the first non-Christian chaplain within the Defence Forces. This would be a positive development in my view, as there are many important and pertinent ideas that exist outside of Christianity, which those in uniform may benefit from.

Conversely, I believe that if you were to approve any further chaplaincy roles that are appointed by a bishop, you would be discriminating against me contrary to the Employment Equality Act.

Yours Sincerely,

John Hamill.