

**Ex. A**

<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:30 PM</p>	<p> <b>The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>Pastor Glenn Dryden is a Church of God minister who has pastored in two different churches where Tommy Shelton, Danny Shelton's brother, used to pastor.</p> <p>Pastor Dryden brought allegations against Tommy of child molestation to the attention of Dr. Walt Thompson, 3ABN board chairman, in May 2003. He was consequently threatened by a 3ABN attorney, I assume a reply that was authorized by someone other than Dr. Thompson.</p> <p>What follows are a number of the documents that pertain to this question. The correspondence with Dr. Thompson in which he essentially admits that Danny misled him regarding the nature of these allegations appears elsewhere.</p> <p>I will quickly add that Pastor Dryden and I share the same concerns and regrets, namely, that such things have happened in the name of religion, and in situations connected with our faiths. These type of allegations bring reproach upon the cause of God, and upon the beliefs we hold dear.</p> <p>I assure you that neither the Churches of God nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church approve of child molestation, nor do they approve of efforts to cover up such sins and avoid proper justice being served.</p> <p>At the same time that we hate the sin, we love the sinner, and we would encourage all regardless of what they have done to turn to the Lord Jesus in honest and full confession and repentance, seeking to make restitution wherever possible.</p> <p>To those who follow this course, the Word of God promises pardon, cleansing, victory, and eternal life in the earth made new, a place where every tear will be wiped away, where there will be no more sorrow or crying or pain.</p> <p>As John said in the closing verses of Scripture, "Even so, come Lord Jesus."</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:32 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: 3ABN special request Date: Mon, 14 Aug 2006 14:00:00 -0400 From: Glenn Dryden</p> <p>Following is the text of my letter on Ezra Church of God letterhead to Dr. Thompson as well as "Action Items" suggested for Tommy Shelton by the congregation I formerly served. These were sent to Dr. Thompson by certified mail and I suppose it was his wife who signed for the letter on May 16, 2003.</p>

Pastor Glenn Dryden

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May 14, 2003

Dr. Walter Thompson

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\*\*\* \*\*, \*\* \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Dr. Thompson:

Greetings in the holy name of our Lord Jesus!

It is my understanding that you serve as chairman of the board of directors of Three Angels Broadcasting Network. From 3ABN's web site it appears an invitation to minister has been extended to this congregation's former pastor, Tommy Ray Shelton.

Constrained by an ethical, if not legal, obligation, I am compelled to advise you that Tommy Ray Shelton is not in good standing with either of the two associations by which he was first presented with ministerial credentials. At least six boys in our community were sexually abused by Tommy Ray Shelton during the periods he served as pastor of this congregation.

Some of these young men and some parents are willing to corroborate the information I am giving you, if necessary. Please contact me for their phone numbers that I may alert them to a pending call. I also will put you in touch with the two associations referenced above.

Either I or members of this congregation's leadership will answer any questions you may have regarding this correspondence.

In our Lord's service,

Pastor Glenn Dryden

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#### **ACTION ITEMS SUGGESTED FOR TOMMY SHELTON**

##### **Expediency recommended :**

**Senate Bill 1035 extending statute of limitations goes into effect as soon as signed by Governor Blagojevich. This could be within the next thirty days.**

**Note <http://www.legis.state.il.us>**

Tommy should retain an attorney to represent him as well as to serve him in contacting victims and their families, all at Tommy's expense.

A full disclosure of all victims and details should be made to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (Investigator Kevin Skurat, 618-435-8187). This disclosure should include pertinent incidences in other states as well as in other jurisdictions in Illinois in addition to Franklin County.

Tommy should cooperate in the placement of his name and pertinent information on appropriate sex offenders lists, as the law may require in the state of his residence or in Illinois.

Tommy should agree to reimburse any of the victims or their family members for the expenses of counseling they have received. He should further agree to pay for any future counseling required by any of the victims or their family members. Contact should be made by his attorney with the victims through their parents if necessary. Pastor Glenn Dryden of the Ezra Church of God (\*\*\*\_\*\*\_\*\_\*\*\*) should be consulted as to the victims of whom he is aware and as to which of these may be contacted directly. Other victims may wish to maintain anonymity. Apart from necessary contact by law enforcement personnel, their wishes should be respected.

Tommy should issue written apologies over his signature to all victims and to their parents. Again, contact with victims should be made through their parents if necessary.

Tommy also should issue written apologies over his signature for his deceit, as well as inappropriate behavior, etc., to the congregation of the Ezra Church of God, West Frankfort, Illinois, the congregation of the Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, Virginia, the state office of the General Assembly Of The Church Of God In Illinois and to the Ministerial Council of the Church of God headquartered in Virginia.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/04/06 09:32

PM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

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

Subject: blacksda.com POSTING

Date: Fri, 1 Dec 2006 19:42:46 -0500

From: Glenn Dryden

Greetings from Pastor Dryden,

I have taken the opportunity to read the postings at [blacksda.com](http://blacksda.com). Assuming you are the author of [the message to Dr. Thompson of 26 Nov 2006 11:07:44](#), I would like to commend you for the logic in your plea to him.

I think Dr. Thompson must be a good and well-intentioned man and I hope he will soon take heed to your logic.

Glenn Dryden

<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:43 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: blacksda.com POSTING Date: Sat, 02 Dec 2006 18:17:05 -0600 To: Glenn Dryden</p> <p>Thank you so much for your encouragement, Pastor Dryden.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Many Adventists will feel skittish about meeting this thing head on, because they fear that the cause of God will have reproach brought upon it, and thus there might be a negative effect upon evangelistic efforts. Of course, I share that concern, and thus I want to deal with this very carefully. It is a delicate balance. I covet your prayers for the wisdom of God in the days ahead. I know you must have wrestled with these very same thoughts, since it certainly was not good PR for your faith.</p> <p>Having said that, ... I wonder if you would allow me the privilege of quoting what you wrote below, attributing it to either yourself explicitly, or perhaps better yet to simply a pastor of another faith. For our people to read such encouraging words from a pastor of another faith would help calm their fears.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Thanks so much for your prayers, and we will pray for you as you work further with the situation there.</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:43 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: blacksda.com POSTING Date: Sat, 2 Dec 2006 20:25:25 -0500 From: Glenn Dryden</p> <p>Dear Bob,</p> <p>I am sure we share similar emotions regarding this matter. Perhaps an argument may be made for the criticism you have received regarding the e-mail postings, but I should tell you that they have served to make me comfortable communicating with both you and Mr. Joy and if they serve to put pressure on Danny and Tommy, you may carry the criticism as a badge of commendation.</p>

You should know that I have FAXed to Mr. Joy a copy of Mr. Riva's letter to me dated June 13, 2003, along with excerpts from my reply to Mr. Riva.

As to the skittishness we all **suffer**, I find a remedy in a Biblical principle. That principle perhaps may be best expressed "The truth shall set you free!"

Too many for too long in too many venues have feared reproach and negative effects. The number of victims has increased as a consequence. Though a foul path, we should shod our feet appropriately and march forward and attack the issue head-on! Ultimately, less will be lost by a full disclosure and honesty than by cover-up and deceit. Not the path of least resistance, but does not this path seem more like the one Jesus would take?

You may quote me by name on anything **except** *the fact that I am personally aware that Tommy Shelton molested a young man here in Virginia in the mid to late 1990s. Give me until after the meeting here Sunday and then check with me regarding that.*

You may make public my 2003 letter to Dr. Thompson and action items (which were compiled by the congregation of the Ezra Church of God) and may note that the action items were also sent to Mike Riva, Tommy's attorney, with my reply to his letter of June 13, 2003. You may note that I gave you my permission to do so.

In early 2003 Roger Clem first confided to me his victimization by Tommy Shelton. It was within a week or less that Tommy called me. **Please give Roger the courtesy of a call and do not make public his name unless he gives you permission.** If necessary, call me and I will call Roger ahead of you that he might feel comfortable speaking openly with you.

This is a divisive issue here and our Board of Trustees and I welcome your prayers in advance of our meeting tomorrow afternoon.

Pastor Glenn Dryden

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/04/06 09:44

PM



**Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

The importance of this question will not necessarily immediately be seen.

Bob

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

Subject: Quick question on '80's chronology of your state of residence

Date: Sat, 02 Dec 2006 19:19:34 -0600

To: Brother Glenn Dryden

	<p>Looks like I have one vague area in my chronology.</p> <p>I have you definitely in VA from the late '80's until 1993. You first met him in the early or mid-1980's, maybe around the time when his ordination was revoked in 1985. And you've had a working relationship since then.</p> <p>Where were you located when you first met Tommy, and what were you doing? I'd like to fill in the gray area from the early '80's until the late '80's.</p> <p>Thanks much.</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:44 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Quick question on '80's chronology of your state of residence Date: Sat, 2 Dec 2006 20:37:54 -0500 From: Glenn Dryden</p> <p>1974 - first associated with Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, VA, while serving in the U.S. Army, Military District of Washington</p> <p>1983-1993 - Assistant Pastor of the Community Church of God (bivocational - employed in the field of court administration, Fairfax County, Virginia, Circuit Court)</p> <p>1993 - 2005 briefly associate pastor to Pastor Arnold Edmondson and then pastor of the Ezra Church of God, West Frankfort, IL</p> <p>Dec. 2, 2005 to present - Senior Pastor of the Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, VA</p> <p>I was here in Virginia when I first met Tommy in the early or mid-1980s. Ministerial relationship (most of the time from a distance) from that time until approximately late 2000.</p> <p>Hope this helps.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:45 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: FROM PASTOR DRYDEN Date: Sun, 3 Dec 2006 21:03:14 -0500 From: Glenn Dryden</p>

## Statement of Pastor Glenn Dryden

Three instances of misconduct on the part of Tommy Shelton while he served as pastor at the Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, Virginia, have been reported to me in the brief time I have served as pastor of this congregation.

The most egregious of these instances involved a male who was a minor at the time.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/04/06 09:46 PM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

Again, the importance of these questions may not be immediately seen.

