

# EXHIBIT X

**From:** Russell Moore <rmoore@erlc.com>  
**Sent:** Tue, 20 Sep 2022 10:18:10 -0500  
**To:** Palmer Williams <subpoena@erlc.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter of Concern

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Russell Moore** <rmoore@erlc.com>  
Date: Fri, Feb 5, 2016 at 9:48 AM  
Subject: Re: Letter of Concern  
To: Ezell, Kevin <kezell@namb.net>  
Cc: Frank Page <fpage@sbc.net>, David Platt <dplatt@imb.org>, aclayton@sbc.net <aclayton@sbc.net>, pbethancourt@gmail.com <pbethancourt@gmail.com>, PAkin@imb.org <PAkin@imb.org>

Totally with you brother. Sorry you have to be distracted by this kind of amateur Sanballat and Tobiah stuff.

**Russell D. Moore, Ph.D.** | *President*

Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission

Southern Baptist Convention

[www.russellmoore.com](http://www.russellmoore.com)

[www.erlc.com](http://www.erlc.com)

@drmoore

On Feb 5, 2016, at 9:40 AM, Ezell, Kevin <kezell@NAMB.NET> wrote:

FYI. In case you run into this nutcase

KE

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Ebert, Mike" <mebert@NAMB.NET>  
**Date:** February 5, 2016 at 10:34:53 AM EST  
**To:** "will@willmcraney.com" <will@willmcraney.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Letter of Concern

**Lisa Eiland**

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**From:** cmecf\_caseprocessing@ca5.uscourts.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2020 7:24 PM  
**To:** Lisa Eiland  
**Subject:** 19-60293 Will McRaney v. N Amer Mission Bd So Baptist "Letter Filed"

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**United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit**

**Notice of Docket Activity**

The following transaction was entered on 12/14/2020 at 7:24:22 PM CST and filed on 12/14/2020

**Case Name:** Will McRaney v. N Amer Mission Bd So Baptist  
**Case Number:** 19-60293  
**Document(s):** Document(s)

**Docket Text:**

LETTER filed by Amici Curiae Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission and Thomas More Society referencing Court Order [9379465-2]. Requesting guidance on correcting brief amici curiae.. Date of Service: 12/14/2020 via email - Attorney for Appellant: Barton; Attorney for Appellees: Butterfield, Carrington, Jacobs, Martens, Sasser, Wiener; Attorney for Amici Curiae: Crampton, Thompson [19-60293] (Stephen M. Crampton )

**Notice will be electronically mailed to:**

Mr. Stephen M. Crampton, General Counsel: [scrampton@thomasmoresociety.org](mailto:scrampton@thomasmoresociety.org), [smcrampton@hotmail.com](mailto:smcrampton@hotmail.com)  
Mr. Hiram Stanley Sasser, III: [hsasser@firstliberty.org](mailto:hsasser@firstliberty.org), [file@firstliberty.org](mailto:file@firstliberty.org)  
Mr. Joshua Jerome Wiener: [josh.wiener@butlersnow.com](mailto:josh.wiener@butlersnow.com), [angela.cossar@butlersnow.com](mailto:angela.cossar@butlersnow.com),  
[misty.albritton@butlersnow.com](mailto:misty.albritton@butlersnow.com), [ecf.notices@butlersnow.com](mailto:ecf.notices@butlersnow.com)  
Ms. Donna Brown Jacobs: [donna.jacobs@butlersnow.com](mailto:donna.jacobs@butlersnow.com), [ecf.notices@butlersnow.com](mailto:ecf.notices@butlersnow.com), [linda.jones@butlersnow.com](mailto:linda.jones@butlersnow.com)  
Mr. Matthew T. Martens, Attorney: [matthew.martens@wilmerhale.com](mailto:matthew.martens@wilmerhale.com), [whdocketing@wilmerhale.com](mailto:whdocketing@wilmerhale.com)  
Mr. William Harvey Barton, II, Trial Attorney: [harvey@wbartonlaw.com](mailto:harvey@wbartonlaw.com), [mariellen@wbartonlaw.com](mailto:mariellen@wbartonlaw.com),  
[lisa@wbartonlaw.com](mailto:lisa@wbartonlaw.com)  
Mr. Justin E. Butterfield: [jbutterfield@firstliberty.org](mailto:jbutterfield@firstliberty.org), [file@firstliberty.org](mailto:file@firstliberty.org)  
Ms. Kathleen Ingram Carrington: [kat.carrington@butlersnow.com](mailto:kat.carrington@butlersnow.com), [ecf.notices@butlersnow.com](mailto:ecf.notices@butlersnow.com)  
Mrs. Natalie Deyo Thompson: [natalie.thompson@oag.texas.gov](mailto:natalie.thompson@oag.texas.gov), [hollis.duncan@oag.texas.gov](mailto:hollis.duncan@oag.texas.gov)

The following document(s) are associated with this transaction:

**Document Description:** Letter Filed  
**Original Filename:** ERLC letter to court - Final 12.14.pdf  
**Electronic Document Stamp:**

[STAMP acecfStamp\_ID=1105048708 [Date=12/14/2020] [FileNumber=9462734-0]

[5f37747236eb4335ae3229b2a31668ff5de1a390d4bb28f49742b1659bf7bd7f2ab5eb3122534cff3f4b52ba1d282b182ecc  
de98daafd466704caa0e11cd12a4]]

Re: *McRaney v. North American Mission Board*, No. 19-60293, 5th Cir., Nov. 25, 2020.

On August 21, 2020, the Thomas More Society and the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (“Amici”) submitted the Brief of Amici Curiae of the Thomas More Society and the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission in Support of Defendant-Appellee’s Petition for Rehearing En Banc (“Brief Amici Curiae”) in the above case. Since that time, it has come to the attention of Amici that the Brief Amici Curiae includes certain factual statements that inaccurately describe the Southern Baptist Convention’s polity and theology of cooperative ministry. Amici do not view those statements to be material to the legal focus of the brief. The legal issues addressed in the brief included: (1) the constitutionality of secular court intrusion into ecclesiastical matters such as church governance, faith and doctrine; and (2) the consequent need for secular courts to determine that abstention is appropriate at the earliest possible point in litigation.

Out of an abundance of caution, Amici seek to notify the Court of these errors and request direction from the Court. *See* Model Rules of Prof. Conduct R. 3.3 (“A proceeding has concluded within the meaning of this Rule when a final judgment in the proceeding has been affirmed on appeal or the time for review has passed.”).

Specifically, the Brief Amici Curiae reflects three factual errors. First, it refers to the Baptist Convention of Maryland and Delaware as a “state convention member of the Southern Baptist Convention.” Brief, p. 3. Second, it suggests that state conventions govern Southern Baptist churches. *Id.* at 4. Third, it refers to the Southern Baptist Convention as the “umbrella Southern Baptist governing body of Southern Baptist Churches” and suggests a “hierarchy” between Baptist Conventions. *Id.* at 10. Upon further review, Amici believe these statements do not accurately paraphrase the portions of the record cited in support of them. During their drafting and review of the Brief Amici Curiae before filing, Amici did not identify or correct the foregoing inaccuracies.

Amici affirmatively show that Article VI of *The Baptist Faith and Message 2000* states:

A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by His laws, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges

invested in them by His Word, and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Further, Article XIV states:

Christ’s people should, as occasion requires, organize such associations and conventions as may best secure cooperation for the great objects of the Kingdom of God. Such organizations have no authority over one another or over the churches.

All Southern Baptist churches are autonomous, self-determining, and subject only to the Lordship of Christ—no local, state, or national entity may exercise control or authority over any Southern Baptist church. Baptists reject the idea of a religious “hierarchy” or “umbrella” superior to the local church, or that any Baptist Convention is in a hierarchy or governing relationship over another Convention.

The record establishes the relationship between the parties. ERLC and other Southern Baptist entities have long argued that Baptist organizations are ecclesiastical organizations by virtue of their relationship to the churches, and therefore deserving of all the protections of the church autonomy doctrine. Brief of Amici Curiae the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and National Association of Evangelicals in Support of Movant-Appellant and Vacatur, p. 12, *Whole Woman’s Health v. Smith*, 896 F.3d 362 (2018) (“Religious deliberations over doctrine and mission and morality are just as protected by the church autonomy doctrine for congregational churches like the Baptists as for any other religious organization.”).

As this Court has already denied the Petition For Rehearing En Banc and the case has been remanded to the District Court, Amici request direction from the Court on the filing of a corrected brief or other remedial action.

Amici regret the above-referenced errors and await the direction of the Court.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Stephen M. Crampton

Stephen M. Crampton

*Counsel of Record*

Thomas Brejcha

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*Counsel for Amici Curiae*

## RECORD OF REVISIONS

### FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, pp. 6067. Finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 8591. Amended June 11, 1974. See SBC Annual 1974, p. 57. Revised June 10, 1986. See SBC Annual 1986, pp. 4752. (Replaced by International Mission Board, June 19, 1997. See International Mission Board Ministry Statement.)*

### INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD

*First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173. Amended June 17, 2003. See SBC Annual 2003, pp.50-51. Amended June 14, 2011. See SBC Annual 2011, pp. 62-64.*

### HOME MISSION BOARD

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, pp. 6779. Finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 92102. New statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 12, 1973. See SBC Annual 1973, pp. 5765. Amended June 11, 1974. See SBC Annual 1974, p. 57. Amended June 10, 1975. See SBC Annual 1975, pp. 5859. Amended June 13, 1978. See SBC Annual 1978, p. 47. Amended June 10, 1980. See SBC Annual 1980, p. 34. Amended June 9, 1981. See SBC Annual 1981, p. 29. Revised June 11, 1985. See SBC Annual 1985, pp. 5860. Amended June 14, 1988. See SBC Annual. 1988, pp. 5456. Amended June 13, 1989. See SBC Annual 1989, p. 36. Amended June 15, 1993. See SBC Annual. 1993, p. 65. Amended June 14, 1994. See SBC Annual 1994, p. 53. (Replaced by North American Mission Board, June 19, 1997. See North American Mission Board Ministry Statement.)*

### NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

*First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173. Amended June 14, 2011. See SBC Annual 2011, pp. 64-68. Amended June 16, 2015. See SBC Annual 2015, pp.93-95.*

### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

*Original program statement approved June 2, 1965. See SBC Annual 1965, pp. 6167. Finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 103117. New statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 6, 1972. See SBC Annual 1972, pp. 6067. Amended June 12, 1973. See SBC Annual 1973, p. 55. Amended June 11, 1974. See SBC Annual 1974, p. 60. Amended June 10, 1975. See SBC Annual 1975, pp. 5960. Amended June 15, 1976. See SBC Annual 1976, pp. 3637. Amended June 13, 1984. See SBC Annual 1984, pp. 4950. Revised June 11, 1985. See SBC Annual 1985, pp. 3858. Amended June 13, 1989. See SBC Annual 1989, pp. 3637. Amended June 4, 1991. See SBC Annual 1991, pp. 46, 48. First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173. Name changed to LifeWay Christian Resources by action of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 9, 1998. See SBC Annual 1998, pp. 42-45.*

### LIFEWAY CHRISTIAN RESOURCES

*Formerly The Sunday School Board. Name changed to LifeWay Christian Resources by action of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 9, 1998. See SBC Annual 1998, pp. 42-45. Amended June 13, 2006. See SBC Annual 2006, pp.62-64. Formal reinstatement of research and statistical compilation assignment (which was continuing to be performed as it had been under an earlier ministry assignment). See SBC Annual 2007, pp. 68-69.*

### ANNUITY BOARD

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 8, 1963. See SBC Annual 1963, pp. 5556. Amended May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, pp. 5657. Finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 118119. Amended June 14, 1988. See SBC Annual 1988, pp. 5253. First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual*



1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173. Amended June 13, 2000. See SBC Annual 2000, pp.66-67. Name changed to GuideStone Financial Resources by action of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 21, 2005. See SBC Annual 2005, p.82.

#### GUIDESTONE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

*Formerly Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Name changed by action of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 21, 2005. See SBC Annual 2005, p. 82. Requirement of Southern Baptist Foundation approval for extending service to SBC entities deleted (Need for cooperative agreements with state conventions or foundations retained). See SBC Annual 2007, pp. 74-75. Expansion of ministry to like-minded individuals. See SBC Annual 2013, pp. 64-66.*

#### THE SEMINARIES OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 20, 1964. See SBC Annual 1964, pp. 6062. Finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 120122. Amended June 12, 1973. See SBC Annual 1973, pp. 6970. Amended June 11, 1974. See SBC Annual 1974, pp. 5759. Completely rewritten and approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 12, 1979. See SBC Annual 1979, pp. 3739. Amended June 15, 1993. See SBC Annual 1993, p. 74. First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.*

#### SOUTHERN BAPTIST FOUNDATION

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 6, 1962. See SBC Annual 1962, pp. 6061. Amended May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, p. 58. First statement finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 123124. Merged with Executive Committee Ministry Statement June 19, 1997 by action of Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.*

#### THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST COMMISSION ON THE AMERICAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*First statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, pp. 5960. First statement finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 128. New program statement approved June 13, 1978. See SBC Annual 1978, p. 31. Amended June 15, 1993. See SBC Annual 1993, pp. 7174. v. Entity was discontinued on September 30, 1996. See SBC Annual 1995, pp. 294-295.*

#### BROTHERHOOD COMMISSION

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 2, 1965. See SBC Annual 1965, pp. 5961. First statement finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 129131. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 12, 1973. See SBC Annual 1973, pp. 5556. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 12, 1990. See SBC Annual 1990, pp. 3536. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 14, 1994. See SBC Annual 1994, p. 47. Entity discontinued June 19, 1997 by action of the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and p. 64. See ministry statement of the North American Mission Board.*

#### THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 24, 1961. See SBC Annual 1961, pp. 6063. Amended May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, p. 58. First statement finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 132134. New statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 6, 1972. See SBC Annual 1972, pp. 6870. Amended June 10, 1975. See SBC Annual 1975, p. 60. Amended June 14, 1988. See SBC Annual 1988, p. 53. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 12, 1990. See SBC Annual 1990, pp. 4748. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 9, 1992. See SBC Annual 1992, pp. 4750. Name changed to Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission on June 19, 1997 by action of the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See 1995 SBC Annual, p.64.*

#### THE ETHICS AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION

*First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173.*

#### EDUCATION COMMISSION

*First statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 24, 1961. See SBC Annual 1961, pp. 5760. Amended May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, pp. 5859. First statement finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 135137. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 6, 1972. See SBC Annual 1972, pp. 5960. Amended June 15, 1993. See SBC Annual 1993, pp. 6671. Entity discontinued June 19, 1997, by action of the Southern Baptist Convention on June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46.*

#### HISTORICAL COMMISSION

*First program statement approved May 24, 1961. See SBC Annual 1961, pp. 5557. Amended May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, pp. 5556. Finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 138140. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 11, 1974. See SBC Annual 1974, pp. 6465. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention, June 12, 1990. See SBC Annual 1990, pp. 3839. Entity discontinued June 19, 1997, by action of the Southern Baptist Convention on June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46.*

#### THE RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMISSION

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 24, 1961. See SBC Annual 1961, pp. 6467. Amended June 2, 1965. See SBC Annual 1965, p. 77. Amended May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, p. 56. Finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 141144. Amended June 11, 1974. See SBC Annual 1974, pp. 5960, 66. Amended June 15, 1976. See SBC Annual 1976, p. 36. Entity discontinued June 19, 1997, by action of the Southern Baptist Convention on June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46. See ministry statement of the North American Mission Board.*

#### THE STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 18, 1960. See SBC Annual 1960, pp. 5354. Amended May 25, 1966. See SBC Annual 1966, pp. 5556. First statement finally approved May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 145148. Amended June 5, 1968. See SBC Annual 1968, p. 61. Amended June 4, 1991. See SBC Annual 1991, pp. 46, 4852. Amended June 15, 1993. See SBC Annual 1993, pp. 7983. Entity discontinued June 19, 1997, by action of the Southern Baptist Convention on June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46. See ministry statements of the Executive Committee and LifeWay Christian Resources.*

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*First program statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention May 31, 1967. See SBC Annual 1967, pp. 61, 5556. Revised statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 9, 1992. See SBC Annual 1992, pp. 4346. First ministry statement approved by the Southern Baptist Convention June 20, 1995. See SBC Annual 1995, p. 46 and pp. 165-173. Amended June 13, 2006. See SBC Annual 2006, pp. 62-64. Amended June 15, 2010. See SBC Annual 2010, p. 66.*

## Minutes

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD, SBC

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

12:30 p.m.

