

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA**

THE RELIGIOUS SISTERS OF MERCY,  
*et al.*,

*Plaintiffs,*

v.

ALEX M. AZAR, Secretary of the United  
States Department of Health and Human  
Service, *et al.*,

*Defendants.*

No. 3:16-cv-386

CATHOLIC BENEFITS ASSOCIATION,  
*et al.*

*Plaintiffs,*

v.

ALEX M AZAR, Secretary of the United  
States Department of Health and Human  
Service, *et al.*,

*Defendants.*

No. 3:16-cv-432

**STATUS REPORT OF PLAINTIFFS RELIGIOUS SISTERS OF MERCY,  
SACRED HEARTH MERCY HEALTH CARE CENTER (JACKSON, MN),  
SACRED HEARTH MERCY HEALTH CARE CENTER (ALMA, MI), SMP HEALTH  
SYSTEM, UNIVERSITY OF MARY, AND THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**

Plaintiffs in Case No. 3:16-cv-386, namely, Religious Sisters of Mercy, Sacred Hearth Mercy Health Care Center (Jackson, MN), Sacred Heart Mercy Health Care Center (Alma, MI), SMP Health System, University of Mary, and the State of North Dakota, in accordance with this Court's order (ECF 87), provide this status report to the Court.

Plaintiffs agree with the summary of the recent legal developments pertinent to this case already set out in the status report filed by the plaintiffs in Case No. 3:16-cv-432 (the CBA Plaintiffs) (ECF 89). In light of those developments, Plaintiffs therefore join in the CBA Plaintiffs' request that the Court (i) set another status report deadline in 60 days but also (ii) recognize that Plaintiffs may, during that period, file a motion or other document apprising the Court of their views on whether and how this case should proceed.

Respectfully submitted this 5th day of October, 2020.

/s/ Luke W. Goodrich

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Center (Jackson, MN); Sacred Heart Mercy  
Health Care Center (Alma, MI); SMP  
Health System, and University of Mary*

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on October 5, 2020, the foregoing was served on all parties via ECF.

/s/ Luke W. Goodrich

Luke W. Goodrich