Bob

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

Subject: Three quick questions

Date: Mon, 04 Dec 2006 05:19:37 -0600

To: Glenn Dryden

Pastor Dryden,

I could use some clarification on these points:

- What year did you first hear of any allegations of this nature regarding Tommy Shelton? After moving to Illinois or exactly (or about) when before?
- When did you first hear of allegations of this nature arising from Tommy's time in Virginia? I presume prior to your 2003 letter? And can you specify, in a vague way if need be, how you heard about them while still living in Illinois?

I tried several times last night to get a hold of Roger and could not do so. You might want to give him a quick call .... I did leave a message Saturday night, and he hasn't returned my call at this point.

Thanks so much.

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/04/06 09:46 PM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

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

Subject: Re: Three quick questions

Date: Mon, 4 Dec 2006 07:59:59 -0500

From: Glenn Dryden

Tommy vaguely alluded to the allegations in Illinois at times in his preaching when invited by our founding pastors to minister at the Community Church of God in the late 1980s. He did so by speaking not of the allegations but of the "persecution" he and his family suffered as a consequence. He was successful in drawing sympathy thereby as he spoke of hardship suffered by he and his family. Also in the late 1980s there was mention of "allegations" at the time of his receiving ministerial credentials from the Ministerial Council of the Church of God, Inc., but assurance was given by Council leadership that there was no substance to these allegations. No indication of their nature was given either - not to me at any rate. In the summer of 1993 as my wife and two teenage sons and I were preparing to relocate from Northern Virginia to West Frankfort, Illinois, Tommy Shelton again was visiting in Virginia and asked to meet with my wife and I. During this meeting he alerted us that we may "hear some things" when we got to Illinois. He also informed us at this meeting that he had been caught in a lie during his pastorate at the Ezra Church of God, intimated extenuating circumstances and said he had sought and received forgiveness. Indeed we did hear some things after arriving in West Frankfort, Illinois, in mid-1993, including the circumstances surrounding the lie (He was found alone with a young man in a home to which he had access and when challenged said the young man [who was out of view] was his son when in fact he was not. The individual who came upon him confirmed this by immediately driving to the church school Tommy's son attended and finding his son there.). It was not until another victim's mother spoke with me in early 1996 that I fully realized that not only was sexual abuse of adolescent boys the nature of the allegations but that there was substance to these allegations as well.

It was not until after Tommy Shelton left the pastorate here at the Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, Virginia, in 2000, that while vacationing my wife and I were spending some time with a former "confidant" of Tommy's in the congregation in Virginia and this individual informed us of misconduct on Tommy's part while serving at the Community Church of God. This alleged misconduct was believable but unsubstantiated and is unrelated to the three instances which have been brought to my attention in the past year.

Pastor Glenn Dryden

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/04/06 09:47  
PM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

I will pause to say two things.

- 1) Dryden claims that Tommy claimed that he was being persecuted. This is exactly what Danny claimed was happening to him on the August 10, 2006, 3ABN Live broadcast. I find that troubling.
- 2) Roger Clem informed me of the very same allegation before I had a chance to read this email, namely, that a lady caught Tommy with some boy in a house other than Tommy's, that Tommy claimed it was his son, and that the woman then drove to

	<p>the school and saw Tommy's son at the school.</p> <p>The additional detail Clem added to the story is that the woman then returned to the house and saw a red-faced boy leaving the house, trying to cover his face.</p> <p>Roger Clem gave me permission to use his name.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:47 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>I will also add that Pastor Dryden has an interest in Tommy's well being. He encourages all of us to pray for him, especially that he act appropriately at this time.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:47 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>I quote from 3ABN's Illinois Tax Case:</p> <div data-bbox="472 867 1354 1199" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Quote:</b></p> <p><b>Appearances:</b> Mr. Kent R. Steinkamp, Special Assistant Attorney General for the Illinois Department of Revenue; Mr. Nicholas P. Miller, Sidley, Austin, Brown, Wood, L.L.C., Mr. Lee Boothby, Boothby and Yingst, and <b>Mr. D. Michael Riva for 3 Angels Broadcasting Network</b>; Ms. Merry Rhodes and Ms. Joanne H. Petty, Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton and Taylor, Ltd. for Thompsonville Community High School District 112.</p> </div> <p>D. Michael Riva is therefore an attorney who works or has worked for 3ABN.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/04/06 09:48 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>D. MICHAEL RIVA ATTORNEY AT LAW 226 E. Main Street WEST FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS 62896 (618) 937-2404 • FAX: (618) 937-2405</p> <p>June 13, 2003</p> <p>Pastor Dryden 1345 Ezra Street West Frankfort IL 62896</p>

Dear Pastor Dryden:

Please be advised that I represent Tommy Ray Shelton and have been directed to contact you concerning actions you have taken against him which are slanderous and libelous and calculated to deprive him of his right to earn a living. We are aware that you have been talking to and sending letters to various individuals in which you state with certainty that he has committed certain felonious acts.

You are putting yourself and the Ezra Church of God in a position of legal jeopardy by your actions as you have used church letterhead in your attacks on my client.

Even if the actions occurred, there is no criminal jeopardy as the statute of limitations has long since passed. Senate Bill 1035 does not, nor could it constitutionally if it actually stated so, place a person in legal jeopardy after a statute of limitation had already run. The courts of Illinois have addressed this question. A few of those cases are: *People of the State of Illinois v. Coleman*, 1993 5th District, 245 Ill.App.3d 592, 615 N.E.2d 53, 185 Ill.Dec. 758; *People v. Berg*, 277 Ill.App.3d 549, 660 N.E.2d 1003, 214 Ill.Dec. 296; *People v. Massarella*, 80 Ill.App.3d 549, 660 N.E.2d 436, 36 Ill.Dec. 16.

These cases are enclosed for your review and to prove to you that no State's Attorney will charge my client with any criminal offense because the statute of limitations had already run and any new legislative bill cannot put him back in a position of criminal jeopardy.

I have discussed this legal point and cases with an attorney in the State of Illinois Appellate Prosecutor's office and an Illinois State's Attorney. There is no disagreement on this legal point.

Any action to encourage an individual to discuss any of the alleged acts with the State's Attorney's office will never result in a criminal prosecution for the alleged offense and will put the Ezra Church of God and yourself in further jeopardy.

You are best advised to cease all of your activity regarding Tommy Ray Shelton. To continue, will place your church, Ezra Church of God, and yourself in legal jeopardy for no good reason.

Very truly yours,

D.Michael Riva

DMR:pys

xc: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Member

[Bob Pickle](#)



**Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

(1000+  
Member)  
12/04/06 09:48  
PM

Three points may be considered:

- 1) He ended the letter with "Very truly yours," which sounds sort of friendly like.
- 2) The threat of legal action found in paragraphs 1, 2, 6, and 7 appear to my untrained, non-attorney brain to be based solely on:

**Quote:**

Even if the actions occurred, there is no criminal jeopardy as the statute of limitations has long since passed.

Even if the actions occurred ...

I just question the wisdom of the attorney of the network that preaches the undiluted three angels' messages using this logic to threaten a non-Adventist minister with legal action in order to shut him up regarding his concerns over alleged child molestation.

- 3) I think a legitimate question is whether Mr. Riva performed his services for Tommy Shelton pro bono, or whether Tommy paid for them out of his own pocket, or whether Danny paid for them out of his own pocket, or whether 3ABN covered the cost.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+  
Member)  
12/04/06 09:49  
PM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

Fax from Pastor Glenn Dryden of the Church of God to G. Arthur Joy on December 2, 2006.

The following is from the cover sheet.

Bob

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Mike Riva's letter to me dated June 13, 2003, follows. Below are the first three paragraphs and the closing paragraph of my reply dated June 20, 2003.

I received your letter dated June 13, 2003, upon my return last evening from a two

week trip out of state. It is my prayer that you will assist Tommy Shelton in taking measures which will satisfy his victims, their families and the congregations involved and serve to bring some closure to him as well as them.

Your letter, particularly the next to last paragraph, serves better to incite rather than intimidate. Consider the scenario of three victims pressing charges in an environment of intense interest from news media with state-wide or national influence. Any State's Attorney anticipating re-election certainly would give serious attention to prosecution.

I urge you to counsel Tommy to take the initiative by making a full disclosure of all victims and details to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office and by pursuing the additional "Action Items" enclosed. Doing so would put him in a far better light and more advantageous position than would circumstances similar to the scenario contemplated above.

...

Finally, Mr. Riva, I am disappointed that you did not exercise due diligence to obtain the name and address of the chairman of our board of trustees or other board member. Sending a copy of your letter to one of our parishioners was entirely inappropriate.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/04/06 09:51  
PM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

Now I know you are all saying, "Thanks so much for not posting everything tonight. Any more would be too much."

Would you say it looks like we have a severe problem here? Do you have any suggestions for Danny how he can clear the air once and for all regarding these allegations?

But consider the implications: Do you in your wildest dreams think that senior management other than Danny isn't involved in some sort of cover-up too, if that's what we have here? For example, how could these kinds of things be going on in a small community and the 3ABN General Manager not know anything about it?

And remember, this is only one issue. Gailon has interviewed a lot of people. There are a lot of things I'm simply not in the know about.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/05/06 05:20  
AM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

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

Subject: Re: Three quick questions

Date: Mon, 4 Dec 2006 15:06:17 -0500

From: Glenn Dryden

I just spoke with Roger. I am satisfied that he has no qualms about your using his name and leaving it on his letter.

**Clarification:** In the spring of 2003 I mailed out no more than 5 or 6 letters to leaders of Church of God camp meeting associations with essentially the same content as my letter to Dr. Thompson.

Pastor Dryden

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/05/06 05:25

AM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

Internal evidence as well as Mr. Clem's recollection has this undated letter being written around the spring of 2004. Mr. Clem's mother was a staunch defender of Tommy, and it was only after she died in late 2001 that he felt he could come forward.

Tommy's ordination was revoked about 1985, but his defenders would not relent, and that portion of the congregation that sided with him left their denomination, the Church of God, Anderson, in consequence. Tommy remained their pastor until maybe 1990 or 1991, with a one-year absence to Kentucky, according to the recollections of several individuals.