*Las Vegas, Nevada*

*Green Valley Ranch, Estancia*

1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chuck Herring called the meeting to order.

2. PRAYER

Keith Warden opened the meeting with prayer.

3. ROLL CALL

**Present**

Joey Anthony (for Larry  
Gipson who was absent)

Douglas K. Dieterly

Mark Dyer++

Sissy Franks

Chuck Herring +

Spike Hogan+++

Steven D. Holdaway

Ferrel Wiley (for Heath  
Peloquin who was absent)

Keith D. Warden

Danny Wood

+ Chairman

++ First Vice Chairman

+++ Second Vice Chairman

**Absent**

Larry Gipson

Heath Peloquin

**NAMB staff present:** Kevin Ezell (NAMB President), Carlos Ferrer (CFO), Clark Logan, Joe Outlaw (Recording Secretary), Ty Salter, Gary Frost, Doug Carver, Ken Tan, Steve Bass, Steve Davis, Mike Ebert, Ray Clark, Jeff Christopherson, Matt Smith and Matt Martin

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Steve Holdaway moved to approve the Agenda as written. Danny Wood seconded this motion and the Agenda was approved as written.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Steve Holdaway moved to approve each of the attached minutes as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Dieterly. Both minutes (October 7 and October 9 meetings) were approved as written. *(Attachment 2)*  
*(Attachment 3)*

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

Carlos Ferrer referred to Attachment 4, Financial Summary, in stating that for the three months that ended December 31, 2014 the Cooperative Program giving is 1% ahead of last fiscal year and the AAEO is 3.2% more than this same time period point last fiscal year. *(Attachment 4)*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

FEBRUARY 3, 2015

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7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Chaplains Commission – Deferred reporting to the main Board meeting.
- B. Church Finance – Deferred to the main Board meeting.
- C. Financial Services – Mark Dyer shared that NAMB received an “Unqualified audit” from outside auditors, which is as strong an audit as can be attained. Mark also informed the Executive Committee that Matt Martin, Corporate Attorney, has updated NAMB’s Whistleblower policy for clarity with roles including that of the corporate attorney. As this Policy was initiated by the Trustees, Mark shared that the Committee would present to the Full Board these edits for Trustee approval.
- D. Canada – Deferred to the main Board meeting. *(Attachment 5)*
- E. Northeast – Deferred to the main Board meeting.
- F. Midwest – Deferred to the main Board meeting.
- G. South – Deferred to the main Board meeting.
- H. West – Deferred to the main Board meeting.
- I. Ad hoc Policy Committee – Nothing to report.
- J. Compensation Committee – Nothing to report.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

Deferred to the main Board meeting. *(Attachment 6) (Attachment 7)*

9. OTHER TRUSTEE BUSINESS

None.

10. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Kevin shared the following with the Executive Committee:

- A. Maryland/Delaware disciplinary process in hopes of restoration. The Cooperative Agreement suggests a one year notice for termination and NAMB provided this notification at the beginning of December. The issue primarily at hand is the cooperative process for missionary approvals not being followed with repetitive infraction. This is brought up as an awareness issue for the Trustees as some are being contacted about this and some others may be in the future.
- B. Approval for the transition of Northeast Region responsibilities from Jeff Christopherson to Steve Davis is to be brought to the full Board in light of Kevin asking Jeff to lead NAMB’s new Send City Network Group.
- C. As a reminder and as awareness, in two weeks NAMB and the IMB will bring a motion to the SBC Executive Committee to allow NAMB to work with the IMB for church planting in and around military bases throughout the world.
- D. Mobilization VP Aaron Coe has resigned effective February 28, 2015 in order to focus his passion for Kingdom growth through church planting without the challenges of doing so from a denominational platform. NAMB would like to contract with him for 9 months to help with our SNA strategies, the SNA conference and its follow-up through November 30.
- E. The Salt Lake City church planting partnership project has continued to run into challenges with obtaining property to lease, though David Edmunds is doing very well with the church plant. With your approval, NAMB will provide David 90 days to secure solid progress in

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

FEBRUARY 3, 2015

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securing a lease or return the loan. David could then still continue as a church planter in Salt Lake City.

- F. NAMB would like to host the February 2016 Trustee Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. San Juan has great potential to be NAMB's 33rd Send City once the infrastructure is in place to do this well.

Chuck asked Keith Warden to close the meeting with prayer, after which, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Outlaw". The signature is stylized with loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joe Outlaw, Recording Secretary

## Trustee Informational Conference Call

May 19, 2016 3:00 PM Eastern Time

**Reminders:** 1. This conversation is confidential. 2. Per our media policy, only Trustee Chairman and NAMB president (or their designee) speaks on behalf of the Board.

- You have seen Kevin's blog; sample state agreement
  - Confidentiality clause was in there at request of the states and we are happy to remove
  - Great majority of state relationships are good
    - Most church planting happens in partnership with them
    - NAMB sending \$43 million to states in 2017
    - We are held accountable for that money and how spent
  - Biggest issue in Maryland was that exec was in violation of our agreement and was doing things to undermine the NAMB trustee missionary approval process
  - Bill Warren on call to address Maryland-Delaware perspective
  - We will walk through timeline of Md/Del at St. Louis trustee workshop
  - We want this to be a time to ask questions—anything you are concerned about. It is ok to ask anything at all
- 
- Chuck said ask any question you want... reminded of confidentiality... reminded of media policy.
  - Kevin – introduced Bill Warren. I don't hire or fire state execs. We've gone through a lot of changes in last five years; 800 people transitioned, trimmed budgets... you are going to have people get frustrated. Three or four years ago we were all in the battle. It's been two years of peace and more calm. So when something like this happens, it's a reminder, we have to be prepared to protect what God has going. I want to make sure... not just this situation but another. We need to be prepared. It just takes one goofball to write a blog full of lies and slander. Hard part is when you have people come on who are new... you don't know namb that well or me that well.... you may wonder "what is he doing?" That's why we want to have the call. I want to maintain the trust I have with my trustees... we hoped we could wait until the June meeting but there are enough people contacting our trustees that we felt like we need to address it.

- Chuck asked Kevin to explain “gag order.” Kevin said there is none. Kevin explained how agreements work. We asked state execs to help us write the thing. Some execs wanted the agreements and budgets to be confidential. They didn’t want other states knowin what they were getting. Some had some special things because of how things were done in the past. We preferred for everyone to know what everyone else was getting. Now they are agreeing to go public. We agree it’s easier. In the agreement we state that any time a state convention funded by NAMB hires someone funded by NAMB they are supposed to do in collobration with us. That’s the trustee approval process.... Will did not do that. we called him on it and asked not to do it again. He said ok. Two months later he did the exact same thing again. He communicated with Jeff, Steve D and ultimately me. We said, look, we’re just going to have to not relate and we gave one year notice. We were not talking to the state convention or the board or the pastors. So they didn’t know what was going on... at that point we flew to Baltimore and met with Mr. Mc and three officers. Included bill warren. McR claims I coerced and that was never the case. I wanted to .....

Bill Warren – I’m going to stay away from the details of Dr. McRaney’s employment. But categorically I can say Kevin Ezell never bullied us or badgered us or asked us to fire Will McRaney. If anybody knows me very well they know I am not easy to bully and Kevin didn’t try. Nothing could be further from the truth. When we got that letter on Dec 14 (referring to letter from NAMB giving one-year notice of intent to cease partnership) I wasn’t real happy with your leader and thought he was dead wrong. But over the months I started to realize he was right and came to see him as a friend. Anyone who says we wanted him (McRaney) to resign because we wanted more money is out of their mind. The loss of NAMB funding was never a consideration. We didn’t act out of a lust for money. I’m really ticked off at the way he (Kevin) has been treated by some of the players and the press. I told Kevin I will fly to Alpharetta and meet with your trustees to share the truth and to tell them that this is garbage and I welcome the opportunity. I hope you will continue to stand behind Kevin because he is a great man of God.

Andy Childs, NAMB trustee from Georgia asked what exactly at this point does Dr. McRaney desire? I’ve had people here in Ga call me and ask me that. Do you know? What does he want? Bill Warren: Of me he says he wants me to repent and ask his forgiveness and agree to the statement that KE badgered us into firing him. He’ll never get it because it’s not true. He has done his best to sully my reputation in the Maryland-Delaware convention. He has worked very hard and I’m happy to say he has not been successful. I was re-elected as pres. last November. He is now aiming his bullets at Kevin. He wants Kevin’s scalp. He wants his job. Kevin added: We think potentially he is baiting us so we will say something he can sue us over. Our attorneys have sent cease and desist letters because he has slandered me. He is contacting pastors all over. He is relentless. This is his fulltime job. He has gone the scorched earth approach and he is taking down anyone he can. Bill Warren: He hasn’t been able to find a job and he’s trying to restore his reputation and say I’m not a bad guy. ‘They messed me over.’ He’s attempting to find a job. Sadly, I think it’s going to do just the opposite. Andy Childs: best thing to do if you want to have opportunity for a job is not to nuke the people who can help you.

Chuck Herring — Most of you are pastors and you know on the church staff you can have a staff member who is woefully short of the expectations... you begin to transition him out... every staff member has a posse.... Chuck asked Dr. Warren, at the meeting we had with McRaney, Kevin said to Steve D. Steve is going to work and said when we get to a level of trust we will restore it.

One trustee spoke up and said it was good that we are making agreements public...

Larry Robertson asked what can we say? What should we say?

Kevin said when they quoted Nate Adams he immediately emailed me and said they quoted him in a way he did not mean it. They are misleading on purpose. Kevin said there are mean, evil pastors out there. There are deceptive pastors out there. It is discouraging. Kevin read something from an entity pres: We get the support of 14 million sweet people at the expense of having to accept an insane asylum as part of the package. Anyone can throw something out there. Examinar did not check with us on the facts she just relied on innuendo.

Chuck said: Be careful of what you email people.

Spike: After the NAMB report, how much freedom do you have to say you are out of order? Kevin said his church is not sending him as a messenger. The parliamentarian has been told and we will remind him. But a friend might remind him. Unfortunately this year they set aside 50 minutes to question all the entity pres. Spike said: just want to make sure the parliamentarian knows. Kevin said: We really want all the facts out there. We just don't want to give him a reason to sue us. The thing is: when you turn on the light here roaches scurry and people write blogs.

Mark Dyer: wanted to echo chucks comments about emails and texts. People sometimes get loose with texts and emails. If this guy decides to file against us all of that information will come to light in discovery. Be judicious in your choice of words. Kevin mentioned cease and desist: it was written in a very compassionate way. We anticipated it might be on a blog. His response was to set up a meeting with conditions that nobody would agree with.

Andy Addis: asked if there is anyone in his life that can speak to him. Kevin said: We know several have tried to do that. His spiritual father is in Ft Worth and we don't have access to him. We need to pray for him that this is exactly what he would do. We have to remember prov 15:1—soft answer, soft answer, soft answer (Prov. 15:1 A gentle answer turns away anger, but a harsh word stirs up wrath.)

Spike: said to Kevin—you tried to meet with him. Kevin said yes, but I wanted someone else in the room who did not work for him. The reason I wanted to do that is he is a liar. He has no integrity. He would say I had stipulations that he couldn't agree to. My stipulation was I wanted someone else in the room. Kevin made another point to say confidentiality is tough. Bill W asked Kevin "How confidential are they?" because he doesn't want to stir will up again.



Kevin: Md-Del is about to announce next week they have a new state exec, African America. Great leader, great preacher. Kevin says I have known him for a long time. I know what's going to happen... Will is going to say I got him fired so I could get this guy hired. When they told me who they chose I thought "Of all the people." It will play into the conspiracy theory.

Chuck closed with prayer.

**From:** jchristopherson@NAMB.NET  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 8, 2014 8:29 AM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin  
**Subject:** Re: update

Well feel free from my perspective to engage him. It'll be fun.

He's publicly saying that planting is his 3rd priority. People ask questions- we answer from facts and point them to Will for his reasons.

I hear the same thing all the time that there is tension between Namb and BCMD (coming from Will's speeches). I have confronted Will twice on this and he acts like he doesn't know what I'm talking about.

Good Luck!

-Jeff

sent from my iPhone

Jeff Christopherson  
Vice-President, Canada, Northeast US  
North American Mission Board  
Agence Missionnaire Nord-Américaine  
[jchristopherson@namb.net](mailto:jchristopherson@namb.net)  
mobile: [REDACTED]

On Oct 8, 2014, at 8:20 AM, Ezell, Kevin <[kezell@NAMB.NET](mailto:kezell@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

Any suggestions

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Will McRaney <[wmcraney@bcmd.org](mailto:wmcraney@bcmd.org)>  
**Date:** October 8, 2014 at 7:09:45 AM EDT  
**To:** Kevin Ezell <[kezell@namb.net](mailto:kezell@namb.net)>  
**Subject:** update

Kevin,

I trust you are well and your ministry is fulfilling.

We are settling into our work. Lots to learn and many challenges, but that is true most everywhere as you know from firsthand experience. Tom Stolle our financial steward completed a virtually spotless audit with your auditor. We count it a trust in how we steward

resources entrusted to us and value our relationship with NAMB. Tom not only does a great job, he has the heart for God and people the size of Texas.

I am sorry it was impossible to make the summer gathering you had there with new execs. I would like to come to Alpharetta to engage with you in both personal encouragement and ministry dialogues when it is workable for you. I believe there are perspectives you can share with me directly and some I can share with you directly that may benefit us both and reduce the opportunity for confusion. I am packed through our Annual Celebration in early November, but maybe we can make it afterwards before Christmas.

I do believe that a phone call between us would be helpful until we can get together in person. You have a strong policy regarding people communicating poorly about partners. I am, as I am sure you will be too, concerned about what is being falsely spread around to our pastors, regardless of the origin. There are some strong miscommunications on the ground here about my relationship with NAMB and planters that is quite disturbing and is not beneficial to either of us. My capacity to serve the churches well and help us advance the mission here is being undermined by these communications. As I process how best to address the misinformation, I would like you to personally hear from me on what is being said and hear your perspectives on a positive path forward.

Look forward to talking in the coming days if possible and then our next time together as well.

