

"operatic representations . . . in the principle cities of the Union" [Thus], "to the Catholic colored people of Washington belongs the honor of having raised the first opera troupe of their race in the country, perhaps, in the world."

The church was completed and dedicated in 1876. The ceremony was attended by many dignitaries including prominent African Americans such as Congressmen J.R. Lynch, J.H. Rainey and Robert Smalls. The church was considered one of the finest Christian monuments in the Nation's Capital. It was admired for its architectural style, its grandeur and for its significance as the "Mother Church for Colored Catholics in the Nation's Capital."

The church continued expansion and its population grew steadily. By 1905, its membership was numbered at more than 3,000. The parish boundaries were described as covering more than one-half of the city since Saint Augustine was the premiere church for the African-American Catholic population. Growth was also experienced in the organizations and agencies within the church that carried out its religious mission, such as Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Knights of Saint Augustine, Catholic Beneficial Society (men), Saint Augustine Relief Society (women), Juvenile Benefit Society (children 2-20).

The societies and organizations of the church have changed over the years. The location of the church has shifted as growth patterns in the city have undergone transition and a number of pastors worked in the parish before the arrival of the current pastor, Father John J. Mudd in 1977. In its 140 years, changes in Saint Augustine Parish have been deeply embedded in the traditions and heritage which inspired the first "colored Catholics." This tradition has been rooted in Christian values and social activism. The church and its individual members have maintained a strong commitment to assist the needy and oppose injustices.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join me in saluting the Saint Augustine Catholic Church and celebrating its role in the city's history, its present and its future.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND CHARITABLE DONATION PROTECTION ACT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this week the Senate will consider the Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act, legislation which was introduced by Senator CHARLES GRASSLEY (R-IA). As you may know, the Senate bill mirrors H.R. 2604, which I introduced here in the House of Representatives last year. This bill plays an integral role in protecting organizations that are very important to me—our churches and charities.

Senator GRASSLEY and I introduced the legislation after hearing reports that churches and charities were being subjected to damaging lawsuits by creditors and bankruptcy trustees. A 1992 Minnesota court decision allowed a creditor to recapture thousands in past tithes from congregation members. As a result, lawyers across the nation have sued churches

and charities, demanding that they repay debtors' past contributions.

Churches and charities should not be regarded as "cash-cows" for greedy attorneys. Mr. Speaker, this is having an absolutely devastating effect on religious and charitable organizations across the nation. Lawyers are well aware that most churches and charities don't have the resources to fight a creditor in court. Without protection, every collection plate in America is a risk.

I applaud Senator GRASSLEY for his leadership in the progression of the Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act through the Senate. H.R. 2604 is being considered by the House Judiciary Committee today, and I am hopeful that it will pass and be presented before the full House. Mr. Speaker, I urge you to expedite the movement of this legislation so that it might return to the floor for a vote and take effect for the sake of our churches and charities.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 1998

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, through the following statement, I am making my financial net worth as of March 31, 1998, a matter of public record. I have filed similar statements for each of the eighteen preceding years I have served in the Congress.

ASSETS

Real property:	
Single family residence at 609 Ft. Williams Parkway, City of Alexandria, Virginia, at assessed valuation. (Assessed at \$600,000). Ratio of assessed to market value: 100% (Encumbered)	\$600,000.00
Condominium at N76 W14726 North Point Drive, Village of Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at assessor's estimated market value: (Unencumbered)	94,200.00
Undivided 25/44th interest in single family residence at N52 W32654 Maple Lane, Village of Chenequa, Waukesha County, Wisconsin at 25/44th of assessor's estimated market value of \$614,700	349,261.35
Total real property	1,043,461.35

1998 DISCLOSURE: SECTION 2

Common and preferred stock	No. of shares	\$ per share	Value
A.C. Nielsen Co	833	26.44	\$22,022.44
Abbott Laboratories, Inc	6100	75.31	459,406.25
Airtouch Communications	148	48.94	7,242.75
Allstate Corporation	185	91.94	17,008.44
American Telephone & Telegraph	566,468	65.75	37,245.27
Ameritech	798.82	49.44	39,491.66
Amoco Corp	1362	86.38	117,642.75
Bank One Corp	3438	63.25	217,453.50
Bell Atlantic Corp	493,318	102.25	50,441.77
Bell South Corp	595,3272	67.44	40,147.38
Benton County Mining Company	333	0.00	0.00
Chenequa Country Club Realty Co	1	0.00	0.00
Cognizant Corp	2500	57.38	143,437.50
Darden Restaurants, Inc	1440	15.56	22,410.00
Dunn & Bradstreet, Inc	2500	33.19	82,968.75
E.I. DuPont de Nemours Corp	1200	68.00	81,600.00
Eastman Chemical Co	270	67.44	18,208.13
Eastman Kodak	1080	64.88	70,065.00
El Paso Natural Gas	75	70.63	5,296.88
Exxon Corp	4864	67.63	328,928.00
Firststar Corp	1352	39.50	53,404.00
General Electric Co	5200	86.19	448,175.00
General Mills, Inc	1440	76.00	109,440.00
General Motors Corp	304	67.75	20,596.00
Halliburton Company	2000	50.13	100,250.00
Highlands Insurance Group, Inc	100	26.88	2,687.50
Houston Industries	300	28.75	8,625.00
Imation Corp	99	18.50	1,831.50
Kellogg Corp	3200	43.13	138,000.00
Kimberly-Clark Corp	38868	50.13	1,948,258.50
Lucent Technologies	174	127.88	22,250.25
Merck & Co., Inc	15639	128.19	2,004,724.31
Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing	1000	91.00	91,000.00
Monsanto Corporation	8360	52.00	434,720.00
Morgan Stanley/Dean Whitter	156	72.88	11,368.50

