

## Evidence on Ezell's Threats and Interference with MD/DE State Convention and Exec. Director Will McRaney

### 3 Smoking Guns:

1. **Cancellation by Ezell of MD/DE Agreement** on Dec. 2, 2014 gave ME/DE written notice that Ezell was removing funding from MD/DE (\$1 million). Done with provably false and damaging accusations against me. It was given as the reason for the cancellation without a conversation with me which was in violation of the Agreement {Coop. Agreement Sect. IV (3)} –
2. **Follow the Money Trail** (\$1 million, \$0, \$500K after Board vote support of me and not accept new NAMB agreement offer, then funding restored ABOVE previous levels (\$1+ million) after McRaney termination)
3. **Post termination revelation** by MD/DE President Warren to MD/DE pastors that Ezell made a secret threat to him that Ezell would withhold NAMB money as long as I remained Executive Director. Written statements available by these men in addition to communications group meetings.
  - a. Wolverton – individually in late June after my termination
  - b. Scott – individually on June 24, 2015, Scott wrote notes and returned them to Warren for verification by email
  - c. Potomac Baptist Association statement (?? July or Aug 2015 meeting) that Board had to move quickly to prevent the loss of NAMB money
  - d. Sept. 10, 2015 meeting Pres. Warren reluctantly admits to 6 others including McRaney that Ezell had made the threat to withhold money

\*\* documents on above available <http://willmcraney.com/supporting-documents/> under “Cancellation of Partnership Agreement” and “Ezell's Secret Threat against MD/DE and against McRaney with Southern Baptist entrusted mission gifts”

### Follow the Money: (see document online [Follow the Money Trail](#))

- \$1 million est.
  - from NAMB for about a decade and up until Dec. 1, 2014
- \$0
  - Dec. 2, 2014 – notice of cancellation of NAMB funding agreement for the 1 million, so \$0 either in 1 year on Dec. 2, 2015 or sooner if Ezell decides to cancel immediately
- \$0
  - Feb. 6, 2015 MD/DE Board votes support of me and votes to not accept new agreement with NAMB. On that day, finally Ezell agrees to meet in March after all his refusals and after stated he wanted McRaney on a 6 month probation period before he would meet with McRaney
- \$500K

- March 11, 2015 – Ezell agrees to provide \$500k and withhold \$500k in funding to MD/DE from previous budget agreement
- \$1 PLUS million – amount higher than 2015 year (amt. not only restored, but increased)
  - soon after McRaney’s termination

### **More Evidence**

- NAMB employee – Mon or Tues at SBC in Columbus Ohio in 2015
  - in talking with his NAMB superior, he inquired as to whether they would be giving more money to the MD/DE Convention, when the reply was ‘no’ over the long-term, then the NAMB employee told me and Sandy that he asked NAMB leadership, **“then why did you (NAMB leaders) force McRaney out?”**
- MD/DE Pastor Derek Yelton and affirmed in writing by MD/DE Board President Mark Dooley in email on Sept. 9, 2015 email, it was stated in the meeting of the Potomac Association, **“we had to move quickly to keep from losing funding from NAMB”**

### **Related Timeline:**

#### **Pre Dec. 2 Cancellation**

- MD/DE is a leading state in terms of church planting and in financial investment into SBC mission efforts from the state budget and from the churches across the region. The MD/DE Convention is making highly notable advances in a wide range of areas.
- Ezell refuses at least 6 written requests to meet by McRaney when he learns there may be a NAMB concern
- NAMB offers McRaney and MD/DE Convention a new agreement like the small state conventions. McRaney did not accept them and preferred to partner around the existing Agreement that was signed in 2012.
- NAMB offers, then applies pressure, and then Ezell makes 3 unsubstantiated concerns known on Nov. 19, 2014 by email
  - McRaney responds with a 17 page response to provide clarification and explanation in writing since Ezell would not meet

#### **Cancellation without notice against Agreement and w/o verification {Coop. Agreement Section IV (3)}**

- Received on Dec. 3, 2014 notice of cancellation in 1 year, unless Ezell decided to cancel immediately
- Received without prior conversation as required in the Coop. Agreement

- Blamed cancellation (withdrawing of \$1 million) on me for violating the Agreement, which is provably false and damaging (libel)
- Ezell refuses multiple requests to meet, begins only communicating with the MD/DE President Warren, not McRaney
- Ezell tells Warren he will meet with us after McRaney goes 6 months and Ezell believes McRaney has behaved himself (6 month probation)

### **Feb. 6, 2015 meeting of GMB**

- Tell them of NAMB/Ezell cancellation
- Dooley – 6 ways NAMB violating the Agreement
- They vote unanimously
  - Support of my leadership and affirm my leadership role in NAMB matter
  - Not to accept a new agreement with NAMB that gives NAMB 100% control of church planting (like the small state conventions newest Coop. Agreement)
- Ezell finally agrees to meet on the day of the MD/DE Board meeting, which appears to be in response to the MD/DE Board voting support for McRaney and their vote to not accept new NAMB Coop. Agreement

### **Mar. 11, 2015 meet with NAMB leadership & MD/DE leadership**

- Meeting takes place at MD/DE office with 6 from MD and 4 from NAMB (Ezell, 2 VPs, and Chair Trustee Herring) – Ezell had given and broken his word regarding several aspects of meeting (place, persons attending and the agenda) – His behavior was described as “petulant” by our team of leaders as he tried to bully with childish games.
- Of the \$1 million annual reinvestment of NAMB into MD/DE for over 10 years, Ezell started offering about \$325K and then plays with numbers until he gets to \$500K, but with stipulation that no money could be used for staff. So, Ezell was threatening the livelihood of multiple staff members and damaging the mission and missionaries of the MD/DE Convention by withhold money already agreed to for the MD/DE Convention. In essence, Ezell was punishing the MD/DE Convention over his false accusations against me.

**June 8, 2015** – termination right before the 2015 SBC in one hurried Board meeting in violation of the governing documents of the MD/DE Convention to the shock of most everyone.

Immediately after my termination – NAMB provides MD/DE with an Agreement with fully funding PLUS. Figure was beyond 2015 and previous years, instead of \$0 (Dec. 2014), or the \$500K (March 11, 2015)