Will

Will McRaney, PhD  
Exec. Missional Strategist  
Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network / BCMD  
410-290-5290 ext. 202

**From:** Christopherson, Jeff  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 8, 2014 8:59 AM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin  
**Subject:** Re: update

He's busy today but says I can call him tomorrow. Not expecting much - but we will see.

-Jeff

sent from my iPhone

Jeff Christopherson

Vice-President, Canada, Northeast US

North American Mission Board

Agence Missionnaire Nord-Américaine

[jchristopherson@namb.net](mailto:jchristopherson@namb.net)

mobile: [REDACTED]

On Oct 8, 2014, at 8:39 AM, Ezell, Kevin <[kezell@NAMB.NET](mailto:kezell@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

Whatever think is best

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 8, 2014, at 8:38 AM, "Christopherson, Jeff" <[jchristopherson@NAMB.NET](mailto:jchristopherson@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

Would be happy to (happy wouldn't be the right word). I

-Jeff

sent from my iPhone

Jeff Christopherson

Vice-President, Canada, Northeast US

North American Mission Board

Agence Missionnaire Nord-Américaine

[jchristopherson@namb.net](mailto:jchristopherson@namb.net)

mobile: [REDACTED]

On Oct 8, 2014, at 8:34 AM, Ezell, Kevin <[kezell@NAMB.NET](mailto:kezell@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

You think it would help for u to step out and call him?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 8, 2014, at 8:31 AM, "Christopherson, Jeff" <[jchristopherson@NAMB.NET](mailto:jchristopherson@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

I'd be glad to be a part of any conversations if u think it would help.

-Jeff

sent from my iPhone

Jeff Christopherson

Vice-President, Canada, Northeast US

North American Mission Board

Agence Missionnaire Nord-Américaine

[jchristopherson@namb.net](mailto:jchristopherson@namb.net)

mobile: [REDACTED]

On Oct 8, 2014, at 8:20 AM, Ezell, Kevin  
<[kezell@NAMB.NET](mailto:kezell@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

Any suggestions

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded  
message:

**From:**  
Will  
McRaney  
<[wmcra  
ney@b  
cmd.or  
g](mailto:wmcra<br/>ney@b<br/>cmd.or<br/>g)>  
**Date:**  
October  
8,  
2014 at  
7:09:45

**From:** Christopherson, Jeff <jchristopherson@namb.net>  
**Sent:** 2/3/2015 7:13:42 PM  
**To:** Davis, Steve  
**Subject:** BCMD  
**Attachments:** [BCMD\\_Documentation.docx](#), [ATT00001.htm](#)

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## **Documenting Issues of Partnership Pertaining to Dr. Will McCraney**

The following two points related to partnership, although not exhaustive, serve to illustrate the deep divide that has grown in NAMB's partnership with the BCMD. Although many other issues could be cited to illustrate the quick degeneration of this partnership (comments made in public addresses, complete lack of cooperation with NAMB's local initiatives, disregard for NAMB staff), these two well-documented points clearly speak to the breakdown.

### **1. Failure to follow a Partnership Process in Hiring Jointly Funded Missionaries.**

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 11:30 am, on a phone conversation, Dr. McCraney informed Jeff Christopherson that he had offered Joel Rainey the position of SDOE for BCMD. It was obvious from this discussion that Dr. McCraney had approached Joel, and many transitional details had already been discussed and worked out. Although Jeff had no objections to this personnel selection, he did speak at great length to the problems inherent in Dr. McCraney's process. Since this was to be a jointly funded position, both parties need to be in agreement before candidates are approached. Dr. McCraney apologized and said that this misunderstanding was due to the learning curve in his new position.

On November 13, 2014, a few days after David Jackson's resignation became public, Dr. McCraney emailed Jeff Christopherson informing him of his intent to hire Michael Crawford as SDOM, *"I am pleased to inform you and our Administrative Committee chairman that Michael Crawford has agreed to assume the SDOM position pending approvals."*

Jeff immediately responded to Dr. McCraney reiterating once again the process established for partnership, *"Before jobs are offered to specific people, since this is a joint partnership, I would very much like to have input in the field of possible choices. Once we gain agreement on a candidate to proceed forward with, then we will run him through an assessment process to get a better picture of strengths and weaknesses. If both of us agree that this is the leader that we want, then I will bring him forward to the trustees of namb, and you to your admin committee."*

On November 15, 2014, Dr. McCraney communicated with Dr. Ezell via email that not only had the position been offered and accepted, but that the offer and acceptance was widely broadcasted within his convention. *"[P]astor/planter Michael Crawford has agreed to accept the position pending approval ... We have just begun conversation with our board leaders, Convention President and a leader among our African American pastors, but we are excited on this end..."*

On November 17, 2014, Jeff Christopherson spoke with Dr. McCraney on the telephone, reiterating the jointly funded hiring process and the reasons for that process. Dr. McCraney did not agree that he violated that process since all decisions were subject to NAMB's approvals. Much effort was given to help Dr. McCraney understand and appreciate the damage that is done when process is not followed. Dr. McCraney persistently maintained that he operated within



On December 9, 2014, Jeff Christopherson spoke with the President of BCMD, Rev. Bill Warren. Jeff's goal was to help Rev. Warren see a different side to the issues that had been framed. During the section of the conversation related to the hiring of Michael Crawford, Bill Warren shared that while this hiring was being discussed during a BCMD meeting, that he himself publically suggested that the BCMD approach NAMB before offering this position to Michael Crawford. Rev. Warren further confessed that Dr. McCraney had no interest in taking that step.

These failures of partnership speak to a fundamental breakdown of mutual cooperation and respect and provide little incentive for further engagement.

## **2. Disregard for National Agreements.**

It had come to Jeff Christopherson's attention that the BCMD was making a requirement on all NAMB/BCMD funded planters that they give a percentage to their association. On August 25, 2014, Jeff wrote a letter to Dr. McCraney outlining three major concerns – this being one. *“Required associational giving by church planters. Several planters have sent me a copy of your updated church planter's covenant which seems to require a 3% allocation to their association. Our agreement with the 42 conventions is 6% to CP and 4% to SBC causes as determined by the planter/sending church. If an association contributed to a planter's package and requires a percentage for the acceptance of that contribution - then the planter/sending church can make that determination.”*

On September 10, 2014, Jeff spoke with Dr. McCraney at length on these issues. Call notes document a lengthy conversation of 2 hrs. 42 mins. Dr. McCraney agreed to remove this condition from the BCMD Church Planter's Covenant.

On October 30, 2014, Jeff Christopherson met with all of the SDOMs and Executive Directors of Canada and the Northeast. On the agenda of that meeting was a reminder to the agreement that all 42 conventions made regarding the expectations of NAMB funded church planters. In Dr. McCraney's presence, we once again went over this statement and had a lengthy conversation about its application.

Beginning November 21, 2014, Jeff Christopherson began fielding phone calls from BCMD church planters that Dr. David Jackson issued a new requirement that all funded church planters were required to give an additional 2% of their undesignated giving to BCMD's newly established “Go Forward” fund. Jeff called Dr. Jackson to inquire about this, and David confirmed this new obligation, stating that it was a directive of Dr. McCraney.

This established pattern of unilateral decision-making serves to undermine both the hard work of consensus gained by 42 conventions, and our confidence that Dr. McCraney desires to work within the confines of mutual partnership.



Jeff Christopherson  
VP Send City Network, RVP Canada  
North American Mission Board  
Agence Missionnaire Nord-Américaine  
[jchristopherson@namb.net](mailto:jchristopherson@namb.net)  
mobile: [REDACTED]

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

**From:** Ro <ronmba1613@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 4, 2015 6:18 PM  
**To:** Marsico, Kevin  
**Cc:** Christopherson, Jeff  
**Subject:** Fwd: NAMB Covenant  
**Attachments:** DOM\_\_Encouragement.doc

Kevin M and Jeff

FYI...I was called by Mark Dooley and Bill Warren. They wanted me to give them a bullet point summary of our conversations and my reflections. I attached a list of questions doms met and compiled by Bob Mackey and on Oct 13 doms met with Will to ask these questions. Most of my comments relate to those.

Call me if you need any clarification.

Michael and I meet all day today with 4 new planters and one planter from last year...African Cameroon, African Ghana French speaking, Ethiopian, Pakistani, and Caucasian Messianic Jewish planter. What an exciting day...that's what it's all about.

Appreciate you guys.

Ron Blankenship

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

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From: Ro <ronmba1613@aol.com>  
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2015  
Subject: Fwd: NAMB Covenant  
To: bruce <bruce@blueridgebaptist.org>

-----Original Message-----

From: Ro <[ronmba1613@aol.com](mailto:ronmba1613@aol.com)>  
To: keith.corrick <[keith.corrick@potomacbaptist.net](mailto:keith.corrick@potomacbaptist.net)>  
Cc: bruce <[bruce@blueridgebaptist.info](mailto:bruce@blueridgebaptist.info)>; john <[john@arundelbaptist.info](mailto:john@arundelbaptist.info)>; bmackey <[bmackey@baltimoreembrace.com](mailto:bmackey@baltimoreembrace.com)>; mdowell1 <[mdowell1@verizon.net](mailto:mdowell1@verizon.net)>; Domsheffield <[Domsheffield@aol.com](mailto:Domsheffield@aol.com)>  
Sent: Tue, Feb 3, 2015 7:57 pm  
Subject: Fwd: NAMB Covenant

Mark Dooley and Bill Warren called me about the special called business meeting by General Mission Board. The issue is the letter that NAMB/Kevin Ezell sent to Will McRaney stating that they will not renew the church planting covenant with Mid Atlantic Baptist Network. Admin committee is meeting Feb 5 and General Mission Board Feb 6. to discuss this. Kevin Ezell, president of NAMB, has put a moratorium on conversations with Will McRaney for 6 months. I was able to convince a couple of NAMB representatives to call Mark Dooley, GMB president. I have attached the questions DOMs asked Will McRaney in October and some bullet points Mark Dooley requested that I send to help them understand the situation. Please

pray that God will work in the situation, and pray God will continue to use Associations despite the conflict in state and national level. God bless  
Ron B

-----Original Message-----

From: Ro <[ronmba1613@aol.com](mailto:ronmba1613@aol.com)>  
To: mark.dooley <[mark.dooley@bcmcmd.org](mailto:mark.dooley@bcmcmd.org)>  
Cc: mark.dooley <[mark.dooley@lbcmd.org](mailto:mark.dooley@lbcmd.org)>  
Sent: Tue, Feb 3, 2015 7:48 pm  
Subject: NAMB Covenant

Mark and Bill (Please send to Bill Warren)

I have attached a copy of the DOM Questions to Will McRaney...meeting Oct 13 in which Mark was present. These questions summarize the continuing concerns we have had concerning tensions between Will M and DOMs. I will offer a few bullet points of comment but I will not repeat all these questions which are still valid. DOMs did not feel the meeting lowered any tensions or resolved the issues.

1. On a positive tone, the Love Your Neighbor evangelistic emphases have been positive and offers a good outline for teaching evangelism in the churches.
2. Some questions need to be asked: A. The letter of intent not to renew church planting covenant was the result of many conversations between Will and NAMB. Why weren't GMB members brought into the discussions sooner? Will says he tried to get them together and NAMB says they tried months ago to have a meeting with Will and GMB but to no avail...who is correct? When did Will request the meetings..was it months ago as relations were dissolving or in December after having received the letter?
3. Another question: Before October 2013 the church planting in MD/DEL was viewed across the SBC as the number one leader in church planting. In 2012 NAMB presented BCM/D with an award for most church plants for first half of year than any state convention in SBC history. David Jackson told me almost half of those plants came from Montgomery Baptist Association. Why after new exec arrived did church planting so quickly erode in our state? We went from as Jeff Christopherson stated "Everyone wants to be like Maryland/Delaware in church planting" to near the worst. NAMB leadership told me that Will and NAMB cannot come to an agreement on how the approach to church planting, so they say why should we sit down at this point and talk about funding an organization that no longer has the same core values and expectations for church planting that NAMB has?
4. Before October 2013 associations had a smooth and functional relationship with leadership in state convention and were equal partners. Church planting especially was a common goal. During 2014 relations gradually eroded between associations and state leadership. See questions attached to see many of the reasons. As one DOM said, "We used to have a productive partnership with the state, but the last 13 months our association has felt more and more distance from state.
5. Trust levels between NAMB and BCM/D executive leadership is practically zero. DOMs continue to communicate with Will M but except for Reid Sterrett, who is employed by state convention, the trust level is low.
- 6 The Go Forward fund is a contentious issue with NAMB leaders in that all other state conventions are on same page that 6% of church plant budget will to CP and 4% to Great Commissions causes, and association has right to expect 4% if they also fund a plant. Now at least 2 % must go into GO Forward Fund. Also DOMs and many pastors see the Go Forward Fund in competition with CP and association giving, setting up a societal system of giving, rather than cooperative giving.
7. There will be disastrous repercussions if NAMB follows through with not renewing church planting covenant. Our state has already lost \$400,000 because leadership would not match it with 25%. The up front \$400,000 is only enough to pay existing planters, not new planters, unless MABN has other money to draw from. So, first of all MABN will lose \$800,000 to fund churches if not renewed in December 2015. Also, my understanding is that NAMB partially funds and gives benefits to 7 staff members totaling about \$435,000 so where would the money come from to pay them? Then too there was an expectation that our state convention would receive funding for 5 regional church planting catalysts, but as NAMB said, "Why would we want to fund regional church planting catalysts when there is little emphasis on church planting

and the CPC's would be used for other tasks than planting churches."

8. Also if NAMB breaks away it will be so far as I know only the second time in SBC history this has happened...other was DC Convention primarily over doctrinal issues. The issues here seem to be mostly philosophical and methodological, not doctrinal. When churches learn of this if it happens then those church members who generally view NAMB and IMB as connected and the symbol of missions and missionaries will be very upset and they will not care whose fault it is, but that our state no longer empahasizes missions. This is an extremely serious issue if this covenant is not renewed and we really do not know how great the fallout will be.

9. I will stop there. Realize I and other DOMs have no agenda other than to see the kingdom expand. I am not the DOM facilitator this year. I suggest you talk with other DOMs to get their viewpoint. This is something GMB and NAMB need to work out. God is working in our region and I do not feel led to meet over these issues any longer. I will pray for you. I suggest any future correspondence go to our DOM facilitator Keith Corrick. I only pray God's will be done. DOMs love this state convention and will work with staff in ministries wherever we can.

In Christ,

Dr. Ron Blankenship, Director of Missions  
Montgomery Baptist Association

**From:** Ezell, Kevin <kezell@NAMB.NET>  
**Sent:** 2/4/2015 12:55:19 PM  
**To:** thomas@welshbaptist.com  
**Cc:** Davis, Steve; Christopherson, Jeff  
**Subject:** Fwd: Will McCraney

**Attachments:** [BCMD Documentation.docx](#), [ATT00001.htm](#)

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Thomas  
Thanks for your contact regarding the current Maryland/Delaware issue  
We are grateful for our partnership w your states. We simply need the leadership to abide by the cooperative agreement the other 41 state conventions are. We have had no  
issues in this matter with the other states.  
Grateful for your time. I've attached a timeline that was written by Jeff Christopherson  
Our VP of the northeast at the time. Hope this helps

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This established pattern of unilateral decision-making serves to undermine both the hard work of consensus gained by 42 conventions, and our confidence that Dr. McCraney desires to work within the confines of mutual partnership.

