Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Los Angeles,
Southern California and Hawaii

September 21, 2012

For Immediate Release
Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Los Angeles Clergy

On Thursday, September 20, 2012, with astonishment, we, the priests and deacons of the Coptic Orthodox Diocese of Los Angeles, reject the false association of the name of our beloved bishop, His Grace Bishop Serapion, with the story of the condemned film that is offensive to Muslims and Christians alike.

We, the priests and deacons, strongly reject the request sent to the Egyptian Attorney General to investigate His Grace Bishop Serapion's alleged involvement with the film because:

First: His Grace Bishop Serapion is well known by all as a spiritual father. He transcends any such debased methods because of his life of righteousness which is inspired by the teachings of the Holy Bible. Furthermore, his previous wise stands, comments and teachings were never offensive or insulting to anyone.

Second: His Grace Bishop Serapion has emphatically condemned and rejected the film production on more than one occasion indicating that the work is against Christian principles. This condemnation of the movie appeared in various forms of media whether written or on camera, as well as leading a joint press conference with the Muslim Public Affairs Center on Monday, September 17, 2012 in Los Angeles, CA.

We urge all Egyptian media to use caution before implicating a name such as His Grace Bishop Serapion's who is strongly respected and deeply admired by all Copts in Egypt and abroad.

For more information
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