Since Mr. Clem says that he was abused at the age of 16, he is placing the abuse around 1988, which would be after Tommy's ordination was revoked for similar allegations involving perhaps three alleged victims. In other words, according to Mr. Clem's account and chronology, it was because so many believed Tommy rather than the alleged victims and those who had caught him doing his misdeeds that Mr. Clem himself became an alleged victim.

Mr. Clem's testimony that Tommy Shelton's brother made threatening phone calls in order to hush things up is particularly disturbing.

Bob

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Mr. Shelton,

I am writing this letter in regards to last year's phone conversation. I told you then I was confronting you about what you did to me so I could deal with my feelings about it. I did not then, nor will I now, make any apologies [to] anyone who might be upset with me. My attitude has changed towards this situation. I thought I could just handle this and go on with my life, but now I realize I cannot. You ruined the better part of 15 years of my life. I was afraid to date anyone, I let people walk all over me, and I felt lower than dirt. The years you destroyed should have been some of the best years

of my life. While everyone was out doing what they enjoyed, I was constantly working to try to take my mind off what happened. You destroyed my self-esteem and that I'm still battling today. I have no confidence in myself to accomplish major tasks in life. It kind of makes me wonder about the other guys that you abused. All of the ones that I know about have had failed marriages. Doesn't it make YOU wonder what they are going through, or do you even care? You were supposed to be someone people could put their trust in and look up to, and here you were doing some of the most disgusting and immoral things you could do. While you were preaching to everyone how they should honor their marriage vows, you were cheating on your own wife, and with who, teenage boys. We had our whole lives ahead of us and you put us through hell on earth. I don't know how you could look yourself in the mirror, let alone get up and preach to people about how they ought to live. When someone would confront you about what you did, you would try to take the attention off of what you did by having some sort of health problem (loss of memory, heart problems, nervous breakdown). It seemed odd to me that you recovered quick when you realized that you were in the clear. You really disgust me. It makes me sick to realize how many lives you damaged and the only time that you feel the need to apologize is when it all comes back up again. Then you put on this POOR PITIFUL ME act (how you wish it didn't happen, the reason you do this is because you were abused as a child, you would take it all back if you could, and the all-time favorite, please don't put my family through this again). What about what you put all of us through? Then what makes me mad is when your brother calls to try to scare people into not saying anything or when the church receives a letter from Mike Riva telling us to stop saying anything. I heard (I don't know for sure) that the reason for the letter was to protect your livelihood. What about my livelihood? I feel like I don't have the confidence to achieve the things that I want to in life. I know this letter seems hateful, I Don't Care. I'm tired of not saying anything just so I won't upset people. Guess what, it gets better. I have been checking the laws on reporting sexual abuse. There was a new law passed that extends the age that you can report abuse to age 38, I'm 32. So here is what I'm going to do. I'm going to let you decide what you should do to make amends for what you did. I will tell you up front, if I get a letter or phone call from your brother or an attorney that in any way appears threatening, I will immediately go to the sheriff's office and file charges against you. This has gone on long enough with nothing being done. This is Not a threat. It all rests on you Tommy, let your conscience be your guide. I will not wait long before I will decide what action is best to resolve this.

Roger W. Clem

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/05/06 05:32

AM



**Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

**Quote:**

Then what makes me mad is when your brother calls to try to scare people into not saying anything or when the church receives a letter from Mike Riva telling us to stop saying anything. ... I will tell you up front, if I get a letter or phone call from your brother or an attorney that in any way

appears threatening, I will immediately go to the sheriff's office and file charges against you.

We need some sort of reply from Danny on this one, don't you think? Honestly, did he really do this?

When we first secured Pastor Dryden's 2003 letter, he gave us permission to only share it with responsible individuals in leadership position. Why? Because he was afraid that some of his relatives who work at 3ABN might have repercussions. That was disturbing, for it seemed to support some of the allegations out there that Danny will resort to those kind of tactics.

I told him the other day that I didn't think that should be a concern, since, after all, Danny's smart. He knows about such allegations against him, and if he were to fire those relatives, even if he had just cause, his critics would only have more ammunition to use against him. So they should have quite a bit of job security at the moment.

[7Trumpets](#)  
(New Member)  
12/05/06 09:35  
AM

 **Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

Bob and anyone else reading,

After reading this latest round of revelations, it is clear that Tommy and Danny do know that the charges have substance, they do know that the actions were recent and they do know that there are serious implications for their careers.

To that end, I would recommend that you continue to press the line for

- full disclosure
- repentance, apologies, etc
- all withdrawal of threats of legal action
- compensation by Tommy (ALONE, not 3ABN) to the victims
- Tommy providing the means for the victims to receive professional help
- the removal of Tommy from any ministry where he has contact with children (including teens)

We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. Only God can really measure the true grievousness of sins and make comparisons. Yet the one who abuses a little child, especially a church goer, must certainly remember Jesus' words about a millstone

- *And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea. **Matt 18:5, 6; Mark 9:41, 42; Luke 17:2***

Never give up this pursuit. It has been reasonable and it seeks for honesty. It is clear to me that Tommy has not repented, for if he had, having done these sins which became public, he would have made public apologies which would be something to his credit.

To use hiding, silence, threats and intimidation by his brother is not going to let it go away, the rumors and gossip will only swell until the whole world knows. What a fall that will be!

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/05/06 10:28  
AM



**Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents**

Thank you, 7Trumpets.

Jesus said that would be better. Better than what? Better to sink to the bottom of the sea with a millstone around your neck than to float in the lake of fire.

That's how much He and His Father treasure the little ones.

<p><a href="#">7Trumpets</a> (New Member) 12/05/06 12:35 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>I wish to add I find no pleasure in this mess. I love 3ABN. I wish this thing would go away. Yet hiding my head (or anyone else hiding their heads) in the sand will not make it go away.</p> <p>Instead, by the time we take our heads out of the sand we would have been totally encircled by the predators and provided a tasty meal for someone.</p>
<p><a href="#">Daryl Fawcett</a> (18300+ Member) 12/05/06 01:02 PM</p> 	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>I also find no pleasure in this mess.</p> <p>I was excited when I learned about 3ABN right up to the separation and subsequent civic divorce of Danny and Linda Shelton, which was the catalyst, or Pandora's box, that opened up all these other things.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/31/06 04:32 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>What follows is the 1985 letter that was sent to Tommy Shelton alerting him to the fact that his ordination had been suspended.</p> <p>Several points may be noted, which answer some questions people have had:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This letter was sent to Tommy by an Illinois Church of God organization 8 years before Pastor Glenn Dryden moved to the state. Thus, the information it contains has nothing to do with Pastor Dryden.</li> <li>• This letter was sent 17-18 years before Roger Clem came forward in West Frankfort, and thus the information it contains has nothing to do with Roger Clem.</li> <li>• "In the mouth of two or three witnesses, every word shall be established." We thus have at least three witnesses.</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/31/06 04:38 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents</b></p> <p>General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois George L. Newton Executive Secretary/Treasurer</p>

Phone: (XXX) XXX-XXXX

P.O. Box J  
Mt. Zion, Illinois 62549

October 25, 1985

Reverend Tommy Shelton  
Route # 1 Box 189-B  
West Frankfort, Illinois 62896

Dear Tommy :

On October 25, 1985, the Illinois Ministerial Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois met in regular session at the Church of God State Office building at 4225 South Camp Warren Lane, Decatur, Illinois at Camp Warren. In concern for your best interest and the Church of God, the following action was taken:

"The ordination of Tommy Shelton has been suspended immediately until further notice pending the results of the official police investigation concerning criminal sexual abuse charges against him. This action is effective this day, October 25, 1985."

This action was taken for the following reasons:

1. Improper counseling procedures followed by you and admitted by you.
2. Numerous charges of misconduct reported to this committee.
3. We have been advised that an investigation is underway by the West Frankfort Illinois Police Department concerning criminal sexual abuse charges against you.
4. Controversy surrounding your ministry and personal lifestyle.

Tommy, you are advised to surrender your Ordination Certificate to this office in the enclosed self addressed envelope and to cease all activities related to ministries of the Church of God until you are further advised by this committee.

Be assured this was not an easy decision for this committee to make. We will be praying for you and your family that God's complete purpose will be accomplished in your life.

If we can be of help in any way, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

[signed]

George L. Newton

Executive Secretary

[signed]

Tom E. Smith  
Committee Chairman  
GLN/TES: jn

Copy Furnished: Keith Huttenlocker, Division of Church Service; Edwin R. Beasley, State Chairman; Pastors - Southern Illinois District Churches of God

*"Illinois Ministries... Striving for Excellence"*

<p>October 25, 1985</p> <p>Reverend Tommy Shelton Route # 1 Box 189-B West Frankfort, Illinois 62896</p> <p>Dear Tommy:</p> <p>On October 25, 1985, the Illinois Ministerial Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois met in regular session at the Church of God State Office building at 4225 South Camp Warren Lane, Decatur, Illinois at Camp Warren. In concern for your best interest and the Church of God, the following action was taken:</p> <p>"The ordination of Tommy Shelton has been suspended immediately until further notice pending the results of the official police investigation concerning criminal sexual abuse charges against him. This action is effective this day, October 25, 1985."</p> <p>This action was taken for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improper counseling procedures followed by you and admitted by you.</li> <li>2. Numerous charges of misconduct reported to this committee.</li> <li>3. We have been advised that an investigation is underway by the West Frankfort Illinois Police Department concerning criminal sexual abuse charges against you.</li> <li>4. Controversy surrounding your ministry and personal lifestyle.</li> </ol> <p>Tommy, you are advised to surrender your Ordination Certificate to this office in the enclosed self addressed envelope and to cease all activities related to ministries of the Church of God until you are further advised by this committee.</p> <p>Be assured this was not an easy decision for this committee to make. We will be praying for you and your family that God's complete purpose will be accomplished in your life.</p> <p>If we can be of help in any way, please do not hesitate to call.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p><i>George L. Newton</i>      <i>Tom E. Smith</i> George L. Newton      Tom E. Smith Executive Secretary      Committee Chairman</p> <p>GLN/TES:jn</p> <p>Copy Furnished: Keith Huttenlocker, Division of Church Service Edwin R. Beasley, State Chairman Pastors - Southern Illinois District Churches of God</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Illinois Ministries... Striving for Excellence"</i></p>	<p>GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN ILLINOIS</p> <p>GEORGE L. NEWTON Executive Secretary/Treasurer Phone (217) 864-3263 P.O. BOX J MT. ZION, ILLINOIS 62549</p>
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[Bob Pickle](#)



Re: The Glenn Dryden and related Documents

(1000+ Member)  
12/31/06 05:12 PM

On November 27, 2006, 3ABN Board chairman Dr. Walt Thompson [wrote me](#) and said:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

Subsequently, after this issue has been brought back to the forefront ... I contacted the only person from the Church of God that I could find that knew about the situation, and who had been present and witness to the events. ... The picture that was painted by that leader of the Church was exactly as portrayed earlier by Danny. ... I have been informed that the Church of God is a congregational type or organization with different jurisdictions in different states and **that there was no higher authority that I could speak with** to resolve the issue further. It was not entirely clear to me how that worked. I was also told that **one leader pestered Tommy over and over again** until Tommy voluntarily gave up his ministerial license. These are the facts as I have been able to sort them out.