**From:** Ezell, Kevin <kezell@NAMB.NET>  
**Sent:** 2/4/2015 1:10:22 PM  
**To:** Pastor John Manry <pastor.jmanry@verizon.net>  
**Cc:** Davis, Steve; Christopherson, Jeff  
**Subject:** Re: Relations with Mid-Atlantic

---

Bro John

I am so sorry for my delay. We have been in trustee meeting for the last two days

Thanks for your contact regarding the current Maryland/Delaware issue  
We are grateful for our partnership w your states. We simply need the leadership to abide by the cooperative agreement that the other 41 state conventions have been abiding by for years.. We have had no issues in this matter with the other states.

Grateful for your time. I've attached a timeline that was written by Jeff Christopherson  
Our VP of the northeast at the time. Hope this helps Would be glad to clarify or explain any part of this if you need.

Have a blessed week

Kevin

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 3, 2015, at 9:33 AM, "Pastor John Manry" <[pastor.jmanry@verizon.net](mailto:pastor.jmanry@verizon.net)> wrote:

Dr. Ezell,

I am a new member of the General Mission Board of the Mid-Atlantic Baptist network (Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware).

We are convening this Friday (2/5) concerning the cooperative funding agreement between NAMB and BCMD. I am writing to insure that I understand NAMB's concerns first hand and that they are accurately and fairly expressed at Friday's meeting. Proverbs 18:17 encourages the hearing of both sides. I am trying to be faithful to Christ in this and, I pray, helpful at the meeting on Friday.

I would greatly appreciate your response.

Unto Christ,

John Manry, Pastor, North Harford Baptist Church

**From:** Ezell, Kevin  
**Sent:** Friday, February 6, 2015 6:02 AM  
**To:** William Warren  
**Subject:** FW: Perspectives & Request

Bill,

This is where requested to meet with the leaders of your convention.  
(toward the end of my email to Will)  
I'm trying to find a day that works for my chairman.  
It will be my chairman, Steve Davis and probably Jeff Christopherson and myself.

I would like an agenda and your goal you would like to see accomplished.  
Our primary concern is very simple:  
Will hired someone without any prior notification to NAMB.  
Was confronted about it.  
Then, a few months later did it again.

We can meet, discuss the process, etc but this is our concern.  
Going back to anything near what we had before is not an option.  
I just want to make certain that the expectations for this meeting are at a realistic level.

I'll get back with you on some possible dates.

Kevin

-----Original Message-----

From: Will McRaney [mailto:wmcraney@bcmd.org]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 4:44 PM  
To: Ezell, Kevin  
Cc: Tom Stolle; Bill Warren; Christopherson, Jeff; Ferrer, Carlos  
Subject: Re: Perspectives & Request

Kevin,

REGARDING ATTACHED RESPONSE: I invested some long hours during Thanksgiving break to reflect on your concerns and on how it came to be that such misinformation and misperceptions could come to be accepted in your mind as facts without a direct, personal conversation with me on these matters and without checking the facts as the Bible would instruct.

The Kingdom, our mission, and I would have appreciated your accepting one of my two offers to meet with you personally on these matters which could have been quickly be clarified in a personal conversation if you would have accepted my offer.

To provide as much clarity as possible to some misperceptions and some misinformation gaps you had regarding these matters, I invested my heart and mind in the attached letter addressing your concerns and reminding you of our concerns as well in hopes that it would help us get on a healthy trajectory and help us serve the Lord and our mission organizations more effectively.

**From:** Davis, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2015 12:50 PM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin  
**Subject:** Re: Pastoral Care Line

I won't. I'm trying to hold off as asked by Bill Warren, but also not wanting to tip Will off that something else is causing the delay. Thought it might be best to meet with him and his pastors at the Convention, if their process for removal hasn't been implemented. Then if he is removed, we can change the funding back to our original proposal.

Sound OK to you?

On 6/1/15, 11:37 AM, "Ezell, Kevin" <kezell@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>DONT meet w him by yourself

>

>Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Jun 1, 2015, at 12:31 PM, "Davis, Steve" <sdavis@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>>

>> Will,

>>

>> Sorry I didn't respond yesterday. Had to go to Indiana to be with my  
>> 91 year old aunt, who's like my mother. I'm all she's got. We got  
>> news back from a CT scan that wasn't good, so I'm here trying to help  
>> her get to appropriate doctors, tests, etc, to find out our next steps, if any.  
>> Working from her home.

>>

>> Still planning on being at the Convention in Columbus. Maybe you, the  
>>three pastors we met with and I could get together at the convention.

>>I could meet with you guys at 3:30 or 4 on that Tuesday afternoon .

>>Will check and see if the NAMB hospitality room is an option or  
>>somewhere else.

>> As I recall, the pastors indicated in the meeting with Dr. Ezell that  
>>they wanted us to meet with them as well. Do you want to check with  
>>them and see if that Tuesday afternoon will work for them?

>>

>> Thx, Steve

>>

>>> On 5/31/15, 10:54 PM, "Will McRaney" <wmcraney@bcmd.org> wrote:

>>>

>>> Steve,

>>>

>>> Thanks for the update. I was hoping we would have something by June  
>>>1 so that I would have NAMB's reinvestment numbers for 2016 as we  
>>>make the necessary adjustments and plans, but I appreciate the work

>>>you are doing.

>>> I am sure you understand from you past state role, it is imperative  
>>>that I begin working to seeking additional financial resources and  
>>>making budget preparations for the staff that NAMB will cease  
>>>jointly funding in 2016.

>>>

>>> Glad you have some time scheduled to be off. I am out the first two  
>>>weeks of July myself, so those weeks are out for me. However, we  
>>>can look for a date for a meeting or phone call that is workable  
>>>around our down times.

>>> I will be attending the Convention and we can connect a few minutes  
>>>there if that would be helpful to you.

>>>

>>> Hope you have a great week!

>>> Will

>>>

>>>

>>>

>>>

>>>> On 5/27/15, 4:46 PM, "Davis, Steve" <sdavis@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Great. Ours will simply be an additional resource.

>>>>

>>>> On another note, still working with Kevin on some options. Also  
>>>>working on the Cooperation Agreement - updating. Will probably  
>>>>need to get with you guys after the convention in Columbus. Then I  
>>>>have a week of vacation scheduled right after that. So, looks like  
>>>>first week of July I could get back with you with a plan for moving  
>>>>forward. Should have everything ready by then. Will send you some  
>>>>potential dates later on, so you can also have your pastors there  
>>>>or on a phone conference with us.

>>>>

>>>> Blessings, Steve

>>>>

>>>>> On 5/27/15, 11:51 AM, "Will McRaney" <wmcraney@bcmnd.org> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Steve,

>>>>>

>>>>> Just received your letter and the box of business cards. Thank you.

>>>>>

>>>>> I believe one of our unique responsibilities and privileges as a  
>>>>>regional Network is to provide care for pastors/planters and their  
>>>>>families.

>>>>>One

>>>>> of my great pleasures was to inherit a state convention that was  
>>>>>already deeply and systemically invested with the care of pastors  
>>>>>in numerous ways. Previous convention leadership secured a leader  
>>>>>and counseling team that is contracted with the state to provide

>>>>counseling related services to the church leaders, but the matters  
>>>>remain completely confidential. They have earned a deep trust by  
>>>>our leaders and a part of our overall care and support system we  
>>>>provide for pastors.

>>>>

>>>> I am pleased that in the midst of declining resources over the  
>>>> last 8 years, this Network continued to invest resources and have  
>>>> multiple intentional methods of encouraging pastors in the  
>>>> difficult frontline work of pastoring or church starting. Thank  
>>>> you for this additional tool.

>>>>

>>>> Blessings!

>>>> Will

>>>>

>>>>

>>>>

>>>>

>>>>

>>>> Will McRaney, PhD

>>>> Exec. Missional Strategist

>>>> 410-290-5290 ext. 202

>>>>

>>>> [cid:F48D8516-7906-4357-9C0B-29494AA33AA3]

>>

**From:** Davis, Steve  
**Sent:** Monday, June 1, 2015 3:55 PM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin  
**Subject:** Re: Pastoral Care Line

Yup.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jun 1, 2015, at 3:33 PM, Ezell, Kevin <kezell@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>

> Looking better

>

> Leave the cp dollars at 600,000

>

> We want to be cautious until we know who the new guy will be

>

> Sent from my iPad

>

>> On Jun 1, 2015, at 2:43 PM, "Davis, Steve" <sdavis@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>>

>> Take a look at this. Options - no insurance stipends; only fund three

>> CPCs, instead of four current in 2016. Also, can reduce evangelism

>> dollars, but tried to keep them near what we've been putting in,

>> slightly less. I set the church planting dollars at 600,000, but Jeff

>> had them moving to 700K in 2016 & 2017.

>> .

>>

>>

>>> On 6/1/15, 1:11 PM, "Ezell, Kevin" <kezell@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>>>

>>> Or maybe 50,000 for the one position

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPad

>>>

>>>> On Jun 1, 2015, at 2:07 PM, "Davis, Steve" <sdavis@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Doc,

>>>>

>>>> The original 100% plan was based on people we're not funding

>>>> anymore, so let me re-work that and send it to you as an option if

>>>> Will is gone. We can at least then have a base to look at and can

>>>> make any changes you want.

>>>>

>>>> One suggestion I would have is to set it up where we provide 150K

>>>> for state positions 1, 2 & 3. Fund three CPCs at 100%, and church

>>>> planting and evangelism funds at 100%. In the original plan we had

>>>> set church planting funds at 600K. So I'll re-work this and get it

>>>> to you ASAP, and we can go from there. How's that sound to you?

>>>>

>>>>

>>>>

>>>>> On 6/1/15, 12:20 PM, "Ezell, Kevin" <kezell@NAMB.NET> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Let's look at it again first

>>>>>

>>>>> Can u throw original to me

>>>>>

>>>>> Sent from my iPad

>>>>>

>>>>>> On Jun 1, 2015, at 12:50 PM, "Davis, Steve" <sdavis@NAMB.NET> wrote:

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>>>>>> it might be best to meet with him and his pastors at the

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>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> Will McRaney, PhD  
>>>>>>>>> Exec. Missional Strategist  
>>>>>>>>> 410-290-5290 ext. 202  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> [cid:F48D8516-7906-4357-9C0B-29494AA33AA3]  
>>  
>> <MD.DE 100% Plan new.xlsx>

**From:** Davis, Steve  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015 8:08 AM  
**To:** Smith, Matthew  
**Subject:** Re: MD/DE 100% plan

Can't get anything but better. Lowest point of relationship with NAMB of any Convention ever. All because I if very poor leadership.

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 10, 2015, at 8:03 AM, Smith, Matthew <[msmith@NAMB.NET](mailto:msmith@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

I was surprised to read that. Big news! Hopefully this will improve our relationship with them.

---

**From:** Davis, Steve  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015 8:02 AM  
**To:** Smith, Matthew  
**Subject:** Re: MD/DE 100% plan

Thx. Trying to set up a phone conference this afternoon with their interim exec. The exec resigned yesterday morning.

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 10, 2015, at 7:59 AM, Smith, Matthew <[msmith@NAMB.NET](mailto:msmith@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

We'll take a look this morning.

Thanks,  
Matt

---

**From:** Davis, Steve  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 9, 2015 9:58 PM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin  
**Cc:** Ferrer, Carlos; Little, Nancy; Smith, Matthew  
**Subject:** MD/DE 100% plan

Doc,

I've refigured the 100% plan for MD/DE based on resignation of Will McRaney, and moving forward. The attached represents the essence of our discussions for your review. I will need Nancy and Matt to check my numbers before calling Tom Stolle tomorrow afternoon. Based on the original 2015-2017 budget numbers, which Will rejected, because he said they couldn't match the funds, this new plan would be a savings for NAMB of 61,992. Based on current funding with vacancies, it's a 103,505 increase,

primarily due to 200K increase in church planting funds and 20K increase in development funds. Bottom line, here is what I did:

**100% funding plan for Maryland/Delaware to begin October 1, 2015**

1. NAMB will provide Church planting and evangelism funds at 100%, non-matching.
2. MD/DE Convention absorbs State Positions 2&3 (SDOE & LL) plus benefits.
3. NAMB will provide it's portion of salary/housing & insurance supplemental funds for SDOE & LL
4. NAMB will provide \$50,000 Admin support for State Positions 2 & 3 (SDOE & LL) for 2016 & 2017
5. NAMB will provide insurance stipends in a lump sum in September 2015 for State Positions 2 & 3
6. NAMB will provide supplemental funds for Kim through December 31, 2015, when he retires. I will provide 100% of the cost.
7. NAMB will provide Insurance benefit for Kim until retirement, 12/31/2015.

Total salary/housing for the two state positions (SDOE & LL):

Total insurance stipends for the two state positions (SDOE & LL) for October thru December 2015: \$10,000

Total supplemental funds in a lump sum to provide before end of September 2015: 39,953.

Our total support goes up slightly due to increase in church planting funds, which we need in MD

My only suggestion would be to change the 50K admin for the LL position to the SDOE position, The LL position would only be 49K for them to absorb, and with the savings to the convention: \$

Let me know if you want to make that change.

Also, if these numbers are good, are you OK with me presenting this to Tom Stolle?

Thx, Steve

**From:** Davis, Steve  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 30, 2015 9:35 AM  
**To:** Outlaw, Joe  
**Subject:** FW: 100% salaries

Joe, In the Northeast, the execs all know this information, correct? Also, sometime need to talk with you about MD/DE. Will McRaney resigned. We are working on a anew 100% funding relationship with Md/DE. It would mean reactivating Michael Crawford's application process with NAMB in order to get him approved before the October 1 start date. Also, I have additional salary information on missionaries in MD/DE, that I need to go over with you. Thx, Steve .

Thx, Steve

Dr. Stephen P. Davis

Vice President, Northeast & South Regions

North American Mission Board

4200 North Point Parkway

Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

[REDACTED]

770-410-6519

(Angie Fox, Administrative Assistant)

Aofox@namb.net

Sdavis@namb.net

"Whatever It Takes!"



---

**From:** <Ezell>, Kevin Ezell <[Kezell@namb.net](mailto:Kezell@namb.net)>

**Date:** Thursday, June 25, 2015 at 11:04 AM

**To:** "Bass, Steve" <[sbass@NAMB.NET](mailto:sbass@NAMB.NET)>, Steve Davis <[sdavis@namb.net](mailto:sdavis@namb.net)>, "Frost, Gary" <[gfrost@NAMB.NET](mailto:gfrost@NAMB.NET)>

Cc: Joe Outlaw <[joutlaw@namb.net](mailto:joutlaw@namb.net)>

Subject: 100% salaries

Guys,

Please send each of your state execs what the new complete salary and benefit package is for each of the people in their state.

le Kevin White thought that his SDOM made \$█, it was actually \$█ plus benefits :)

**ONLY FOR THE 100% states**

Thanks

KE

On SBC Today – May 1, 2016

[MD Pastor Responds to Denial Letter re Warren/Ezell](#)

Steve Wolverton 01-05-2016, 20:14

Speaking as a pastor in the Mid Atlantic Baptist Network, I wholeheartedly support Dr. McRaney's allegations and I totally impugn the veracity of this unsigned response to the 'Open Letter of Concern'.

