

## Follow the Money Trail: Ezell/NAMB Accusations & Threats to MD/DE Conv. and Staff

<p><b>\$1 million</b></p> <p><b>\$0</b></p> <p><b>\$0</b></p>	<p>-----</p>	<p>(10 year avg. pre false accusations and cancellation) (Dec. 2014 cancellation of agreement start Dec. 2015) (Feb 2015 – MD/DE Board meets and votes unanimous support McRaney &amp; not accept new NAMB Agreement (March 11, 2015 in group meeting)</p>
<p><b>\$500K</b></p>	<p><b>\$1+ million</b></p>	<p>(soon after my termination more money than prior)</p>

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\*\* President Ezell used NAMB money given by SBC members, churches, and state conventions to bully MD/DE and ultimately made threats tied to his lies, false accusations and threats to have McRaney removed as the Executive Director s

### Explanations.....

- 10 year approximate average - \$1 million/ year investment by NAMB into MD/DE
- Years 2004-2013 – about \$1 million annually, with MD/DE churches contributing about \$900,000 to NAMB annually through Annie Armstrong & NAMB portion of CP
- Spring 2014 – NAMB committed around \$1 million annually for years 2015-2017
- Dec. 1, 2014 – Ezell written notice to MD/DE leaders to make it **\$0 annually**
  - Ezell & Christopherson give a 1 year notice that starting Dec. 1, 2015 NAMB’s investment would go to \$0 while the MD/DE churches were investing some \$930,000/year between CP portion that reached NAMB and the Annie Armstrong offering
- Feb. 6, 2015 – still at \$0
  - MD/DE Board voted unanimously support for McRaney’s leadership with NAMB matters and unanimously to not accept NAMB 100% plan to take over church planting efforts and staff.
  - Ezell finally agrees to a meeting. After the MD/DE Board meeting with all leadership and senior staff in the room as this happened by text.
- Possible period when Warren hears from Ezell that he would withhold support for the MD/DE Convention as long as I remained as the Exec. Director
- After months of not agreeing to meet (Oct. – Feb.) Ezell is motivated to meet after Board votes to support McRaney and not take new NAMB Cooperative Agreement.
- March 11, 2015 -- commitment goes from \$0 to \$300,000 to \$500,000
  - Ezell gives and works through a range of numbers starting around \$300,000. He ends up saying he would return \$500,000 to the MD/DE starting Dec. 1,

2015 as the new amount. This would result in a reduction of some \$500,000/yr. over the previous 10 year average.

- April and May –
  - McRaney made repeated requests from NAMB VP Steve Davis on getting a final number or whether it would stay at \$500,000, with exclusion that no money could be use for jointly funded staff. Steve tells me that he will give me a new number several times. He finally settles on providing me a final numbers at the SBC in Columbus.
  - McRaney has conversations with select leaders in MD/DE about how to respond to NAMB breaking the agreement and defunding staff, including possible adjustments to the portion of MD/DE that was get to NAMB since they had first defunded the MD/DE Convention and then settled on removing \$500K for ministry and staff.
  
- June 8, 2015 – my termination
  - My termination in violation of governing documents and it was right before the SBC and right before the final date given to me by Steve Davis on Ezell's financial commitment.
  - In shocking fashion to everyone, MD/DE Pres. Bill Warren had orchestrated my termination with according to what he told some pastors, Ezell's financial threat to withhold NAMB resources from MD/DE. I don't know all of his motivations. Warren acts were in violation of his duties, his word, the governing document of the MD/DE Convention and all in secret from me and most everyone, including the Admin. Committee Chairman, Dr. Harold Phillips.
  
- Shortly following my termination – commitment goes just back to pre-Ezell threats numbers, it goes higher than 2015 numbers

In the weeks following Ezell committed additional resources to MD/DE Convention. It goes over 2015 investments into MD/DE (\$1+ million mark) for 2016, but it included giving NAMB church planting at 100% in direct opposition to the unanimous vote in Feb. 2015 to not take any agreement of this order. **It begs the question, WHY?**

### **Summary**

- 2014 – around \$1 million
- Dec. 2014 – false accusations to take it to \$0 starting Dec. 1 2015 and Ezell stated in writing and repeatedly that I was the reason.
- Feb. 7, 2015 – with MD/DE Board voting to support me and acknowledge all the NAMB violations, agree to meet and restore some funding – Still at \$0/year
- Mar. 11, 2015 – Ezell after wondering around possible numbers, settles on providing the MD/DE Convention \$500K, but eliminated any funding for staff until

every other non-Southern state convention and in violation of the 2012 agreement with MD/DE and all the other non-southern state conventions

- After my termination – Ezell not only reinstates full funding, giving back \$500,000 he had taken in March 2015, he invested more money into MD/DE than 2015 and previous years. **Thus, providing additional strong evidence that Ezell made threats and promises tied to McRaney's removal.**

## 10 Year NAMB, BCMD & Coop Program Support Trends

<u>Projected BCMD budgeted receipts from NAMB</u>	<u>BCMD Churches to NAMB Annie Armstrong Gifts</u>	<u>BCMD Sent to SBC National from CP</u>
2015	\$ 916,614	
2014	\$ 937,448.....	\$ 507,387..... \$1,734,334
2013	\$ 922,416.....	\$ 511,573..... \$1,689,191
2012	\$ 922,416.....	\$ 489,725..... \$1,783,755
2011	\$1,002,000.....	\$ 489,954..... \$1,772,936
2010	\$1,002,000.....	\$ 478,925..... \$1,783,574
2009	\$1,032,000	
2008	\$ 994,000	
2007	\$ 950,000	
2006	\$ 914,940	
2005	\$ 890,000	
2004	\$ 880,000	

The Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network (BCMD) was among the national leaders in percentage to SBC National at 41% prior to the GCR while being the overwhelming leader in the Northeast. The above figures represent between 41 and 43.5% of total Coop. Program receipts that were forwarded to SBC national and international efforts through the SBC Executive Committee.

BCMD to Lottie Moon in the midst of down economy -- \$912,807.80 avg./year

NAMB made significant adjustments in strategic priorities to church planting in non-southern states and dramatically reduced staff in the early days. Southern state conventions have provided an additional \$5,000,000/year to be used in non-southern states.

NAMB mission funds reinvested through the BCMD has been mostly flatlined, ranging from \$900K to 1,000K over the last 10 years.

BCMD has 3 Send NA cities in our mission field: Baltimore, Washington DC and Philadelphia