The natural assumption is that everything in the above came from the unnamed source, not Danny, but that could be wrong.

Four questions remain:

- Who was this unnamed source, and how did Walt just happen to get that particular name?
- Did Walt contact the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois and get his information from them, something he was invited to do in [Pastor Dryden's 2003 letter](#), or was this unnamed source not even a past or present officer of the General Assembly?
- Who led Walt to believe that "**one** leader pestered Tommy" when the letter announcing the suspending of Tommy's ordination was signed by **two** individuals, and was the result of an action taken by **an entire committee**?
- In what sense at all can these circumstances be considered a "**voluntary**" surrender of his ministerial license?

Of course, it is always possible that Walt was referring to a different revoking of Tommy's credentials, not the 1985 one. Yet even then, what he was led to believe would constitute a serious distortion of reality.

[Bob Pickle](#)  
(1000+ Member)  
01/04/07 04:53 PM

 **Testimony of Pastor Brad Dunning**

The seventh victim that has just come forward gave me the name of Brad Dunning, a gentleman who is now a United Pentecostal preacher. I contacted him and he has given the following written account of his own experience. It appears that Pastor

Dunning may have been the first to make complaints of sexual misconduct on the part of Tommy Shelton at the Ezra Church of God, complaints that eventually led to the revoking of Tommy's ordination in 1985.

[Four points](#) were given for that 1985 action, one of which was:

**Originally Posted By: Illinois Ministerial Credentials Committee**

1. Improper counseling procedures followed by you and admitted by you.

I asked the seventh victim what that might have been. He said that what he had heard at the time was that there was a boy at the school trying to get other boys involved in homosexual activity, and that Tommy had tried to bring it out into the open by propositioning the boy.

I asked the seventh victim which he had heard of first, the boy's problem or Tommy's "counseling" procedure. He said he heard of them at the same time. I suggested that it is possible this was a way for Tommy to explain away what he had really done.

Of course, it seemed important to follow up on this and see if maybe Tommy was almost in the clear after all. This is why I contacted the boy turned preacher, Pastor Brad Dunning. I told Dunning about how it has been said that Tommy was trying to bring his deviant behavior out into the open. He said that that was the first time he had ever heard of that.

I have mixed feelings posting this one, since it does describe exactly what Tommy said to young teenager Brad, and it doesn't make for pleasant reading. But what do you do?

It is hard to imagine that this could have been the first time something like this happened. People don't just wake up one day and say things like this out of the blue, do they?

Pastor Dunning would love to see Tommy behind bars. It burns him up to see him on the air. He said that because of all he knows about what goes on at Three Angels Broadcasting Network, that around his home they call it Three Devils Broadcasting. I assured him that Seventh-day Adventists don't tolerate this kind of thing, and he realizes that every group, including his, has its renegades.

[Walt Thompson said:](#)

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

The allegations against Tommy were made about 30 years ago. They were reported to the proper authorities. No physical actions ever occurred. **Tommy apologized to the kids** and offered recompence. The DA

said there was no case. No restrictions were ever imposed.

I asked pastor Dunning if Tommy had ever apologized. He said, "No."

I trust that whatever the seventh victim writes will be much more pleasant reading.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

01/04/07 04:55

PM

 **Re: Testimony of Pastor Brad Dunning**

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

Subject: RE: Here's my email, Pastor Dunning.

Date: Thu, 4 Jan 2007 16:09:11 -0600

From: Brad Dunning

Dear Bob,

Here is my follow up email from our telephone conversation yesterday January 3rd, 2007.

The purpose of this communication is to give you a personal account of how I was assaulted by Tommy Shelton, then Pastor of the Ezra Church of God.

I believe it was in the 1982-83 school year. I was a student in the Ezra Church of God Christian School. I was an honor student and a member of the basketball team.

On the day of my encounter with Tommy Shelton, here is what took place.

I was in the gym playing basketball one afternoon by myself. I had extra free time as I was an "E" privilege student.

Ricky Shelton came to the gym and told me that his dad wanted to see me in his office. So I left the gym and went to the Pastors office. Tommy invited me in and closed the door. He sat behind his desk, I sat on the couch.

He began to tell me that he was really embarrassed to talk about this, but he needed my help. He said that he had a problem with his testicles. It was a medical condition that was causing them to bleed. I asked him if he had been to the doctor. He replied that he was too embarrassed to be seen by the nurses and that he would not go.

He said that he had prayed about it, and God showed him how that he could be healed. He told me that God showed him that if he could apply the sperm of another man, that the proteins would heal his testicles. He then asked me if I would be willing to help him by applying my sperm to his testicles.

Being in shock, I told him that I had to think about it and left his office. I went home that afternoon and told my mother all that had gone on.

I did not return to school. My Mother, my grandfather and I, went back to the school and confronted Tommy. He denied everything and told my Grandfather that no one would believe us and he would win.

We then went to the West Frankfort Police department and filed a formal complaint. To my knowledge, no charges were brought against Tommy. Our family suspected that Tommy was being protected by State Police officers who were members of his congregation.

My mother and I moved to Houston, TX shortly after that.

A few years later, we were told that Tommy had been caught with other boys. Some who were personal friends of mine while I was at Ezra.

One of the boys later apologized to me for not speaking up when I did.

My mother received an official written apology from the Church of God. I had not had any communication with Tommy Shelton since that event took place.

If I can be of any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Because of Him,

Brad Dunning  
<http://www.facs4u.com>

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

01/04/07 05:48 PM

 **Re: Testimony of Pastor Brad Dunning**

I guess what disturbs many is the apparently repeated offenses over so many years, with no apparent repentance or heartfelt apologies, and the cover ups that Danny has himself apparently been involved in in this matter.

May Tommy fall on the Rock and be broken. May he come clean before men and in the eyes of God. May he be washed in the blood of the Lamb, that blood that can cleanse every spot, and straighten every wrinkle.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

01/07/07 11:07 PM

 **Letter from Scott Clem, brother of Roger Clem**

Here is another letter from the other brother of Roger Clem, and brother of the seventh victim.

----- Original Message -----  
 Subject: In Response To Your Message....  
 Date: Thu, 04 Jan 2007 12:15:17 -0600  
 From: Scott Clem

Hi, Bob!

I am contacting you in response to your telephone message of Wed., Jan. 3. My apologies for being so long in getting back with you.

...

First of all, I want to make you aware that I know a little about who you are, having read your posts at Maritime SDA Online. I want you to know that I fully support your efforts to clean up the mess at 3ABN, and that my prayer is for successful results for the good of 3ABN and it's viewers, and most importantly, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I wish to make it clear that, though I am Southern Baptist, I hold nothing against the Seventh Day Adventist Church, any of it's members, or 3ABN personally. My problem, as I am sure is the same with you, is the un-Christian conduct so rampant at 3ABN. Such conduct serves no purpose but to undermine the original intended objective of 3ABN and to embarrass the SDA Church. Those responsible for this misconduct must be exposed and dealt with, and I applaud your efforts to do just that.

As you now know, both of my brothers are victims of past molestation by 3ABN vice president Tommy Shelton, who served as our pastor at Ezra Church of God at the time that the molestations took place. There is also evidence that my brothers are not the only victims. While I have never been a victim of any type of sexual abuse, I am greatly enraged by such actions, particularly as such a despicable act has been perpetrated on my brothers by someone in whom our entire family had placed so much trust and confidence for so many years. Few things in life have cut me so deeply as this situation, and the human side of me wants to see Tommy Shelton fall to the most harsh and swift justice known to man in response to his devilish actions. It is my feeling that the Lord, though he still loves Tommy, also desires that he pay for his actions. Tommy's conduct is clearly not of God.

I am equally pained by the fact that our late mother, who died of cancer on Dec. 1, 2001, left this world never having known that two of her children were victimized by Tommy in this way. She remained steadfast in her support of Tommy due to this lack of knowledge. At the same time, I consider everyone involved in this ordeal, with the obvious exception of Tommy, to be completely blameless. Mom never knew the truth, and I can guarantee you that if she had, she would have turned on Tommy in the blink of an eye. As well, while I cannot say that I truly understand what my brothers went through, I can somehow understand why they waited so long to come forward. Feelings of guilt and embarrassment are commonplace with victims of sexual abuse for many years after the abuse has taken place. I also know that my brothers were fearful of hurting Mom or other family members by coming forward with this information, and/or of what might happen in the aftermath. Our family is hurt and angered by this, but this pain and anger is not directed at, nor is it the fault of, my brothers. I am just glad that they have both realized the importance of coming

forward, as it will be a major step on their road to recovery and toward bringing Tommy to justice for what he has done. Simply put, it is my observation that, of all the numerous people involved in this terrible situation, the blame for it's entirety rests solely on one person, and that would be one Tommy Shelton. May God, in this situation, forego His endless mercy and leave Tommy to face the consequences that he really deserves!