First, the "smoking gun", signed by Dr. Ezell himself, is included in the linked documents posted. His juvenile threats to terminate funds within a year, and sooner if Dr. McRaney, or anyone else in the Network even so much as acted in any way he didn't deem cooperative, are repugnant. This letter is an exemplar for how not to engage in Christian ministry. I found it disheartening and embarrassing and I challenge any Christ Follower to read it without feeling the same. Furthermore, the indictments levied in the letter are false.

Second, the MABN President, Dr. Bill Warren personally told me that Dr. Ezell had convinced him that as long as Dr. McRaney remained the State Executive the funding was at risk. He then told me that he did not feel he could risk losing the funding and potentially losing staff so he did what he felt he had to do. All the while he claimed to love Dr. McRaney. Dr. Warren subsequently stated effectively the same thing to others, including once in my presence to a group of seven.

I believe that good men often do bad things while meaning well. I have never met Dr. Ezell personally but his letter speaks volumes. I know what Dr. Warren told me and I know it is not commensurate with the unsigned letter. There are many other things that I have uncovered in the process of investigating this matter. Even allowing for the most gracious interpretation of events, Dr. McRaney was given an unreasonable two weeks to address a list of invalidated and uncorroborated concerns; he was then terminated in a single board meeting a few days later. There were no legal, ethical, or moral concerns involved. This took place just prior to the 2015 SBC. Hmm.

It is time for repentance, forgiveness, reconciliation, and restoration. When I hear of and see Dr. Ezell tweeting out Proverbs 19:9 "A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish", I could not agree more. Dr. McRaney has told the truth and I stand by him; as do many in the MABN. May God have His way with the other gentlemen; I trust He will and I pray for them daily.

[Reply](#)



**From:** William Warren <WWarren@allenmemorial.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2016 9:12 PM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin  
**Subject:** Re: Truth

Steve is right that I was convinced that we would lose staff and NAMB funds if Will stayed in his position. He is wrong to believe that such a concern was a major factor in the firing of Will. He would also be wrong if he asserted that you verbally pressured or "bullied" me to seek Will's departure.

Had Will exhibited a humble spirit after we confronted him and had he not dismissed the six charges against him as baseless, we would have given him time to work out the mess and just lived with the reduction in NAMB funding that was coming down the pike.

Kevin, I doubt that you would, but please do not share my words with Steve. He will only try to use them against me.

I am praying especially for the Q&A period tomorrow.

Take care, my friend.

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 14, 2016, at 12:57 PM, Ezell, Kevin <[kezell@NAMB.NET](mailto:kezell@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

Just FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[steve@cantonbaptist.net](mailto:steve@cantonbaptist.net)>  
**Date:** June 14, 2016 at 12:39:16 PM EDT  
**To:** <[kezell@NAMB.NET](mailto:kezell@NAMB.NET)>  
**Subject:** Truth

Dr. Ezell,

I don't know you personally though I truly desire to see you as one who would desire to please God. My friend Dr. Will McRaney is telling the truth. You have personally signed a letter of threat to him and I have a copy. I have been personally told by Dr. Warren that he had many conversation with you and was convinced he would lose money and staff as long as Will remained. You were not the only reason. As a matter of fact, I hold the pastors if the MABN Responsible for allowing this to happen and to stand.

The vote yesterday to consider this reviewed and resolved is a sharade. I believe you know this. I am asking you in Jesus' name to do the right thing. Please reach out to Dr. McRaney personally. Meet with him. Talk and pray with him. I pray that the two of you will get on your knees together before God and work this out as examples of what God can do when we humble ourselves and put Him first. Please do this! I'm happy to help in any way I can. Why not so this today? I am praying for you both.

For His glory,  
Steve

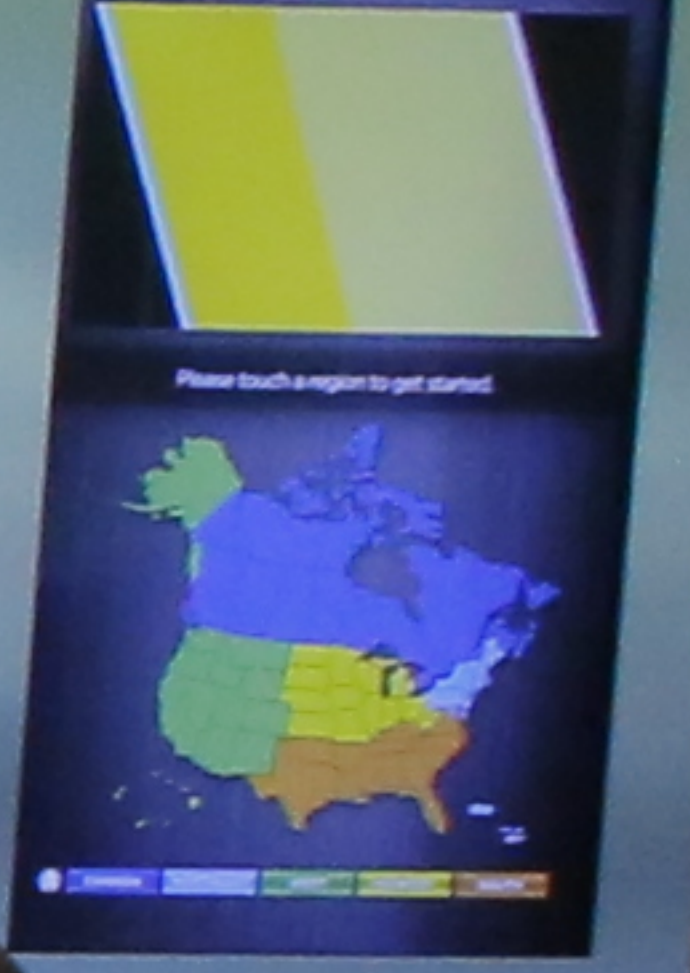


WHATEVER IT TAKES

NORTH AMERICA

NORTH AMERICAN MISSION BOARD

SEND NORTH AMERICA



SEND NORTH AMERICA

ITEM VPJ  
COLOR BLACK

Message

---

**From:** Ebert, Mike [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=002629AA43BE4C008A4891FB39E24039-EBERT, MIKE]  
**Sent:** 5/18/2017 1:16:16 PM  
**To:** Shawn Hendricks [shendricks@sbc.net]  
**CC:** Roger Oldham [soldham@sbc.net]  
**Subject:** NAMB response filing to McRaney lawsuit  
**Attachments:** (003) Answer.pdf; NAMB Statement Re-Answer to McRaney Lawsuit.pdf

Shawn

I have attached a copy of the responsive pleading, "Answer," to the lawsuit Will McRaney filed back in April. It was filed with the court today.

Please don't quote from the below, but I have noted some key things we are saying or doing here:

- McRaney violated the terms of Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) with NAMB
- McRaney refused to keep BCMD commitments to NAMB
- McRaney rejected several offers to meet and discuss differences in a biblical manner
- Despite McRaney's earlier claim that this was not about money, NAMB's filing reveals that McRaney recently demanded more than \$7 million in damages from NAMB.
- NAMB has filed to remove the case from state to Federal Court
- NAMB rejects McRaney claim that he was not given a choice re: new funding model
- NAMB denies it refused to meet with McRaney before his resignation. Correspondence reflects several efforts to meet.
- NAMB is requesting that case be dismissed.

In addition, I have attached a statement from NAMB that you can quote from.

I am available by phone if you or writer wishes to discuss.

Thanks.

Mike Ebert  
Executive Director, Public Relations  
North American Mission Board  
4200 North Point Parkway  
Alpharetta GA 30022  
770-410-6502

Message

---

**From:** Shawn Hendricks [shendricks@sbc.net]  
**Sent:** 5/16/2017 2:31:46 PM  
**To:** Ebert, Mike [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=002629aa43be4c008a4891fb39e24039-Ebert, Mike]  
**Subject:** RE: Checking in

Ok. Thanks Mike.

---

**From:** Ebert, Mike [mailto:mebert@namb.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 16, 2017 2:30 PM  
**To:** Shawn Hendricks  
**Subject:** Re: Checking in

Yes I'm still hearing from our attorney that the plan is to file it sometime Thursday and as soon as it is filed I'll be able to send it to you.

I'm expecting it will be fairly short and not get into a lot of the details. But at least you guys will have it and be able to weigh whether it warrants a story.

Mike E.

---

**From:** Shawn Hendricks <[shendricks@sbc.net](mailto:shendricks@sbc.net)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 3:28 PM  
**To:** Mike Ebert <[mebert@namb.net](mailto:mebert@namb.net)>  
**Subject:** Checking in

Hey Mike,

Wanted to check on NAMB's response to McRaney lawsuit. Any word? If so, when does it look like the statement be ready? Appreciate your help on this. -Shawn

Baptist Press  
Editor  
O: 615-782-8615  
M: 919-818-1380

Message

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**From:** Ferrer, Carlos [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=953B820F48164A888ACDCC50838EB5EB-FERRER, CARLOS]  
**Sent:** 9/18/2018 11:55:54 AM  
**To:** Smith, Matthew [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=37a3d7afd3594c0383d65289fd363cf8-Smith, Matthew]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Dr. Kevin Ezell Executive Protection - SBC Meetings in Nashville  
**Attachments:** 2018-09-17 NAMB - Dr. Kevin Ezell - Executive Protection.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Matt, can you guys please process. Thx

Blessings,  
Carlos

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Timothy Reece <[timothyreeceinvestigations@gmail.com](mailto:timothyreeceinvestigations@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** September 18, 2018 at 12:40:33 PM EDT  
**To:** "Ferrer, Carlos" <[cferrer@namb.net](mailto:cferrer@namb.net)>  
**Subject:** **Dr. Kevin Ezell Executive Protection - SBC Meetings in Nashville**

Mr. Ferrer,

Thank you again for your confidence in me for this assignment. I pray this gets resolved soon and you, Kevin, and NAMB can stop worrying about this guy. Until then, please let me know if I can help you in the future.

Attached is my invoice. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Also, I think you would have made an excellent Special Agent!

Tim

**Timothy M. Reece, CPA**  
Timothy Reece Investigations  
615/756-8886  
1050 Glenbrook Way  
Suite 480-177  
Hendersonville, TN 37075  
[TimothyReeceInvestigations@gmail.com](mailto:TimothyReeceInvestigations@gmail.com)



Message

**From:** Ezell, Kevin [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D8AA558B79C742B1B521956CD2B000EE-EZELL, KEVIN]  
**Sent:** 9/17/2018 7:13:41 AM  
**To:** Pastor Rolland Slade [pastor@meridianbaptist.com]  
**Subject:** Re: Appreciation and Apology

Thanks so much for your email Rolland. This has been exhausting to deal with. The entire attachment is complete lies. I've never offered money to any state Convention for any input. So sad

I'm grateful for your friendship brother

Kevin

On Sep 17, 2018, at 1:06 AM, Pastor Rolland Slade <[pastor@meridianbaptist.com](mailto:pastor@meridianbaptist.com)> wrote:

Kevin,

I want to know that I appreciate your leadership at NAMB and the swift response to our brothers and sister in North and South Carolina. I have family that evacuate from Fayetteville, NC on Thursday.

I also want to apologize to you for the Will McRaney message. I HAVE NOT and DO NOT support his actions in anyway and am NOT a member of any groups, factions and/or EC members that is trying in anyway to reform NAMB or criticize your leadership. I am blessed to have had the opportunity of serving on the NAMB staff for eight years (5 in California and 3 Nationally). My offer was to simply pray for him.

Blessings,  
Rolland

P.S. Thank you for putting me in touch with Mark Clifton. He has been a blessing to me and Meridian Church. Look forward to seeing you tomorrow in Nashville.

--

Rev. Rolland E. Slade  
Lead Pastor

Meridian Baptist Church  
660 S. Third Street, El Cajon CA 92019

[www.meridianbaptist.com](http://www.meridianbaptist.com)

2018: The Year to Engage GOD (through Prayer, His Word and Worship), Gospel Conversations and Generosity.



Message

**From:** kezell@namb.net [kezell@namb.net]  
**Sent:** 2/10/2019 1:17:35 PM  
**To:** Tommy Green [Tommy.Green@flbaptist.org]  
**Subject:** Re: How Now Shall We Live?: NAMB President's past choices and current threats

Thx  
Geesesh

Pure lies  
So sad

On Feb 10, 2019, at 2:12 PM, Tommy Green <[Tommy.Green@flbaptist.org](mailto:Tommy.Green@flbaptist.org)> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Will McRaney <[will@willmcraney.com](mailto:will@willmcraney.com)>  
**Date:** February 10, 2019 at 12:22:27 PM EST  
**To:** [jrash@thealabamabaptist.org](mailto:jrash@thealabamabaptist.org), [elizabeth@azsbc.org](mailto:elizabeth@azsbc.org), [tim@arkansasbaptist.org](mailto:tim@arkansasbaptist.org), [tbarone@csbc.com](mailto:tbarone@csbc.com), [medlund@cbgc.org](mailto:medlund@cbgc.org), [Mark.MacDonald@flbaptist.org](mailto:Mark.MacDonald@flbaptist.org), [sbarkley@gabaptist.org](mailto:sbarkley@gabaptist.org), [ericreed@ibsa.org](mailto:ericreed@ibsa.org), [smcneil@scbi.org](mailto:smcneil@scbi.org), [tboyd@kncsb.org](mailto:tboyd@kncsb.org), [Todd.deaton@westernrecorder.org](mailto:Todd.deaton@westernrecorder.org), [editor@baptistmessage.com](mailto:editor@baptistmessage.com), [radavis@bcm�.org](mailto:radavis@bcm�.org), [davidwilliams@compuserve.com](mailto:davidwilliams@compuserve.com), [wperkins@wperkins@mcb.org](mailto:wperkins@wperkins@mcb.org), [dhinkle@mobaptist.org](mailto:dhinkle@mobaptist.org), [dcampbell@nbcbsbc.org](mailto:dcampbell@nbcbsbc.org), [kparker@bcnm.com](mailto:kparker@bcnm.com), [troberson@bcnysbc.org](mailto:troberson@bcnysbc.org), [allan@BRnow.org](mailto:allan@BRnow.org), [bhobbs@okbaptist.net](mailto:bhobbs@okbaptist.net), [cameron@nwbaptist.org](mailto:cameron@nwbaptist.org), Baker Shannon and Larry <[shannonbaker1313@gmail.com](mailto:shannonbaker1313@gmail.com)>, [rgray@baptistcourier.com](mailto:rgray@baptistcourier.com), [lwilkey@tnbaptist.org](mailto:lwilkey@tnbaptist.org), [ric.black@baptiststandard.com](mailto:ric.black@baptiststandard.com), [gledbetter@sbtxas.com](mailto:gledbetter@sbtxas.com), [bpickett@sbcv.org](mailto:bpickett@sbcv.org), [cleve@wvcsb.org](mailto:cleve@wvcsb.org), Allen Bob <[Bob@baptistnews.com](mailto:Bob@baptistnews.com)>, [bterry@thealabamabaptist.org](mailto:bterry@thealabamabaptist.org), [gharris@christianindex.org](mailto:gharris@christianindex.org)  
**Cc:** [rlance@alsbom.org](mailto:rlance@alsbom.org), [randy@alaskabaptistconvention.com](mailto:randy@alaskabaptistconvention.com), [davidjohnson@azsobaptist.org](mailto:davidjohnson@azsobaptist.org), Tucker Sonny <[stucker@absc.org](mailto:stucker@absc.org)>, Agee Bill <[bagee@csbc.com](mailto:bagee@csbc.com)>, Gerald Taillon <[gtailon@cnbc.ca](mailto:gtailon@cnbc.ca)>, [nlorick@coloradobaptists.org](mailto:nlorick@coloradobaptists.org), Garvon Golden <[garvon@dakotabaptist.com](mailto:garvon@dakotabaptist.com)>, Tommy Green <[tgreen@flbaptist.org](mailto:tgreen@flbaptist.org)>, [thammond@gabaptist.org](mailto:thammond@gabaptist.org), Martin Chris <[chris@hpbaptist.net](mailto:chris@hpbaptist.net)>, Nate Adams <[nateadams@ibsa.org](mailto:nateadams@ibsa.org)>, [smcneil@scbi.org](mailto:smcneil@scbi.org), [tlubinus@bc Iowa.org](mailto:tlubinus@bc Iowa.org), Mills Bob <[bmills@kncsb.org](mailto:bmills@kncsb.org)>, Hankins David <[david.hankins@lbc.org](mailto:david.hankins@lbc.org)>, [ksmith@bcm�.org](mailto:ksmith@bcm�.org), [tim@bscm.org](mailto:tim@bscm.org), Endel Leo <[endel@mwbc.org](mailto:endel@mwbc.org)>, Futral Jim <[jfutral@mcb.org](mailto:jfutral@mcb.org)>, [jyeats@mobaptist.org](mailto:jyeats@mobaptist.org), Duke Barrett <[bduke@mtsb.org](mailto:bduke@mtsb.org)>, White Kevin <[kwhite@nbcbsbc.org](mailto:kwhite@nbcbsbc.org)>, [tdorsett@bcne.net](mailto:tdorsett@bcne.net), Joseph Bunce <[jbunce@bcnm.com](mailto:jbunce@bcnm.com)>, [troberson@bcnysbc.org](mailto:troberson@bcnysbc.org), Hollifield Milton <[mhollifield@ncbaptist.org](mailto:mhollifield@ncbaptist.org)>, Randy Adams <[radams@nwbaptist.org](mailto:radams@nwbaptist.org)>, JackKwok@scbo.org, [hdilbeck@bgco.org](mailto:hdilbeck@bgco.org), [bwhitworth@brnonline.org](mailto:bwhitworth@brnonline.org), [garyhollingsworth@scbaptist.org](mailto:garyhollingsworth@scbaptist.org), Davis Randy <[rdavis@tnbaptist.org](mailto:rdavis@tnbaptist.org)>, Hardage David <[david.hardage@texasbaptists.org](mailto:david.hardage@texasbaptists.org)>, Richards Jim <[jrichards@sbtxas.com](mailto:jrichards@sbtxas.com)>, Rob Lee <[rlcc@uisbc.org](mailto:rlcc@uisbc.org)>, Autry Brian <[bautry@sbcv.org](mailto:bautry@sbcv.org)>, [john.upton@vbmb.org](mailto:john.upton@vbmb.org), [billhenard@wvcsb.org](mailto:billhenard@wvcsb.org), [quin@wyomingsbc.org](mailto:quin@wyomingsbc.org), Augie Boto <[aboto@sbc.net](mailto:aboto@sbc.net)>, Stone Mike

