The July 27 decision by the Boy Scouts of America allows religious institutions to abide by their moral teachings and beliefs when selecting leaders. The Diocese of Knoxville has a duty and a responsibility to provide leaders who promote and live Catholic values. Our diocese, which charters nine Boy Scout and Cub Scout groups, will continue to do this. The Diocese of Knoxville has a seat on the national board for the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. We will continue to monitor the direction this decision has taken the Boy Scouts of America—and we will respond accordingly.

Bishop Richard F. Stika
Roman Catholic Diocese of Knoxville

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