As for the other information that I may provide for your continuing investigation, ... [What follows is a legal matter that I would like to verify before posting.]

Again, I state that I have nothing against 3ABN personally, but I support and applaud your efforts to get a stranglehold on the situation as it stands now. I wish to see 3ABN become a great powersource for the furtherance of God's Kingdom, but I can no longer believe that this will happen under the leadership of Danny and Tommy Shelton. It appears to me that, in order for 3ABN to move forward as a ministry, Danny and Tommy must be ousted. While we should continue to pray for them, it is clear that the situations in which they have placed 3ABN will necessitate their removal. Otherwise, 3ABN will surely fall, and I really do not believe that it has to come to that.

On an added note, some of these situations, if placed for investigation by the federal government, could result in the revocation of 3ABN's licenses. Perhaps the best course of action would be to recommend to Dr. Walt Thompson that steps be taken in the very near future to remove Danny and Tommy so that 3ABN will have a fighting chance to save it's authority to broadcast. At this point, it could be in serious jeopardy.

To tell you the honest truth, I would very much welcome an opportunity to work with 3ABN in whichever ways ..., but I will not even make an attempt at such an arrangement as long as 3ABN is under the facist thumb of Danny Shelton and his child molester brother Tommy. God does not honor such things, and I refuse to do so as well. As a past volunteer at 3ABN, I would love to re-establish a friendship with the network, and my hope is that, in the foreseeable future, I will be able to do so. As things stand right now, this just cannot happen.

Again, my best to you and those working with you to bring back some order to 3ABN. It is my hope and prayer that your investigations will bring Danny and Tommy and all other guilty parties to justice and restore 3ABN to her former self for the glory of God. If you need anything else from me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In Christ,

Scott Clem

[Daryl Fawcett](#)  
(18300+  
Member)

 **Re: Letter from Duane Clem**

**The following was received by Gailon Arthur Joy AUREporter:**

01/20/07 06:31

PM



Read and weep; This is number seven of what is now ten and counting. Notice many contacts came while Tommy was at 3ABN late 80's and early 90--91. Think we will find others in the contemporary period? Wonder if there are more in Dunn Loring?

This has been extremely hard to do, but I think it had to be done.

--- statement follows ---

It has taken me a long time to get to the point where I felt I could write this. In light of recent events and allegations brought forth by other parties, I feel it has become necessary to compose this statement.

Let me begin by saying that I am not writing out of a spirit of vengeance or animosity. I had never planned on sharing what happened with anyone else. I was prepared to take this to my grave. I had forgotten, or at least pushed back, the feelings of shame and resentment I had about this situation, but in recent days a lot of that has been brought back. I do not, however, blame anyone who has been DIRECTLY affected by this for coming forward.

Tommy Shelton was my pastor for many years at the Ezra Church of God in West Frankfort, IL. I began attending with my mother, sister and 2 brothers around 1974 or so, and my father became a Christian and began coming with us shortly after I graduated high school in 1984. Tommy and I were never really close until I began attending the Christian school our church operated. Over the next few years, we would spend a lot of time talking, as I was dealing with depression issues and he was counseling with me.

When the General Assembly of the Church of God in Illinois decided to suspend Tommy's ministerial credentials in 1985, I was one of several who wrote a letter in his defense. I was also questioned by a detective at the West Frankfort Police Department. I had been on a few overnight trips with him, and gave testimony that nothing had happened that would substantiate the allegations being made against him. At the time, this was true. It was, unfortunately, about to change.

Sometime in late 1985 or early 1986, Tommy came to me and said he had an unusual medical problem and asked for my help. I was shocked. I had previously been told by two other young men that he had said the same thing to them, but I could not believe that they were telling me the truth, even though they told me identical stories at 2 different times. Now, I was hearing these words from my pastor. I felt trapped. I wanted to say something right then, but I didn't. I had vigorously defended him against allegations in the past, and had even lost friends because of it. I had written a letter saying nothing had happened to me. I had told the police nothing happened. Now, here I was, 19 years old, with NO ONE I felt I could talk to about it.

Over the next few months, Tommy and I would meet at his house, the church, the original 3ABN building and even one night on a back country road, anywhere he

thought no one would see us. There was a lot of inappropriate touching, but nothing further. He wanted much more out of it, but I couldn't let it happen because in my heart I knew it wasn't right. I was wrestling with thoughts like "What if someone finds out? What will happen to the church...his family...my family? Who would believe me anyway?"

Whenever he would be touching me, I would get muscle spasms in my back. I guess it was because I was so tense. More than once he sensed that I was in pain, and a couple of times he even accused me of "faking it" because I didn't care or didn't want to help him. I really started questioning if I was in the wrong. It was constant mental and emotional turmoil.

On one occasion, I had been hired by a television and appliance rent-to-own company as an assistant manager, and was to travel to the main office about an hour away for 2 days of training. The company said they would get me a motel room so I wouldn't have to drive back and forth. When Tommy found this out, he decided that it would be a good opportunity for him to come down to my room and no one would ever know the difference. I paid very little attention to my training all day long because I was dreading what was going to happen that night. Finally, as the supervisor was going to reserve the room, I told him that "something had come up" and I was going to have to drive back home, so I wouldn't need the room after all. I lied. I don't remember what excuse I gave Tommy for not staying the night down there, but I know I lied to him also. I really didn't want to drive back and forth, but I hated the thought of another "meeting" worse. I loved my pastor and didn't want to hurt him, but I didn't know how much longer I could keep this up. I was now lying to try to avoid it.

Finally, he said he realized that I was uncomfortable and decided we shouldn't be doing this. It was like a thousand pound weight was gone. I felt free. The problem is that I felt such a release that I didn't consider the fact that this had already happened before, or so I had been told. I never told anyone. It is because of my silence, I feel, that others have been harmed. That is one of my big regrets and I will carry that guilt for the rest of my days. There is nothing I can ever do to change that. I only hope that in some way, speaking out now will help put an end to it once and for all.

I am happy to say that God has been with me through it all. I am still attending church faithfully, and have been working with teens at church for the past 10-12 years. I was ordained as a General Baptist minister in September of 2005, and have served as a youth pastor and Sunday School teacher at churches I have attended previously. I am pleased to be able to say that I do NOT have any homosexual desires or tendencies as a result of my experience. If anything, it has made me abhor and detest it even more than I ever did before. In addition, it is very possible that I will be dealing with a young person in the future facing similar issues, and God may have allowed me to go through this so I would know how to help them. All things DO work together for good to those who love God!

In conclusion, I want to say that I do NOT hate Tommy Shelton, nor do I want to see him or his family destroyed. I grew up with the Shelton kids. They're almost like

family to me. I hope that my coming forward doesn't end our friendships, although I'm sure it will never be the same from this point forward.

I ask all who read this to please pray for all those who have been directly involved, our families, our churches and yes, for Tommy Shelton also. It is my opinion that he needs to be out of the ministry right now, but he also needs the Lord's leadership as he deals with past issues. Our God is a God of judgment, but He is also a God of forgiveness and restoration. I want that restoration for Tommy and everyone else who has been affected by this. Snide remarks and hateful comments won't solve anything or bring healing to anyone, only God's touch can do that.

Thank you for your prayers and thoughts as we all try to put this behind us. God bless.

Duane Clem

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

01/26/07 08:32

PM

### Mom in Pain #1

Taken from <http://www.save3abn.com/tommy-shelton-victims-family-mom-1.htm>.

## **Broken-Hearted Mother #1**

[As alleged victims of Tommy Shelton talk to their old friends, yet more are coming forward. Just yesterday a new one came forward, one who remembers well an incident that allegedly occurred when he was eight years old.

He called his mother first and told her his story before he called us. Can you imagine what it must be like to be a mother and get a phone call like that?

Read her statement below and feel her pain as she unburdens her soul.

It should be noted that she confirms that Tommy did excuse his propositioning of around 14-year-old Brad Dunning by saying that he was trying to expose Brad's own homosexual activity.

- This was a story previously told to us by Duane Clem, which he said that he was told back in the early '80's when Brad and his family complained about what Tommy had done.
- Yet when we asked Duane whether he had heard anything about such problems with Brad prior to Tommy getting into trouble, he said that he had not.
- When we asked Pastor Brad Dunning about this story, he told us that that was the first time he had ever heard of such a thing.

Thus, unfortunately, we have here evidence that Tommy Shelton was not beyond slandering someone's reputation in order to escape getting into trouble over serious

allegations. We hope that this apparent tendency does not run in the family.]

## Her Letter Arrives

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

**Subject:** Re: Discussion Yesterday

**Date:** Thu, 25 Jan 2007 19:42:55 -0800 (PST)

Bob,

As promised yesterday, I am sending you a letter from a broken-hearted mother. To keep \*\*\*\*\*'s confidentiality at this time, I would rather you didn't use my name. ... I check the website everyday and am impressed with all the new information posted.

Thanks,

\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*

## Letter of a Mother of an Alleged Victim of Tommy Shelton

Dear \*\*\*\*\*,

I cannot begin to tell you the grief and heartache I feel right now. If I start at the beginning, I can tell you my husband and I were staunch supporters of Tommy Shelton for all the years he ministered at Ezra Church of God. My family attended there when it was a small, one room building with an outhouse. Tommy performed our wedding ceremony in that small church. We continued as part of his following into the new building across the street. That building, by the way, was built by his brothers (Shelton Construction) and is one foot shorter on one side than the other. Danny, evidently, had not found his true calling at that time.

I worked closely with Tommy for all those years, and each time allegations would arise, he would call me into his office and recite the cover-up story he had carefully planned. He personally told me about Brad Dunning and the mistake he (Tommy) admitted making by trying to meet with him alone to find out if he had indeed made advances to the other boys in school. He again called me into his office when he was caught with another student from school in a bald-faced lie. He was very convincing to be sure. As I said, I stood against his accusers because I thought there was no way any of this could be true. The students had grudges against him and other people misunderstood the situation, excuses he spoon-fed his followers and we regurgitated at appropriate times.