<[mike@ebchurch.net](mailto:mike@ebchurch.net)>, Slade Rolland <[pastor@meridianbaptist.com](mailto:pastor@meridianbaptist.com)>, Oldham Sing <[soldham@sbc.net](mailto:soldham@sbc.net)>, Shawn Hendricks <[shendricks@sbc.net](mailto:shendricks@sbc.net)>, Toalston Art <[atoalston@sbc.net](mailto:atoalston@sbc.net)>, David Roach <[droach@sbc.net](mailto:droach@sbc.net)>, [reformNAMBnow@gmail.com](mailto:reformNAMBnow@gmail.com)

**Subject: How Now Shall We Live?: NAMB President's past choices and current threats**

Journalists,

I read late last night the Houston Chronicle story on sexual misconduct in the SBC after receiving advance notice of its publication. Because sexual misconduct from clergy has impacted my own family of origin, I am particularly sensitive to this subject. As well, I have 33 years serving SBC churches and the denomination as a pastor, church planter, 11 year professor, consultant, denominational leader etc. Like you, I am concerned on multiple levels.

**A friend and former colleague of yours, Joni Hannigan** has her own experience of sexual assault involving a Baptist deacon. On June 10, 2018 prior to the SBC in Dallas, she shared “My Own #MeToo Story and How Southern Baptist Should Do More”. In a subsequent article on June 26, 2018 she analyzed the newly SBC adopted Resolution on Abuse. Interestingly, Resolutions Committee Chairman Jason Deusing clarified by interview that the Resolution’s Committee did not intend to provide an “Exception Clause” in the resolution for clergy/penitent privilege. So, in Joni Hannigan’s analysis, she included 5 sentences recounting the choices of NAMB President Ezell to not testify in a child molestation case and not inform his church while he served as pastor at Highview. Her story does not end there, but provokes Ezell (through Ebert) to accuse Mrs. Hannigan via private text of lying and in the “strongest possible way to remove what you (she) have posted about Kevin”.

WOW! Not only does she have her own #MeToo story, but now she has been victimized once again. This time with the full force of the North American Mission Board. Ezell threatened Mrs. Hannigan for reporting documented facts about his choice to not help the prosecution with his testimony in a child molestation case. The “Menacing Message” comes to her through NAMB PR Director Mike Ebert.

In NAMB’s first communication with her, she is both accused of being a liar and threatened by the power and resources of NAMB with what would be a costly lawsuit defending herself over false libel claims by Ezell. Is what happened to Joni Hannigan why most SBC journalists and reports reflect more public relations and branding, than the telling of the real facts. No one wants to be attacked like Mrs. Hannigan. **Is there an unwritten law out there somewhere to only print good stuff about the “cool” kids?**

Ezell told the *Louisville Courier-Journal* that “the leaders of the congregation (one of the largest in the state) did not plan to tell members of the congregation about the predator’s arrest or conviction.” Who is to protect the children, advocate for justice, and demand truth if not those entrusted with leadership (including journalists & trustees)? Choices were made in favor of perpetrators over justice for the victims. Choices were made to protect the image and branding of a pastor and the church over trusting the painful truths to a

congregation. Parents of all the children deserved to have their spiritual leaders tell them the truth, even hard truths.

This is a character flaw, not an isolated misstep. I have firsthand experience as do others. Most of you saw this type of behavior last year in the State Editor's meeting when Ezell made reckless false accusations against LA Message editor Will Hall. You likely know of other similar behaviors. This bullying and threatening behavior using SBC Mission dollars is reproachable.

**Who will speak to protect the victimized children and their parents or for the twice victimized Joni Hannigan?**

Victims deserve more than additional victimization through silence. Wolfgang Gerlach quotes Lutheran minister and early Nazi supporter Martin Neimoller's famous remarks in *The Confessing Church and the Jews*, regarding the Nazis.

First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out – because I was not a socialist.

Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out – because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out – because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me – and there was no one left to speak for me.

You can make a difference. You owe it to Joni Hannigan and she will talk with you. You owe it to Southern Baptists and even yourselves as journalists. I trust Southern Baptists will hear from their journalists, not have to wait on the Houston Chronicle or other secular newspaper. Truth, not silence and cover-up, sets us free AND can make a difference for the future.

In light of the #MeToo movement, greater awareness of misconduct, and biblical commands to speak the truth in love, silence cannot be the order of the day, any day and for any leader. There is not an **Entity Head Privilege**, no more than there is a **Senior Pastor Privilege**.

Joni courageously shared. Ezell responded with a repulsive, graceless cowardly threat. What will you do?

Speak the truth boldly AND call for the immediate voiding of all Non-disparagement clauses in agreements by NAMB and across the SBC.

Will McRaney

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**Summary, Related Links, Summary Points, and Related Questions**

**Summary Statement:** Experienced female SBC journalist, who is sexual abuse victim by a SBC deacon, now has to deal with being called a liar in a secret threat

from an SBC entity head and his PR director, while she is under employed in journalism and underused as journalist for telling the truth.

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**RELATED LINKS...**

Below are the links to articles with facts. [Joni is willing to talk with a reporter if they would like to talk with her.](#)

**1. Joni Hannigan tells her own story of being abused by a Baptist deacon**

<https://truthisincrisis.wordpress.com/2018/06/10/the-metoo-movement-deserves-more-than-the-sbc/>

**2. Then Hannigan raises concerns for MeToo in SBC, with 5 sentences about Ezell and clergy/penitent privilege and telling reporter(s) that he would not be telling his church about these matters of molestation by a church member.**

<https://truthisincrisis.wordpress.com/2018/06/26/news-analysis-was-sbc-metoo-resolution-on-abuse-a-band-aid-for-larger-issues/>

**3. Then Ezell's spokesman (PR - Mike Ebert) threatens Hannigan with a costly lawsuit of libel and asked her in the strongest possible terms to remove what she reported on Ezell.**

<https://truthisincrisis.wordpress.com/2019/02/03/a-menacing-message/>

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**Summary Points...** (from Original and *Current links to related articles to support the summary*)

- A top denominational entity leader once CHOSE to NOT help prosecution with his testimony in a child molestation case involving one of his church members. When subpoenaed by the courts, he CHOSE to successfully exercise the clergy penitent privilege.
- Perpetrator and child molester pled innocent when current entity leader (former pastor at that time) did not testify, but was charged by grand jury and later pled guilty to 10 felonies involving 7 men who were boys at the time of their molestation.
- A highly respected SBC female journalist was sexually assaulted by a Baptist deacon some years ago. She published part of her story on this on June 10, 2018.
- In a June 26, 2018 story she published an article about the SBC and the MeToo movement. She had 5 sentences about the entity leader's refusal to testify as reported in Louisville papers in 2003 and 2004, a bare bones summary, and reports that the pastor had chosen to NOT inform his congregation on these matters.
  - Subsequent to her publication, the female journalist was threatened (called a liar) by the name entity and its PR Director. WHY?
- Some six or seven months later she published the actual text where she was threatened with libel (accused of lying) and asked "in the strongest way possible to remove what you have posted about (entity head), which was an additional red flag.

- To date, she nor I are aware of Baptist Press or State Baptist press writing on the entity head's CHOICE to not protect a woman, but instead threaten her and sought to censor her writings. Nor is there an article on why the entity head CHOSE as a pastor to not inform his congregation. OR why in the entity's first communication with the female journalist, that she was accused of lying and threatened with a costly legal battle defending the false claim of libel instead of a professional and appropriate response to her?
- 

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**Multiple questions arise, among them...**

1. Why did the former pastor of a mega church and current entity head CHOOSE to not testify under court subpoena and CHOOSE to exercise clergy penitent privilege?
2. Should a pastor's unquestioned priority be to the abused children or former children as victims and their families or is their priority the abusing church member even if he has demonstrated repentance?
3. Did the law REQUIRE him to not testify or did he in fact CHOOSE to not testify? Could he have lawfully refused to exercise clergy / penitent privilege? Could he have testified if he wanted to?
4. If the current entity did not have anything relevant to share with grand jury, why would he need to have exercised clergy/penitent privilege?
5. Since the entity leader is responsible for the training of SBC church planters, is the path he took the path he would encourage church planters to take when faced with similar decisions? Is he training pastors/planters to be silent and then attack the tellers of truth in matters of sexual misconduct?
6. Do church members and parents have the right to know and does a Pastor have the responsibility to share the public matters related to the child molestation, the legally alleged abuse by a church member, and then the guilty verdict?
7. Does the entity head recommend threatening a female journalist with libel for telling unwanted truths, when she has been sexually assaulted, instead of protecting her? Why did he CHOOSE to damage her instead of protecting her?

Message

**From:** Jonathan Howe [jhowe@sbc.net]  
**Sent:** 12/3/2020 7:33:15 AM  
**To:** Ebert, Mike [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=002629aa43be4c008a4891fb39e24039-Ebert, Mike]; George Schroeder [gschroeder@sbc.net]  
**Subject:** Re: Statement in yesterday's article  
**Attachments:** image001.png

Caution: This email originated from outside of NAMB. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

I understand. I wasn't a fan of that quote. Sorry if that creates issues. We'll look to address it in the future as we have the opportunity.

-----  
Jonathan P. Howe

SBC Executive Committee  
Vice President for Communications  
901 Commerce Street  
Nashville, TN 37203  
Twitter: @Jonathan\_Howe  
Phone: 615-782-8645

From: "Ebert, Mike" <mebert@namb.net>  
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 7:29 AM  
To: Jonathan Howe <jhowe@sbc.net>, George Schroeder <gschroeder@sbc.net>  
Subject: Statement in yesterday's article

Jonathan

Thank you for your thorough work on yesterday's article and for how carefully you and George have been navigating this issue.

I know you have no control over what the plaintiff says in his statements, but since the one in yesterday's story said "The NAMB trustees have refused to make Ezell meet with me or give an account under cross examination," I wanted to mention our efforts to resolve this outside the courts, in case you receive questions from your readers, EC members or others:

\* Starting before he filed the lawsuit against NAMB, NAMB tried on several occasions to meet with him to seek a Biblical resolution outside secular courts. When NAMB filed its formal response to McRaney's lawsuit, it stated<<https://www.baptistpress.com/resource-library/news/namb-responds-to-mcraney-lawsuit/>>, "After [McRaney] rejected or ignored several offers to meet and discuss these matters biblically, we regret that Dr. McRaney has chosen to involve the courts, however, since he has chosen this venue, we will be good stewards of NAMB's resources and defend the case vigorously."

\* Since he filed his lawsuit, NAMB representatives have met personally with Will McRaney twice. NAMB has stated<<https://www.baptistpress.com/resource-library/news/namb-defends-lawsuit-dismissal-in-appeals-court/>> very clearly, "Board representatives have met with Dr. McRaney to seek resolution, and we continue praying for him."

Again, I understand you are not responsible for what he says in his statements, but since he has consistently tried to give the impression that NAMB is unwilling to work with him, I wanted you to have these examples handy if you need them.

Thanks!

[North American Mission Board]<<http://www.namb.net/>>

Mike Ebert

Executive Director, Public Relations, Office of the President

North American Mission Board

4200 North Point Pkwy.

Alpharetta, GA 30022

770.410.6502

NAMB.net<<http://www.namb.net/>>

Message

**From:** Dr. Al Brodbent [PastorCounselor@live.com]  
**Sent:** 7/10/2020 2:33:11 PM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d8aa558b79c742b1b521956cd2b000ee-Ezell, Kevin]  
**Subject:** RE: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of NAMB. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

I know what you are going through. I went through this in my case. The Ex Dir of our state convention whispered some vicious lies and no one he told would repeat them to me. Finally, when they filed suit, I was going to subpoena a DOM who had spread them. When he found out he resigned his position and went to Thailand so he couldn't be subpoenaed. It was a disaster and after 7 years the judge threw it out. Hopefully someday I will be able to get my church back. Appreciate your fortitude and remember: "Never doubt in the dark what God has revealed to you in the light". Pastor al

---

**From:** Ezell, Kevin <kezell@namb.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 12:23 PM  
**To:** Dr. Al Brodbent <PastorCounselor@live.com>  
**Cc:** Ebert, Mike <mebert@namb.net>  
**Subject:** Re: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Thank you so much Bro. Al. All of his assertions are untrue. Simply never happened. It has been exhausting over the last five years to have him do this, but we move on. So grateful for your heart and desire to serve. Appreciate your continued prayers. You are a blessing.

