For Immediate Release: October 24, 2006

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ICHR CALLS FOR EBAY BOYCOTT DUE TO SALE OF SACRED RELICS Online Auction House Must Stop Offensive Sales of Sacred Relics

LOS ANGELES – After nearly a decade of battling eBay over the sale of sacred relics, the International Crusade for Holy Relics (ICHR) is calling for a boycott of the online auction house.

"We have exhausted dialogue and negotiations and have decided it is time to deal with eBay in the only language they understand – money," said Tom Serafin, founder and president of the ICHR.

For nearly ten years, the ICHR has lobbied eBay to stop the sale of relics and enforce its own rules barring the sale of body parts to no avail.

Even a cursory search of eBay will reveal dozens of relics – often purporting to be the bones of the saints – for sale.

The sale of relics is a direct affront to Catholics and other Christians, for whom relics are considered sacred, priceless and spiritual heirlooms. The sale is expressly forbidden by the Canon Law of the Catholic Church. Moreover, many of the relics being sold are of dubious origin, and some have been shown to be outright frauds.

"Our saints should be enjoying their eternal reward in peace, not having their body parts sold like cheap trinkets," Serafin said. "Our heritage and our faith are not for sale. We have decided that a boycott of eBay has become the only option to prevent the repugnant practice of selling our spiritual patrimony."

ICHR is a coalition with members worldwide that includes members of many denominations including the Catholic, Orthodox, and Anglican faiths. It is devoted to stopping the sale of relics online and to preserving relics and educating the public about relics and the saints.

Tell eBay President Meg Whitman that you will boycott her company and find the sale of relics offensive. Write or call using the information below:

Meg Whitman President and CEO eBay Inc. 2145 Hamilton Avenue San Jose, California 95125

Phone: 1.800.322.9266

The eBay Community Watch Team, eBay Customer Support

E-mail: rswebhelp@ebay.com