As a mother, I will never forgive myself for my own absorption and mindless following of Tommy's plight that I missed clues within my own family. For that reason, it took 25 years for my own son to admit that he, also, had been abused by Tommy. The scabs that had covered his own pain for so many years were ripped away this week when new allegations arose and more of his friends broke their long,

overdue silence. A dam broke when he was forced to step back to that dark place he had sealed up so long ago. His only excuse was that he knew I hadn't believed all the other boys, and he didn't think I would believe him either. Because of this simple statement, I will live with my own guilt and regret for the rest of my life.

Also, in hindsight, I blame Carol as much as Tommy. How could you, as a mother, turn a blind eye to what you knew he was doing? You were condoning it by keeping your silence. How could you rob us mothers of the opportunity to help our sons grieve and help them begin their healing? You turned your cold heart to us and allowed Tommy to continue with his sickness clear across the United States. You did him no favors by "forgiving" him, when what he needed was help to get well. Instead, he kept infecting others and you stood at his side and helped him. As far as I know, you stand there today with the same blood on your hands.

Professionally, I have a Master's degree in Social Work. When I look back at the church in those years under Tommy's leadership, I see that the black seed of his sin was at the very core. I see the many families he split in two because of his lies and cover-ups. Some of these never recovered. When I look at the lives of the boys he abused and see where each of them is today, I know that many have internalized the abuse and are still living with the guilt he placed on their heads. The guilt that forced them to face their feelings alone as they kept their silence against the man placed before them in a position of power and authority by their own parents. The boys who have never worked through the process of grieving over what they lost. There should be a special punishment for a person who abuses the trust of children and shatters their dreams; a special punishment for the man who ripped the joys and pleasures of childhood from young boys and changed their self-perceptions forever.

Moreover, can anyone imagine the guilt and regret of the mothers who failed to be there when their children needed them the most? Mothers who will always feel they failed at the job God blessed them with by not doing enough to protect their children against this evil.

Anyone still protecting him, Carol, Danny, 3ABN, or the attorney who keeps spouting about statute of limitations, your hands will also be held accountable for the evil you work to cover up. There is no "statute of limitations" on the pain and suffering these boys feel—it doesn't go away after a set number of years—it's there for the rest of their lives. Come forward now and get him the help he needs. He admits to having a "sickness" and you have failed him as we have failed our children. Help the healing begin for everyone involved before any more time goes by.

From a mother's heart.

[Daryl Fawcett](#)   
(18300+  
Member)  
02/02/07 05:54  
PM

 **Re: Mom in Pain #1**

Here is an interesting letter taken from the Save3ABN site:



<http://www.save3abn.com/tommy-shelton-victims-family-judy-woods-1.htm>

January 18, 2007

Dear sir:

The subject I am about to approach absolutely boggles my mind! I cannot comprehend, even to this day, how one person, Tommy Shelton, with his deviate behavior, and all the while declaring that it was not true, could almost destroy our little church. We are, now, a handful of people at Ezra Church of God, that have sat here for decades with a black cloud over our head that seems as if it can never be removed. This type of situation only happens somewhere else, not here!

Why did we, as a congregation, allow it to come to this? Why did I not see what was happening, after all I was Sunday School superintendent? I was in a position where I could observe many of his interactions with the young people. Also, why did the young victims not report the fact that they were being molested to their parents or some authority figure? I know that one young person did go to city hall and made a statement to the police, but nothing happened! Did someone intervene on Tommy's behalf? I don't have the answers to these questions!

As I look back, I quickly realize that hindsight is 20/20. It was a time of chaos that overwhelmed me. I had Sunday School teachers quitting because of the accusations that were running rampant. Many had believed such accusations and left the church. Our church was literally falling apart! At this time, I decided to stand with the pastor. Did I ever question his innocence at this time. Yes, only to switch back to no almost immediately. The fact is that at this point I simply chose not to believe the accusations for, you see, I didn't want to believe them. After all, he was preaching holiness and musically talented. How could there be a dark side?

But, what is probably the key factor is Tommy has a way with words that can convince you that black is white. Any situation that arose that didn't seem kosher, I went directly to Tommy and questioned him on such. He always had an answer that made me say to myself, why did I ever ask!

But, I still had many questions along the way. One young man stood out in particular. He and Tommy were caught alone in a certain residence. Tommy lied and said that it was his son there. Not so! This same teenager would go along on family vacations with the Sheltons. Tommy would also tutor this boy in his office in the evenings.

In the past, other teenagers were used to drive him different places; for example, he would go to a recording studio quite regularly in Flora, IL, and, most always with a young driver.

These are just a few examples of what went on at Ezra.

In situations where Tommy needed to stand and fight for himself, he was always

incapacitated, mostly nerve issues-- nervous breakdown, removing himself to California to escape the "heat," even admitting himself to a mental hospital in Centralia. Others in the congregation would try to fight his battles!

During his entire pastorate at Ezra, I stood by him and tried to help him even though I had questions. I suppose I was naive and blinded to a certain extent as to what was really going on.

What about today? Scripture says, "Be sure your sin will find you out." This is exactly what happened when the pieces of the puzzle fit perfectly into place leaving no doubt in my mind that Tommy is guilty of molesting teenagers.

The young man that has already been mentioned came to my house and told me exactly what Tommy did to him. This was during all the chaos at the church. No, at this point, I did not believe him. I confronted Tommy as to what he said. Tommy blamed the boy's parents for forcing him to tell this. Tommy told me that when the boy turns 21 years old, he would come back and tell me the "truth." I haven't seen the boy since!

Some years have now passed, and I spoke to a mother of another of Tommy's victims. She was talking about her son and Tommy. I ask her if her son had ever said what Tommy did to him. She proceeded to tell me what he said---which turned out to be exactly what the young man said that had come to my house some years before. This was the piece of the puzzle that completed the picture of guilt. These two boys were not in any way connected--not by age, locale or friendship!

My feelings, today, are of betrayal, being lied to over and over, and just, in general, being "used." But how I "feel" does not compare to the torment, agony, and embarrassment that the victims must endure for a lifetime! Only God knows how many victims there are!

By the way, this is not the end of the saga. Since the ruination of Ezra, which included many victims, Tommy has continued to pursue young men to victimize, one of which is Roger, a relative. He then moved on to the Community Church of God in Dunn Loring, VA, leaving more victims there! Only God knows just how many victims there are! This type of behavior must be stopped!

A big "thank you" to the SDA and the CCG for your pursuit of the truth. Please be persistent in your efforts. Tommy must be held accountable for his actions!

The thought that the situation at Ezra had been dealt with 30 years ago, is simply not true! We will know Tommy has repented of his sin when he bows on his knees before each of his victims and begs their forgiveness. Then he must stand before the congregations at Ezra and Dunn Loring and apologize for the agonizing devastation he has caused each church!

I close with some advice directed at Tommy----why don't you stand up and be a man

for once in your life! Admit to what you've done and are doing! Stop the cop-out of a nervous breakdown, etc., when you're cornered! Stop hiding behind your fancy lawyer, which I am certain has never been told the real truth. If he had been, he would never have written the (2) threatening letters in an effort to protect a child molester. Stop hiding behind your wife and Danny, who have become your enablers, or, in other words, accessories! Your wife should never have allowed such behavior! Danny should never have put you on staff at 3ABN, nor should he have allowed you on camera, except it does show the world what a child molester looks like! Real godly sorrow and heartfelt repentance are in order, without which hell awaits! Then, after you've done all this, extreme long-term counseling would be the next step!

Perhaps, if all this were accomplished, maybe the black cloud over Ezra would slowly begin to dissipate!

Thank you

Judith Woods

(\*\*\*\*\* Note, the one at the Save3ABN link was a signed letter - Daryl \*\*\*\*\*)

[Daryl Fawcett](#) 

(18300+

Member)

02/06/07 04:49

PM



 **Re: Mom in Pain #1**

Here is another signed letter from the Save3ABN site:

<http://www.save3abn.com/tommy-shelton-victims-family-mom-2.htm>

**Broken-Hearted Mother #2**

Letter of Charlotte Hopper, Mother of Greg Houseworth

Greg Houseworth is one of the alleged victims of Tommy Shelton. His mother, Charlotte Hopper, unburdens her heart below.

February 3, 2007

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to tell you that I am the mother of one of Tommy Shelton's victims.

First of all, I want to commend the boys, now young men, that have come forward. I know that it was not easy, and for the ones that haven't yet spoken out publicly, God bless each one of you! Whichever group you belong to, you have nothing to be ashamed of. What was done to you lies on the shoulders of Tommy Shelton!

I, like many others in the beginning of this mess, believed Tommy Shelton. He had a way of manipulating people, both young and old, and still to this day, seems to have that power over some people.

When one of the boys came forward, I remember asking my son if it had happened to him. At that time he told me "no," but he said, "Mom, \*\*\*\*\* is not lying about it!" As time went on, my son finally came to me and told me that it had happened to him, and with some details of what was done. As a mother, I was angry and, even more, I was sick to my stomach! To think that someone you trusted could do something like this!

I then started to look back and recall things that had happened. I remember when things began to heat up for Tommy Shelton, he came by our home and asked my son to come outside and talk. Later, I learned that he had told my son that if he told anyone, Carol Shelton would kill herself. Not only did he use his wife, but also his daughter as a pawn. This was not his only threat against my son. I won't write what the other threats were that were made at this time, but they would make you sick!

As for Carol Shelton, all along she has covered up for Tommy. One time at church, she asked me to go down to the teenage girls' classroom. There she asked me if Tommy had done anything to my son. I, not wanting to hurt her and her children, told her "no." At a later date she asked my son to meet her at McDonalds restaurant in West Frankfort. She asked him the same question. He, not wanting to hurt her, answered her in the same way.

It's funny how she never worried about all the boys in their hurts and fears! I wonder when Carol Shelton stands before the Lord, [page 2] what will her answer be then!