Kevin



**Kevin Ezell**  
*President*  
North American Mission Board  
[770.410.6518](tel:770.410.6518)  
[NAMB.net](http://NAMB.net)

On Jul 10, 2020, at 11:03 AM, Dr. Al Brodbent <[PastorCounselor@live.com](mailto:PastorCounselor@live.com)> wrote:

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of NAMB. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

The response I got from Rev. McRaney was: "**The statement was made when KE and David Platt had young pastors in the NAMB offices. He made them leave their phones outside. He made the sign they would not tweet or post on social media. So as sad as it is, I have no reason to believe it did not happen. Ezell is filled with arrogance and selfish ambition. James 3:15 - leads to all manner of evil Maybe you will contact Platt and ask him if it happened in his presence. If you ask Ezell, then ask him to send his sworn answer to you in writing.**"



To wit I replied: "the question I had is who is the source of your information. If I print a statement about what you did I will give the source. If asked about it I won't tell them to call a 3rd. party. can you not see what is wrong with making statements and not giving sources telling them to talk to a 3rd. party? praying for you pastor al."

I won't be communicating any more on this subject as I get upset over these kind of accusations without documentation. That is exactly what I went through here. Yours In Christ, *pastor al*

---

**From:** Dr. Al Brodbent  
**Sent:** Friday, July 10, 2020 9:07 AM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin <[kezell@namb.net](mailto:kezell@namb.net)>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Recently Will McRaney posted an article about you: "**Reports are that Ezell told young pastors "state conventions suck" and all his problems would be solved with "5 heart attacks" by State Execs. He said Associational DOMS need to "earn theirs".**"

I had enough of unsubstantiated reports. Here is the request and comment I had for him in a personal Facebook message. :

"Need to ask a favor. You know I have no allegiances to either party in this. I believe for what you are saying, to comply with Biblical principles, you should name your source. The accusations as to what Kevin Ezell told young pastors doesn't seem possible for someone in his position. Surely, he would have enough sense not to make these statements to "young pastors". If your comment said he said this during a staff briefing it would be more believable. God Bless. pastor al"

Yours In Christ, *pastor al*

**100% CONFIDENTIAL**

**FACEBOOK: "Pastor Al Brodbent"**

**Skype "PASTORAL911"**

<https://connect.aacc.net/person/691>

**870-208-3820 (24 HOURS)**

**Pastor Al, Pastoral Ministries**

**P.O.Box 525**

**Wynne, AR., 72396**

**3787 Hwy. 1, Cherry Valley, Ar.,72324**

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**DON'T ALLOW SATAN TO DISCOURAGE YOU!**

Message

**From:** Ebert, Mike [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=002629aa43be4c008a4891fb39e24039-Ebert, Mike]  
**Sent:** 4/1/2021 3:57:56 PM  
**To:** Gmail [jamesandbran@gmail.com]  
**Subject:** Re: Many questions

Pastor James

Thank you and I will be happy to fill in any blanks you might have.

Hope you and your church have a wonderful Resurrection Sunday celebration this weekend!



**Mike Ebert**

*Executive Director, Public Relations, Office of the President*  
North American Mission Board  
4200 North Point Pkwy.  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
770.410.6502  
[NAMB.net](http://NAMB.net)

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**From:** Gmail <jamesandbran@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 3:58 PM  
**To:** Mike Ebert <mebert@namb.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Many questions

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of NAMB. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Mike,

Thanks for the quick response. Let me say, anywhere where my summary of questions is being posted, I will be sure to follow up with the answers that are provided. I'm afraid where there is lack of clarity, we will all fill in the blanks with whatever information we have accessible. The questions posed in the article, are merely the collection of public parley feeding the average church member—and and has led many of the faithful to stop giving in my own church altogether. For me, the luxury of not dealing with these issues directly is long gone.

As I get a chance to go through your responses, I'm sure I will have some follow-up questions for you as well (unless you would have me pose them elsewhere). As far as I'm concerned you are brothers in Christ. In the long run, my priority is to ensure the SBC continues the tradition of fidelity to the Christ and His word, expressed in fierce evangelism and church planting together so we preserve the things that have made our convention distinct and great. I'm sure that is your desire as well.

Blessings,  
James Biesiadecki

Would you prefer that I give those directly to you, or se

On Apr 1, 2021, at 12:11 PM, Ebert, Mike <mebert@namb.net> wrote:

Dear Pastor Biesiadecki:

Our trustee officers have asked me to send this response to your recent email.

We are grateful for the partnership and support of First Baptist Church Bartlesville throughout the years. Thank you for all you and your church do to advance the Kingdom of Christ throughout North America.

Thank you, as well, for getting in touch with us regarding some of the misinformation and rumors that are currently on the internet and elsewhere regarding these issues. We appreciate the opportunity to correct these inaccuracies.

*Women pastors at church plants* — I am attaching our background document that details where we stand on the issue of women pastors.

*Echo Church* — We have ended our partnership with Echo church. If any church in good standing with the SBC wants to pray, participate or provide for a church plant, they can do so. When we become aware of an issue of concern, as was the case with Echo, we do everything we can to address it as quickly as possible.

*McRaney lawsuit* — While we are limited in our public comments due to Will McRaney's ongoing lawsuit against our ministry, we have shared some information publicly over recent years. It is important to note the **Dr. McRaney filed the lawsuit** after having demanded that NAMB pay him more than [\\$7.7 million](#). Before Dr. McRaney filed the lawsuit against NAMB, NAMB tried on several occasions to meet with him to seek a Biblical resolution outside secular courts. [This story](#) outlines our efforts to meet with him and [this story](#) notes that members of our Board have met with him twice to seek resolution.

Your blog post also asks, *"If this behavior is true, how has it been addressed by either NAMB leadership, or the trustees of NAMB?"* It is not true, and NAMB has [consistently denied](#) all the allegations leveled against it by Will McRaney.

In December 2020, Danny de Armas, chairman of NAMB's Board of Trustees, shared a letter explaining why NAMB chose to appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court. I have attached the letter.

*State convention relationships* — You asked a series of three questions:

*Has NAMB tried leveraging control or attempted to leverage control over state conventions as is being alleged?* No, NAMB has never claimed nor tried to assert "control" over a state convention.

*What is NAMB currently doing to resolve the perception of this conflict between state convention leadership?* There are several important notes here:

- NAMB prioritize relationships with our state convention partners and out of 41 state conventions, our relationship is good with all but two or three.
- Our president has met with most state convention leaders since last fall to discuss partnership.
- We are currently hosting Send Network Summits with leaders throughout all of the non-South state conventions.

- Our president and trustee officers participated in the SBC Executive Committee's meetings involving NAMB and state conventions.

*Has NAMB leadership or trustees heard and considered recommendations from the Executive Committee of the SBC ...* Yes. Our president and NAMB's trustee officers participated in the meetings. Our trustees received and discussed the SBC Executive Committee's "Cooperation is the Way Forward" document and responded with a unanimous resolution affirming the Executive Committee's document. I have attached that resolution.

We hope these answers address any concerns you may have and that you will be able to update your blog post to reflect them. If concerns remain, please give us the opportunity to put them to rest.

Thank you again for your partnership and support for missions in North America.

Sincerely in Christ,

Mike Ebert

[<image001.png>](#)

**Mike Ebert**

*Executive Director, Public Relations, Office of the President*  
North American Mission Board  
4200 North Point Pkwy.  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
770.410.6502  
[NAMB.net](http://NAMB.net)

**From:** Gmail [<jamesandbran@gmail.com>](mailto:jamesandbran@gmail.com)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 5:18:39 PM

**To:** Trustee [<trustee@namb.net>](mailto:trustee@namb.net)

**Subject:** Many questions

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of NAMB. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

I am writing an article for several Oklahoma churches that is collecting the many questions online from different sources. Some of them clearly have a bone to pick, some of them are asking sincere questions. Regardless of the source, these are the questions church members are asking me. So, I am asking if there is someplace these questions have been answered, or if someone would provide answers, I will publish those in the series of articles that will follow this. I'd be happy to answer any questions you have of me in the process.

<https://conservativebaptist.substack.com/p/annie-weeps-part-1-questions-namb>

Blessings,  
James Biesiadecki  
Pastor, First Baptist Church Bartlesville, OK

Message

**From:** Ezell, Kevin [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D8AA558B79C742B1B521956CD2B000EE-EZELL, KEVIN]  
**Sent:** 2/19/2021 5:11:51 PM  
**To:** Randy Davis [rdavis@tnbaptist.org]  
**CC:** McCallum, George [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df9c905bb4c14348b56a20450cdf6e57-McCallum, G]  
**Subject:** Re: Does the Church Autonomy Doctrine Bar Courts from Hearing Tort Actions Arising from the Church-Minister Employment Relationship? | The Federalist Society

**That is 100% inaccurate.**

**The employment relationship at issue is McRaney-BCMD, and NAMB has never once claimed otherwise.**

Our attorney will send something I can forward to you tonight

Continuous lies by mcraney and Randy Adams Doesn't seem to end

Thx for sending

KE

On Feb 19, 2021, at 5:42 PM, Randy Davis <rdavis@tnbaptist.org> wrote:

Caution: This email originated from outside of NAMB. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Kevin,

I hope I am viewed as an encourager to you. So please take this from someone NOT on the "kill SBC" band wagon.

I still have a good bit of learning on this issue, but it can be interpreted that your attorneys are attempting to make the case that McRaney was somewhat an employee of NAMB.

Is that how it is being interpreted to you?

If so, this is a dangerous position on many fronts.

I desire to help, not hurt. This for me is about a principle.

<https://fedsoc.org/commentary/fedsoc-blog/does-the-church-autonomy-doctrine-bar-courts-from-hearing-tort-actions-arising-from-the-church-minister-employment-relationship>

Randy C. Davis  
President & Executive Director  
Tennessee Baptist Mission Board

Message

**From:** Ebert, Mike [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=002629AA43BE4C008A4891FB39E24039-EBERT, MIKE]  
**Sent:** 4/26/2021 1:14:04 PM  
**To:** Dennis Wylie [wylidennis@ymail.com]  
**Subject:** Re: lawsuit

Hello Brother Dennis:

First, thank you for your leadership, support and involvement in the SBC throughout the years.

We are limited in what we can say since this is ongoing litigation, but here is some information I hope will be helpful.

Will McRaney filed a lawsuit against NAMB on April 7, 2017, after having demanded that NAMB pay him more than [\\$7.7 million](#).

Before Dr. McRaney filed the lawsuit, we tried on several occasions to meet with him to seek a Biblical resolution. We have met with him twice since he filed suit to try to resolve things. Those efforts are mentioned in [this article](#). Our Board of Trustees chairman at the time said this: *"Board representatives have met with Dr. McRaney to seek resolution, and we continue praying for him."*

We have consistently denied Dr. McRaney's accusations, but we must continue defending the case because Dr. McRaney is the only one who can drop it since he filed it.

Please let me know if I can provide further details.

Blessings,



**Mike Ebert**

*Executive Director, Public Relations, Office of the President*  
North American Mission Board  
4200 North Point Pkwy.  
Alpharetta, GA 30022  
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[NAMB.net](http://NAMB.net)

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**From:** Dennis Wylie <wylidennis@ymail.com>  
**Date:** Friday, April 23, 2021 at 11:29 AM  
**To:** Mike Ebert <mebert@namb.net>  
**Subject:** lawsuit

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of NAMB. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello,

I was informed you would answer my question. Before the question I will admit I am a memebe rof a SBC church, been licensed to preach gospel for 30 yrs and in ministry. Ordained in 2001. Graduate of a Baptistst College. I have been out of loop at association levels for some time as I am not happy with direction of sbc as is within their own battles of Soteriology and polities.

My salary as church planter was portion funded by NAMB for a couple years. I have supported NAMB and other missions wholeheartedly. Co OP giving withing sbc is only thing kept me really.

Now I read a public article about a lawsuit. NAMB vs SBC and soe of its leaders. I stopped reading. I dint want the aithors take on it.

Is it true NAMB is suing? What is reasoning? What is hope to accomplish? Do you think it is biblical to take public court action?

Happily His,  
Dennis J Wylie



Message

**From:** Ebert, Mike [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=002629aa43be4c008a4891fb39e24039-Ebert, Mike]  
**Sent:** 4/8/2021 2:23:56 PM  
**To:** broddonaldson@att.net  
**Subject:** Legal case background  
**Attachments:** NAMB\_Letter from Danny de Armas.pdf

Pastor Donaldson

It was good talking to you this afternoon.

As I mentioned, I'm sharing a few links that include some of what we have shared publicly on the legal case.

- [This Baptist Press story](#) includes a statement from Maryland-Delaware Convention leaders stating that NAMB did not cause the dismissal of Dr. McRaney: *The BCMD added, "Any suggestion that the North American Mission Board (NAMB) or any of its officers influenced the separation of Dr. McRaney's employment from the [BCMD] is false. While the [BCMD] continues to collaboratively work with NAMB to further our joint missions, all matters pertaining to BCMD] personnel are governed solely by the policies and procedures established by the [BCMD]."*
- As I mentioned, NAMB has never filed or said anything in court that conflicts with SBC autonomy. [This story, 12 paragraphs down](#), reflects that. NAMB has consistently [affirmed](#), "NAMB has never asserted — through its defenses in this lawsuit or otherwise — that it has authority or 'hierarchical' control over any SBC church, association, convention, or other entity. NAMB firmly believes in and supports autonomy and congregational cooperation in the SBC, which is grounded in our theology." Instead, NAMB is [defending](#) the First Amendment "right of religious organizations to decide matters of church governance and leadership."
- First Liberty, the largest religious liberties law firm in the nation, is defending NAMB free of charge. This press release from them explains what is at stake in the case: <https://firstliberty.org/media/southern-baptist-ministry-urges-federal-court-to-protect-freedom-over-matters-of-internal-religious-governance-and-leadership/>
- As I mentioned on phone, before he filed the lawsuit against us, Dr. McRaney rejected or ignored several offers we made to discuss matters biblically. Since the lawsuit we have met with him twice to try to seek the same.
- I have attached a letter from our Board of Trustee chairman from December 2020 in which he explains why we are appealing the case.

Please let me know if there is anything you would like to follow up on after looking at these.

Blessings,



**Mike Ebert**

*Executive Director, Public Relations, Office  
of the President*

North American Mission Board

4200 North Point Pkwy.

Alpharetta, GA 30022

770.410.6502

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Message

**From:** Ezell, Kevin [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D8AA558B79C742B1B521956CD2B000EE-EZELL, KEVIN]  
**Sent:** 7/20/2020 10:41:06 AM  
**To:** Dusty McLemore [dusty@lindsaylane.org]; rogerpaulfreeman@gmail.com; Marty Jacumin [mjacumin@me.com]; Law, Jim [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3e4ce4b32bcf42e1aa1500fd68ced3f8-Law, Jim]  
**CC:** Ferrer, Carlos [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=953b820f48164a888acdcc50838eb5eb-Ferrer, Carlos]  
**Subject:** State Agreements

Hey guys

Hope you had a good weekend. Jim mentioned that some of the states may have questions regarding our state agreements.

Grateful for you bouncing that question our way, please NEVER hesitate to let us know. One of the primary reasons we want you to have your ear to the ground.

