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July 9, 2009

Charles Payne, Esq.
Hirschler Fleischer
725 Jackson Street, Suite 200
Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5720

RE: Benjamin Marsh and Mount Hope Baptist Church

Dear Charlie:

I realize the church's response has been slow in coming, but the governing body of the church is its whole congregation. It has the final authority, although it is often guided by the Board of Deacons and Board of Trustees.

This case certainly rocked the whole church. In forwarding this decision to me, the church clerk and chairmen of the Board of Deacons and Board of Trustees wrote:

The Joint Board has prayed long and hard and met on several occasions in an attempt to evaluate the situation and offer assistance and bring resolution to the situation as warranted. Needless to say, it has been an arduous task.

Centered on prayer, various conversations and the meeting with Mr. Marsh, research and heart wrenching efforts of the Joint Board, we assessed the situation, considering both the needs and concerns of Mr. Marsh and the needs and concerns of the Mt. Hope Church Family. The task has been one of great challenge and resolution has been long in coming and difficult at best. However, we made some difficult decisions and on Saturday, April 24, 2009, we presented those decisions before the Church Body in the form of recommendations. We first provided them an abbreviated synopsis of events, and the facts and efforts that led to the recommendations. And at that business meeting on April 24, 2009, the Church voted unanimously to accept and act on each recommendation.

The Church has made the following decisions:

1. In regards to Mr. Marsh's request for compensation for emotional and mental stress:

The Joint Board recommends to the church that Mr. Marsh be referred to the Rappahannock Council Against Sexual Assault to provide counseling and other possible assistance through the Department of Social Services as he deems needed.

2. In regards to Mr. Marsh's request for compensation and financial support in the amount of \$100,000.00:

The Joint Board recommends to the church to reject the request in totality—zero funds are to be paid out.

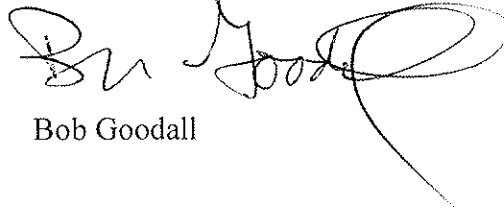
3. In regards to Mr. Marsh's spiritual support:

The Joint Board recommends to the church that the church gift Mr. Marsh, free of charge, with the CD entitled "*When We Are Abused*" by Rev. Charles Stanley.

4. In regards to Mr. Marsh's contact with the Joint Board:

The Joint Board recommends to the church that Mr. Marsh refrain from contacting any member of the Joint Board or any member of Mount Hope in the future for the sole purpose of discussing the matter of compensation regarding the case of Marsh vs. Lowe.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Goodall", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the name.

Bob Goodall

RBG/EHD

Cc: Mt. Hope Baptist Church

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