As far as Danny Shelton is concerned, he has always covered this up. He did not want this all to come forward as it would be an embarrassment to him and his ministry. He had a growing ministry in 3ABN and did not want to jeopardize it, no matter what the cost. He should have known that what Tommy was doing would affect him and his ministry. I would like to know what he will say when he stands before the Lord!

Now, let us get back to Tommy Shelton. I am sure you have heard, if it walks like a duck, looks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it's a duck! At one time, I was told that Tommy Shelton was a homosexual. Let's get real, he is not a homosexual! I believe that a homosexual would not think of molesting a child! How many times on the news media, do you see where a child has been molested by a homosexual? So back to my "duck story," let's call Tommy Shelton what he is, a child molester, sex offender, pedophile, etc.!

He always said he had a vision for a Christian school. That's why he encouraged the folks at Ezra Church of God to start one. Looking back, I wonder if he was not planning this so he would have access to a lot of young boys!

I am the mother who went to Pastor Dryden when I learned Tommy Shelton was going to Dunn Loring. Pastor Dryden listened to what I had to say, but at that time he had no idea that my son was one of Tommy's victims. In fact, up to that time, he believed the story Tommy Shelton had given. This shows the deception that Tommy

Shelton held over lay persons and other pastors! I explained to him my concerns for the young men at Dunn Loring. I did not want the same abuse my son experienced to happen to them. Pastor Dryden did what any pastor should do, and that is to advise the church at Dunn Loring about the allegations. The church had this information, and yet they fell victim to Tommy Shelton's deception. I feel that the folks at Ezra Church of God and Pastor Dryden did all they could at that time in warning them about this matter. They chose to believe Tommy Shelton and allowed him to destroy some more young men there!

I have lived with this for 23 years, and, it has eaten away at me daily for all these years! I hurt for all those other young men, but no one knows the hurt I have for my own! This should not happen to any child! We that have never had this happen to us cannot comprehend the pain and anguish that those young men have [page 3] suffered.

I want to know where the justice is! I know that God can forgive, but Tommy needs to pay for what he has done. He needs to be put where he cannot harm another child! I don't want to see him have another fake breakdown or health problem. Justice needs to come forth. He has devastated two churches and hurt countless young men and their families. These are the few we know about. There may be, and probably are, others. He may fool some people, but he cannot fool God!

To broken-hearted mom number one and all the other mothers who know that their sons were molested, I understand your anguish and pain.

Charlotte Hopper

(\*\*\*See the actual signature at the Save3ABN site - Daryl\*\*\*)

P.S. If Tommy Shelton would like to have his attorney send me a threat of legal action, all I can say is go for it! I would like nothing better than to be in the same courtroom with him! The truth then would be free!

**Ex. B**

<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:08 AM</p>	<p> <b>Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>At <a href="#">BlackSda.com</a> someone brought up an old Vermont Supreme Court case concerning Gailon, the lead unofficial investigator looking into allegations against Danny Shelton et. al.</p> <p>In the interest of full disclosure, Gailon explained the matter in detail and sent it out to everyone on his list of email addresses of the parties involved with or concerned about the allegations.</p> <p>The next post will be the email he sent out.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:09 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <div data-bbox="472 869 1354 1766" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p><b>Quote:</b></p> <p><b>13 V.S.A. § 2531. Embezzlement generally</b></p> <p><b>TITLE 13</b> <b>Crimes and Criminal Procedure</b> <b>PART I</b> <b>Crimes</b> <b>CHAPTER 57. LARCENY AND EMBEZZLEMENT</b> <b>Subchapter II. Embezzlement[/center]</b></p> <p><b>§ 2531. Embezzlement generally</b></p> <p>An officer, agent, bailee for hire, clerk or servant of a banking association or an incorporated company, or a clerk, agent, bailee for hire, officer or servant of a private person, partnership, tradesunion, joint stock company, unincorporated association, fraternal or benevolent association, except apprentices and other persons under the age of sixteen years, who embezzles or fraudulently converts to his own use, or takes or secretes with intent to embezzle or fraudulently convert to his own use, money or other property which comes into his possession or is under his care by virtue of such employment, <b>notwithstanding he may have an interest in such money or property, shall be guilty of embezzlement</b> and shall be imprisoned not more than ten years or fined not more than \$500.00, or both. (Amended 1971, No. 199 (Adj. Sess.), § 15.)</p> </div> <p>That's right, it is not a text but a statute, one which has an unusual statement rarely</p>

seen in the embezzlement statutes of the various states (**in Bold type**). And one which I have become very familiar with, much to my chagrin. And one so infrequently charged, that, yes, I am the singular citation in the Northeast Reports, a legal research text of precedent setting cases.

It is in fact true...I was an officer and major stockholder of Credit Management Services Corporation starting in 1978. I believe I began as a secretary to the corporation and vice president for operations. Beginning in 1980 the firm became embroiled in a series of legal battles brought by clients of Legal Services Corporation of Vermont (Legal Aide) that continued until Dec 1984. The first claims were brought in Vermont Superior court and were defeated with rather unusual, but effective, legal tactics.

In 1981 LSC of Vt brought a separate but far more extensive action in US District Court accusing CMS of violating the Federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, a class action case for injunctive relief and individual hearings on the merits for damages. Injunctive relief was not granted. The case was put on the docket for 58 separate trials on the merits for damages.

Shortly after filing the action, at one of the first hearings, LSC of VT offered then corporate counsel, Atty Thomas Koch, to settle for \$1500 in legal fees to LSC of Vt and a stipulated injunction for new collection rules that exceeded the US FDCPA. The management took the matter up and made a clear decision citing a **standard that I fully supported, THEN and NOW: Millions for Defense, not a single farthing for tribute!!!**

The President and CFO, also the other stockholders, did not have the stomach for the litigation and had wanted to accept the offer to settle. The other managers and I refused. The firm was bleeding badly financially and being a big fish in a little pond we were a constant source of news, deemed to be negative public relations associated with the process. I agreed to buy out the 60% I did not own and I also agreed to hold the sellers harmless of any and all litigation. After I bought out the other stock-holders in 1982 I was personally named a party by LSC of VT Atty's Benjamin and Sussman to intimidate and attempt to force a settlement by threatening personal assets. I refused to negotiate and ordered interrogatories and depositions of the 58 named plaintiffs and counterclaimed one by one.

Frankly, I reveled at the opportunity to defend personally and entered an appearance "pro se" as I was not happy with the corporations lawyers. I had bought out the two other share-holders so I could have control of the entire litigation process and by being named a defendant, the insurance carrier could not over-ride my wishes and settle to avoid years of legal fees!!!

In the fall of 1982 Atty Sue Sussman became an asst AG. and shortly thereafter filed a civil suite by the AG. We also fought that action and it was settled and dismissed sometime in the Spring of 1984. In December 1984 the LSC of Vt made the very poor legal strategic decision of simply dismissing me personally in the hopes the

insurance company would settle. We promptly brought an action for mis-use of process and our Atty, now Sen Vincent Illuzzi, received a settlement for \$40,000 in legal fees. Touche'!!!

Sometime during the civil litigation battles, the AG's criminal division got into the fray and contacted clients we had ongoing disputes with regarding receivables for sums owed to CMS or vice versa. Several of these filed formal complaints and the AG upped the ante and brought a criminal complaint for embezzlement against myself, personally, in 1985. The basis was the highlighted portion of the statute listed above, which simply means that because we did not remit the net due to Stacey in a timely fashion and converted the sum payable to corporate use, **not withstanding our interest in the sum collected, I had committed embezzlement.** Legally correct!!! Even though I had not been on the payroll since 1980 and was living in Maine at the time, therefore did not personally benefit, except in the egotistical sense of keeping the firm going to defeat the legal allegations, and achieve vindication. The buck still stopped at my desk!! !

We were able to get all but one claim dismissed because they owed us more than we owed them. In Stacey Fuel's case, Stacey had accepted partial payments from the debtors and refused to pay fees for service on the direct to Stacey's payments and we did indeed withhold payment until we were properly notified of payments and they were credited to the balance. I don't recall if they ever verified reported payments to CMS, despite debtor notification to us. Stacey cancelled service before the payment arrangements were finished and CMS gave notice of intent to bill them for the entire commission due but, unfortunately, never did. Frankly, because we had with-held payment, we were in violation of 13 VSA sec 2531!!!

The AG decided to take the one claim to trial in the sum \$1152.15 which we fought it all the way to the Vt Supreme Court (Decision was in 1988) and the personal conviction was affirmed on the basis that the Vt Embezzlement statute allows for a charge against an individual rather than the corporation and could do so regardless of the charged person's interest in the balance due the offended party.

In any event, the sentence was easy enough: I was ordered to pay the account and did so. Regardless of the technicality the entire legal issue was clearly my responsibility. I did not, nor would I try, to blame another. The facts were the facts and the Vt Supreme Court affirmed the fact that it was illegal to do what was done. Therefore the buck stopped at my desk and I took responsibility.

The harsh reality is, at the beginning of 1982 I controlled five companies, National Businessmens Credit Association, the National Business Trust, Green Mountain Credit Bureau, Capital Funding Corporation, and acquired the balance of CMS mid year. I put it all on the line for what I felt were irreversible principals that I and my management would not compromise on. By 1985 I had to sell or close every single business and had to start all over again. And I did!!! Some would argue that discretion is the greater part of valor and we should have settled in 1982 and we would be here today, handcuffed and cowering to LSC of Vt...an unacceptable option. I believe in

Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness and in the absolute right of conscience. I will not live with the alternative without a fight. SO, the question frequently comes up...would you do it all again?

Well, I would certainly handle invoicing differently and would be dis-inclined to own a collection agency today, but other than that, given the same circumstances and given hindsight, YES, I WOULD PUT IT ALL ON THE LINE AGAIN, UNQUESTIONABLY, AND BE WILLING TO LOOSE IT ALL AGAIN, UNCONDITIONALLY.