- 1) Our agreements with the south states are not changing at all. Fulling funding their \$300,000 grant, etc.
- 2) Don't listen to McRaney videos 😏 10% fact and 90% bull
- 3) Please let us know if you hear anything at all. It's always best if we can get the truth out there as fast as we can. So sad we have to  
Spend time countering such lies and purposeful distractions.

Grateful for each of you and your friendship. A blessing to do this together .

Kevin



**Kevin Ezell**

*President*

North American Mission Board

770.410.6518

[NAMB.net](http://NAMB.net)

**From:** [William Warren](#)  
**To:** [Will McRaney](#)  
**Subject:** Email from Ezell  
**Date:** Friday, December 5, 2014 9:33:49 AM

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Bro. Bill,

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. We both are having to spend way too much time on this.

I wanted to give you a summary of what we would like to discuss and correct as a result of this meeting.

We are open to discuss other issues Will may have, only after the issues below are discussed and resolved.

Will is Maryland/Delaware's issue, we aren't trying to fix that. We simply need you to assist him in

understanding the need to abide by the stated agreement. Thanks again for your gracious investment of

time and look forward to working together to solve this.

I am copying my trustee chairman with his private email address. Please do not forward.

These are our 3 primary concerns or issues with Will.

1. **Local Disregard for NAMB staff.** Will has not yet returned a phone call from Kevin Marsico. Even though he is very careful of his speech - Will openly speaks against he and other NAMB leaders. Will has been confronted about this on two occasions. Often calls by our VP of the Northeast will go unanswered for over a week.
2. **Disregarding NAMB's processes.** After Jeff Christopherson corrected Will from his blunder of hiring his SDOE without any consultation from NAMB - he did the very same thing with his SDOM vacancy. He still sees no problem in his actions - its just a minor administrative mis-step.
3. **Adding Percentages Fees to Planters.** This summer Jeff Christopherson spent at least an hour on the phone with Will saying that he had to remove the % requirement off of his Church Planters Covenant. He repeated this again in our October at the Executive Director meeting in NY. We learned recently that he has added a 2% giving requirement from planters to his "Go Forward" fund.

These with a myriad of other minor issues, which have been confronted, are not "unasked questions" as Will would refer to- they are patterns of defiance and disregard to partnership.

We simply need your leadership to do what the convention agreed to do and that is follow the Cooperative Agreement which

Explains our agreed upon process for hiring, etc.

I will be forwarding you some dates that would be acceptable, looks like they will be in Feb or March at this point.

Thanks again,

Kevin

Tom Cheyney [DOM GOBA Orlando] (6785769798)

Delusional

10/3/18, 1:01 PM

Will McRaney iPhone (+14432859644)

Too many Diet Cokes impacting my memory. Lol

10/3/18, 1:00 PM

Will McRaney iPhone (+14432859644)

Great to catch up my friend.

Not to quote you publicly, but what word did you say that KE used to describe me? I thought it was a good descriptive word(s).

---

**From:** Danny Wood <dwood@shades.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2016 7:44 AM  
**To:** Ezell, Kevin <kezell@NAMB.NET>  
**Subject:** Re: Letter of Concern

I am writing a letter to all the recipients of Will's letter expressing my hurt feelings that he does not consider me having a leadership role in the SBC evidenced by leaving me off the list! (Actually he put my name but attached it to a fictitious email address...oh the inhumanity!) He has caused harm to me and my family and totally embarrassed me in front of 7500 members of Shades (granted 2500 are non-resident and we have no idea where they are but 7500 sounds better). Having forfeited my big boy pants long ago, I will whine to whoever will listen and demand an investigation into this blatant character assassination that will result in fewer baptisms, reduced giving, and leaving countless missionaries and church planters out to dry due to our nonsupport. 😞😞

Kevin...everyone is in your corner praying for you and ready to go to battle with you and for you. Our shields are locked together surrounding you and your family. Thanks for your bold leadership!

Danny Wood

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 5, 2016, at 5:29 AM, Ezell, Kevin <[kezell@NAMB.NET](mailto:kezell@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

Didn't want u left out

:)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Will McRaney <[will@willmcraney.com](mailto:will@willmcraney.com)>  
**Date:** February 4, 2016 at 2:45:53 PM EST  
**To:** Andy Addis <[andy@crosspointnow.net](mailto:andy@crosspointnow.net)>, Andy Childs <[andychilds@ebenezerbaptist.com](mailto:andychilds@ebenezerbaptist.com)>, BJ Bateman <[bj@cefgreenville.com](mailto:bj@cefgreenville.com)>, Barry Anderson <[barry@mygvbc.com](mailto:barry@mygvbc.com)>, Bill Ingram <[bingram@mabc.us](mailto:bingram@mabc.us)>, Bill Logan <[billlogan@immanuelridgecrest.org](mailto:billlogan@immanuelridgecrest.org)>, Blake Gideon <[sgorham@fbcedmond.org](mailto:sgorham@fbcedmond.org)>, Bob Dickerson <[pastor@fbmarion.org](mailto:pastor@fbmarion.org)>, Bob Lowe <[lowerj@juno.com](mailto:lowerj@juno.com)>, Brent Campbell <[trbadom@centurytel.net](mailto:trbadom@centurytel.net)>, Bruce Franklin <[bfranklin@gloryroad.net](mailto:bfranklin@gloryroad.net)>, Chuck Herring <[cherring@fbccoll.org](mailto:cherring@fbccoll.org)>, Dan Walker <[dwalker@slba.org](mailto:dwalker@slba.org)>, Danny Ringer <[dringer@cablone.net](mailto:dringer@cablone.net)>, Danny Wood <[stjohn@shades.org](mailto:stjohn@shades.org)>, Danny de Armas <[DannydeArmas@FirstOrlando.com](mailto:DannydeArmas@FirstOrlando.com)>, David Green <[daviddgreen.ddg@gmail.com](mailto:daviddgreen.ddg@gmail.com)>, David Parks <[dparks@ddafcpa.com](mailto:dparks@ddafcpa.com)>, David Saylor <[pdave777@gmail.com](mailto:pdave777@gmail.com)>, David Washington <[pastordavid@cantoncf.org](mailto:pastordavid@cantoncf.org)>, Denny Gorena <[office@fbcleonardtx.org](mailto:office@fbcleonardtx.org)>, Ferrel Wiley <[ferrel@srbllife.com](mailto:ferrel@srbllife.com)>, Gary Yochum <[pastorgary@harrisonhills.org](mailto:pastorgary@harrisonhills.org)>, Greg Varndell <[greg@fairlawnbaptist.com](mailto:greg@fairlawnbaptist.com)>, Heath Peloquin <[hpeloquin@sbtexas.com](mailto:hpeloquin@sbtexas.com)>, Joey Anthony <[joey.anthony@mpbclife.com](mailto:joey.anthony@mpbclife.com)>, Keith Warden <[keithw@fbcpic.net](mailto:keithw@fbcpic.net)>, Lane Moore <[lmoore@nwlba.org](mailto:lmoore@nwlba.org)>, Larry Robertson <[lrobertson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:lrobertson@tnbaptist.org)>, Manuel Martinez <[pastor@pibi.org](mailto:pastor@pibi.org)>, Mark Dyer <[dyer@mdjwlaw.com](mailto:dyer@mdjwlaw.com)>, Mike McLemore <[mikem@bbaonline.org](mailto:mikem@bbaonline.org)>, Natalie White <[deaconbell2@verizon.net](mailto:deaconbell2@verizon.net)>, Shane Sowers <[shane@centralbaptisthawaii.org](mailto:shane@centralbaptisthawaii.org)>, Spike Hogan <[spike@chetscreek.com](mailto:spike@chetscreek.com)>, Stephen Spurgin <[sspurgin@fbcmiamisburg.org](mailto:sspurgin@fbcmiamisburg.org)>, Steve Hardy <[shardy@ncbaptist.org](mailto:shardy@ncbaptist.org)>, Tad Thompson <[tthompson@habc.net](mailto:tthompson@habc.net)>  
**Cc:** Ezell Kevin <[kezell@namb.net](mailto:kezell@namb.net)>  
**Subject:** Letter of Concern

Dear NAMB Trustee,

I am writing you because of your leadership role in the SBC. As a trustee of the Southern Baptist Convention assigned to the North American Mission Board, I value the role you play in providing oversight, accountability and insuring good stewardship on behalf of all Southern Baptist church members.

I appreciated the opportunity to serve the 560 churches of the Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network (MD/DE Baptist Convention) as the Executive Director until my shocking termination on June 8, 2015. In relation to my termination, I have written the attached letter of concern. This letter relates to Dr. Kevin Ezell's interference with matters related to the Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network and my role as the Exec. Director the Network.

The attached letter is being sent to various leaders of the SBC, all NAMB trustees, and select leaders in the Mid-Atlantic Baptist Network because of their relationship in some way to this matter.

Thank you kindly for your consideration.

Will McRaney

PS You are receiving this in electronic form because I was able to locate what I believed to be your email address. My apologies to the other trustees if I was not able to locate an email for them. However, a paper copy has been mailed to you and each NAMB trustee to the address located in the SBC Annual.



<Letter of Concern Ezell NAMB.docx>

---

**From:** Danny Wood <dwood@shades.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 4, 2016 5:50 PM  
**To:** Logan, Clark <clogan@NAMB.NET>; Chuck Herring (CHerring@fbccoll.org) <CHerring@fbccoll.org>; Ezell, Kevin <kezell@NAMB.NET>; Ebert, Mike <mebert@NAMB.NET>  
**Subject:** Re: From the Board Chairman -- re: Will McRaney Email

Apparently Will doesn't like me either because I did not get an email. Do you need to forward a copy to me?

Danny Wood

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 4, 2016, at 4:48 PM, Logan, Clark <[clogan@NAMB.NET](mailto:clogan@NAMB.NET)> wrote:

**This email is being sent on behalf of Chuck Herring, Chairman, Board of Trustees NAMB/SBC:**

My Fellow Trustee,

James wrote these powerful words—*“So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!” (James 3:5)* You received an email from Will McRaney today that called into question the integrity of our President and the strategic

direction and effectiveness of NAMB. I have personally been involved in this situation for some time. His virulent opposition has gone too far. Your board officers will get with Kevin, his leadership team, and our legal counsel to formulate an appropriate response. At that time we will inform you about the NAMB'S actions. I would encourage you not to respond to Will personally. Please be in prayer for Kevin and His team.

To God Be The Glory,

Chuck Herring ([CHerring@fbcoll.org](mailto:CHerring@fbcoll.org))

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Dyer <dyer@mdjwlaw.com>

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2016 5:29 PM

To: George McCallum <gmccallum@namb.net>; Kevin Ezell <kezell@namb.net>; cferrer@namb.net

Cc: spike@chetscreek.com; Danny Wood <dwood@shades.org>

Subject: Fwd: follow-up on investigation - Atty/Client Communications

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: Chuck Herring <CHerring@fbccoll.org<mailto:CHerring@fbccoll.org>>

Date: June 29, 2016 at 11:30:30 AM CDT

To: Mark Dyer <dyer@mdjwlaw.com<mailto:dyer@mdjwlaw.com>>

Subject: Fwd: follow-up on investigation

Mark,

David Green forwarded this email by McRaney to me. I wanted to send it to you. I thank the Lord for you, Spike, and Danny!

Chuck Herring

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Green <daviddgreen.ddg@gmail.com<mailto:daviddgreen.ddg@gmail.com>>  
Date: June 29, 2016 at 11:17:56 AM CDT  
To: Chuck Herring <cherring@fbccoll.org<mailto:cherring@fbccoll.org>>  
Subject: Fwd: follow-up on investigation

David D. Green  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Will McRaney <will@willmcraney.com<mailto:will@willmcraney.com>>  
Date: June 29, 2016 at 11:50:44 AM EDT  
To: Green David <daviddgreen.ddg@gmail.com<mailto:daviddgreen.ddg@gmail.com>>  
Subject: follow-up on investigation

David,

I don't want to add to your burden, but as long as you are a trustee, you have chosen to deal with these matters on behalf of Southern Baptists. I wish it were not true or happening, but it is. One pastor with firsthand information wrote Ezell and Herring directly and separately that the investigation was a 'charade'. Another pastor described it this way. "In other news, the NFL has concluded an internal investigation of Deflategate conducted by a three-person, blue ribbon committee consisting of Tom Brady, Bill Belichick and Robert Kraft. No wrongdoing was discovered, and the matter is now closed."

Or, the defendant met with his own legal team and they determined to proclaim his innocence without hearing evidence or cross examination of the defendant. The closed door investigation by NAMB officers did not include hearing evidence from MD/DE pastors or me who were witnesses and are making the accusations. Neither was there cross examination in keeping with Prov. 18:17 and legal protocol. The problem is Ezell cannot be believed and those below him in my situation have shared misinformation upline as well. I have confront Steve Davis and Jeff Christopherson with their part, but of course they don't want to deal with the facts and they cannot contradict them. When is someone involved going to obey the Bible in these matters?

BP writes a story about the investigation being completed, but does not share the accusations or the findings of the investigation. There are many who's hands are dirty and have operated outside of the light. Here is a link to an article with my quotes about the supposed investigation and subsequent vote of the NAMB trustees.

<http://christianexaminer.com/article/former-sbc-state-leader-charges-mission-board-with-cover-up-of-wrongdoing/50796.htm>

David, Ezell's actions have made him unfit for leadership of our national missions agency. He has damaged people, trust, our mission's effectiveness and capacity, and most importantly shook his fist before God with his behaviors. While you are not directly responsible for Ezell's actions (and the lying/cover-up culture among some of his leaders - of course I can prove it to anyone looking for the truth), you are responsible for your part of the corporate cover-up and sin.

He has damaged me significantly which brings Biblical demands. Additionally, I believe a judge would find him guilty of

libel and tortious interference. If patterns hold, Ezell will continue to bully, deceive trustees and Southern Baptists, damage leaders who dare to tell him 'no', and be as ineffective in his mission as he has been. People are confusing affability and handouts with character and integrity.

By any historic standard, the current NAMB strategy is failing significantly. Did you know, that according to the 2006 study by NAMB under Stetzer revealed that the average among 12 denominations and Networks that the baptism ratio for new plants over the first 4 years of reporting is 1:5 on baptisms per members. Ezell touted 1:14 at the SBC. Membership is a terrible way to measure effectiveness when compared to established churches for a host of reasons. So, what he used was misleading as usual and even in that it is terrible results compared to other groups who are planting churches.

You and others can do something about it but it will take courageous faith. Ezell cannot defend his written lies and accusations with cross examination. He provided written cancellation of \$1 million committed to MD/DE and he blamed it on me and my repeated violations of the agreement. HE CANNOT PROVE A SINGLE VIOLATION OF THE AGREEMENT AND I CAN PROVE HIS REPEATED VIOLATIONS. Who is going to demand that he give an account of his accusations and threats? I am and have been available to clearly show with Ezell's own writings that he is guilty many times over.

Tough times call for faithful and courageous men who fear God more than fearing men. The truth only seen by those looking for it. The rest are actively or passively involved in the cover-up. I will pray for you as to your role and responsibilities under the leadership of God.

Will

PS In most of SBC life after 29 years, I am untouchable, except for some local churches. I want you to know that since the first of the year I have earned less than \$1,000. God allowed it. Some of the elected leadership in MD is responsible. However, you and other trustees are responsible for Ezell's behaviors. Ezell meant it for evil and he has succeeded temporarily. However, God is not mocked and will not let the righteous go begging for bread.