1998 DISCLOSURE: SECTION 2—Continued

Common and preferred stock	No. of shares	\$ per share	Value
NCR Corp	68	33.06	2,248.25
Newell Corp	1676	48.44	81,181.25
Newport News Shipbuilding	163,356	26.69	4,359.56
Ogden Corp	910	28.75	26,162.50
PG&E Corp	175	33.00	5,775.00
Raytheon Co	19	56.88	1,080.63
Sandusky Voting Trust	26	85.25	2,216.50
SBC Communications	1007,958	43.37	43,716.25
Sears Roebuck & Co	200	57.44	11,487.50
Solutia	1672	29.75	49,742.00
Tenneco Corp	836,115	42.69	35,691.66
U.S. West, Inc	297,923	54.63	16,274.04
Unisys, Inc. Preferred	100	47.25	4,725.00
Warner Lambert Co	2268	170.31	386,268.75
Wisconsin Energy Corp	1022	30.69	31,362.63
Total common and preferred stocks and bonds			7,836,616.09

1998 DISCLOSURE: SECTION 3

Life insurance policies	Face \$	Surrender \$
Northwestern Mutual #4378000	12,000.00	\$37,268.76
Northwestern Mutual #4574061	30,000.00	89,268.24
Massachusetts Mutual #4116575	10,000.00	7,065.13
Massachusetts Mutual #4228344	100,000.00	156,162.13
Old Line Life Ins. #5-1607059L	175,000.00	27,937.93
Total Life Insurance Policies		317,702.19

1998 DISCLOSURE: SECTION 4

Bank and savings and loan accounts	Balance
Bank One, Milwaukee, N.A., checking account	\$1,114.19
Bank One, Milwaukee, N.A., preferred savings	144,531.02
Bank One, Milwaukee, N.A., regular savings	791.27
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, checking account	3,672.34
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, savings	327.85
Burke & Herbert Bank, Alexandria, VA, checking account	2,078.51
Firststar, FSB, Butler, WI, IRA accounts	64,352.87
Total bank and savings and loan accounts	216,868.05

1998 DISCLOSURE: SECTION 5

Miscellaneous	Value
1985 Pontiac 6000 automobile—blue book retail value	\$1,600.00
1991 Buick Century automobile—blue book retail value	5,100.00
Office furniture & equipment (estimated)	1,000.00
Furniture, clothing & personal property (estimated)	145,000.00
Stamp collection (estimated)	48,000.00
Interest in Wisconsin retirement fund	91,110.67
Deposits in Congressional Retirement Fund	110,730.26
Deposits in Federal Thrift Savings Plan	95,906.46
Traveller's checks	7,418.96
20 ft Manitou pontoon boat & 35 hp Force outboard motor (estimated)	5,000.00
17 ft Boston Whaler boat & 70 hp Johnson outboard motor (estimated)	7,000.00
1994 Melges X Boat with sails	5,000.00
Total miscellaneous	522,866.35
Total Assets	9,937,514.03

1998 DISCLOSURE: SECTION 6

Liabilities:	
Nations Bank Mortgage Company, Louisville, KY on Alexandria, VA residence, Loan #39758-77	\$109,443.77
Miscellaneous charge accounts (estimated)	0.00
Total liabilities	109,443.77
Net worth	9,828,070.26

1998 DISCLOSURE: SECTION 7

Statement of 1997 taxes paid:	
Federal income tax	\$236,981.00
Wisconsin income tax	45,090.00
Menomonee Falls, WI property tax	2,062.00
Chenequa, WI property tax	14,463.000
Alexandria, VA property tax	6,783.00

I further declare that I am trustee of a trust established under the will on my late father, Frank James Sensenbrenner, Sr., for the benefit of my sister, Margaret A. Sensenbrenner, and of my two sons, F. James Sensenbrenner, III, and Robert Alan Sensenbrenner. I am further the direct beneficiary of two trusts, but have no control over the assets of either trust. My wife, Cheryl Warren Sensenbrenner,