I will forever stand for principal at any cost, and believe me when I say I have paid dearly. From that experience I have only my wife and family, praise the Lord, and many, many friends and business associates that we have helped to launch careers or beat back challenges to their lives and businesses. White Knight or greivous ogre, I would suppose it would depend on which side of the battles you were on!!!

Others would argue that we won the battles but lost the war... perhaps, but I would rather fight for principals and the right of conscience and loose than live with the alternative. If that disqualifies me from offering my experience and perspective to help victims of an unfair system in the sight of some, so be it, but I will always be available to help slay dragons and I will NEVER GIVE UP!!!

In summary, I have felt the sting of Justice and the comfort of Mercy. Justice makes one more human and understand the issue of accountability. It also makes you look hard at yourself and realize just how easy it is to be a "fallible human being" and how hard it is to earn the Mercy of humanity and how little we deserve the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. And in the end, I know what it is to be willing to give up everything we have worked so hard for, to stand for principals, albeit human principals, and how much more important it is to stand for the principals of righteousness within the Church of God. May every "fallible human being" learn the same lesson, is my prayer as we move forward to clean up any stench in the nostrils of the Lord!!!

Gailon Arthur Joy

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 07:21 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"

Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 07:31:42 -0600

From: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson

Bob,

Gailon Joy does not respect my wishes to stop communicating with me as ASI is handling mine and Linda's situation. He sends me your groups discussion concerning

this situation. ASI has asked me to quit communications with him. I have asked him to stop. He continues to send "tell alls" on anyone who emails him, even his own supporters. Since you seem to be on his team, could you see that he abides by my following request.

Please don't continue to send me info as I have asked you not to communicate with me since ASI had agreed to hear mine and Linda's situation.

Save your emails to me. I already knew about you being a convicted embezzler and have more knowledge than you and your group would be comfortable with, of other personal and financial challenges that are open knowledge surrounding you.

Again, please don't bother to send me any more communications at this time. I would suggest that you send your communications to H. Lance.

Thanks Bob,

Danny

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 07:35 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

I already knew about you being a convicted embezzler and have more knowledge than you and your group would be comfortable with, of other personal and financial challenges that are open knowledge surrounding you.

What is disturbing about the above statement is, How did Danny get that knowledge? Rather than answering questions and addressing allegations in a straightforward manner, has he instead resorted to digging up dirt about those who have concerns, and using that dirt to discredit them?

If that be the case, I wonder what he will dig up about me?

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 07:37 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"

Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 08:05:24 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

Hi Danny.

I don't really have any control over what he does, so I don't think I can "see that he abides by [your] following request."

I have been curious about something, though. You write below that "ASI had agreed to hear mine and Linda's situation." That is good. But I hope that they will deal with more than just that, since the rumors out there concern far more than just your and Linda's situation.

I noticed the 3ABN web site announced two rallies last weekend in Oregon. What I was curious about is why it advertised only you and Tommy being there. In your previous reply to Gailon you did not specifically deny that allegations of child molestation have been leveled against Tommy, and I understand that these allegations have been hanging over him for years. I would think it most unwise from a PR standpoint to push Tommy to the front of things until these allegations are resolved.

Is there anything in the works to resolve these allegations, demonstrating either Tommy's guilt or innocence?

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 07:38 AM



**Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

To: Danny Shelton

Sent: 11/23/2006 8:15:43 AM

Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"

Danny,

One thing I've noticed, and I think I mentioned this to you before, is that you seem to use a tactic in damage control which in the end can be quite detrimental to your cause. You wrote:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"I already knew about you being a convicted embezzler and have more knowledge than you and your group would be comfortable with, of other personal and financial challenges that are open knowledge surrounding you."

Why would this sort of comment be necessary? How is it helpful? All it appears to do is distract from the issues being raised by attacking others. In my opinion, it would be far better to just deal with the issues raised in a transparent, straightforward way.

	<p>I realize that's not your gift. But then you really need to authorize and enable someone else to do that.</p> <p>Of course, Gailon's email did not raise issues with 3ABN, but I have noticed this sort of problem with your previous replies to issues he has raised.</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:41 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem" Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 08:40:21 -0600 From: Danny Shelton</p> <p>I will refrain from answering your questions at this time. I'm willing for ASI to do it's work with the facts presented by both sides.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:42 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- To: Danny Shelton Sent: 11/23/2006 9:00:28 AM Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"</p> <p>Hi Danny.</p> <p>Think about it: If you'd only be willing to approach these questions transparently and straightforwardly, without attacking others, as if you don't have a thing to hide, ASI wouldn't need to be involved at all.</p> <p>You have spent so many years building up 3ABN's ministry. Why jeopardize it all by continuing an approach that turns off supporters? In other words, what hinders you from answering transparently and straightforwardly the simple question, "Is there anything in the works to resolve these allegations, demonstrating either Tommy's guilt or innocence?"</p> <p>Not answering that simple question gives the impression that you are engaging in evasion and stonewalling, and that the allegations really are true. And that impression is detrimental to the mission of 3ABN, and should be avoided at all costs.</p> <p>But I do take it from your reply that the ASI panel will be investigating the allegations</p>

	<p>against Tommy as well, and that is good.</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:46 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>My last paragraph was meant to point out to him that he did not narrow down the focus of the ASI panel review process in the previous email to just he and Linda's divorce and his subsequent remarriage. I was therefore giving him an opportunity to state clearly what he intended to allow ASI to look into and what he was going to prohibit them from looking into.</p> <p>The reality of the matter is that neither the Adventist Church nor ASI has any jurisdiction over 3ABN, and ASI, of which 3ABN is a member, can only review whatever 3ABN permits it to.</p> <p>I'll add that to my knowledge, Tommy is not a Seventh-day Adventist, and that the allegations against him concern alleged misconduct while he served as pastor of at least two Church of God congregations in two different states.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:48 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: [Fwd: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"] Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 09:30:06 -0600 To: Walt Thompson</p> <p>Hi Walt.</p> <p>I thought I'd pass along our email interchange to you.</p> <p>I really think that 3ABN and Danny need better damage control, and have felt that way since being told by a major 3ABN player in August, simply because I was asking questions, that I was "led of the pits of hell" and was "one sick puppy."</p> <p>Danny's replies below illustrate yet again the need for better damage control. Tommy has had these allegations hanging over his head for years, and if he has ever been cleared, Danny won't say. And if anything is in the works to either prove or disprove these allegations, Danny won't say. "I will refrain from answering your questions at this time."</p> <p>Yet while he can't bring himself to answer simple questions, he has no problem whatsoever digging up dirt and using it to attack others with, as he makes clear below.</p>

This sort of PR and damage control approach, it's beyond me.

The whole situation comes across as if the more allegations there are, the more the one alleged to have done wrong ends up in the limelight. That's the appearance when Tommy is featured so prominently at rallies and at the MAP Seminar. And that appearance is not helpful to the mission and prosperity of 3ABN.

If 3ABN is going to prosper in the years to come, there needs to be a drastic change in PR and damage control.

God bless.

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 07:49 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"

Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 09:38:30 -0600

From: Danny Shelton

Bob, one last email to you.

Most of the rumors and accusations are based on lies. There are potentially millions of viewers. I nor anyone else can or will ever address all individual rumors with individual people asking the questions. It would be too time consuming.

If the biggest rumors or accusations are addressed by a reputable group like ASI, then people will have more info to base their decisions of whom are they going to believe.

There's a good chance that if ASI decides I have lied about my biblical grounds for divorce, then there is also a good chance that I am lying about other things. If on the other side of the coin ASI decides that Linda has lied about the reasons for our divorce then there is a good chance that the other info she and her friends are feeding the public, may be lies also.

I've been told that you cross one bridge at a time.

good bye.

[Bob Pickle](#)

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

<p>(1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:53 AM</p>	<p>Thus Danny makes it crystal clear in the above email that he will not permit ASI to review all the allegations. He will instead force them to confine their review to a major issue that is relatively minor, compared to such things as the allegations of child molestation against 3ABN employee Tommy Shelton.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:53 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem" Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 10:40:53 -0600 From: Danny Shelton</p> <p>Bob,</p> <p>I'm going to repond to you or Gailon anymore. Thanks for respecting that.</p> <p>Danny</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:54 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem" Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 10:46:41 -0600 To: Danny Shelton</p> <p>Hi Danny.</p> <p>Who then at 3ABN would be a good one for me to ask my question of? Who is responsible for handling damage control regarding serious matters?</p> <p>It doesn't bother me at all to ask someone else, since your time is valuable. I just need to know who I should be conversing with at 3ABN instead of yourself.</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:54 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"</p>

Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 10:57:01 -0600

From: Danny Shelton

Bob, Please understand that we are letting ASI deal with this first. Whatever is left we will look at later.

ASI has asked us not to discuss this situation in detail with anyone at this time. We are respecting that request.

Hopefully you will understand, if not I'm sorry, but you'll just have to wait until ASI makes a decision.

No need to respond

Danny

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 07:55 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"

Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 12:02:21 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

Hi Danny.

Just a quick question to make sure I understand you correctly. You are saying that ASI is dealing with **all** allegations concerning 3ABN and its board, officers, and employees? And that ASI has asked 3ABN not to reply to questions about **any** allegations, even questions as to why Tommy is being put so much into the limelight while the allegations of child molestation are still unresolved?

Your reply suggests such, but I just want to be sure that that is what you meant.

I should add this real quick: A conference official told me that we could all be in trouble with the authorities if the allegations against Tommy aren't reported. Has 3ABN or someone else reported them? If so, to whom and when? I certainly don't want to get into any legal trouble, and if waiting until ASI finally makes some sort of decision before it all gets reported makes me liable in some way, I think it would be better to make sure it has been reported sooner rather than later.

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

<p>(1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:57 AM</p>	<p>I have been informed that what the "conference official" told me is incorrect as far as someone like me getting into legal trouble over not reporting this.</p> <p>Consider how powerful an organization ASI is that they can request what has been called the second largest Christian broadcaster in the world not to answer simple questions about anything, and they comply.</p> <p>I suppose then, if this is really an accurate picture of the situation, that if ASI tells a ministry that they need to make certain drastic changes, that ministry will also comply.</p> <p>Thus, if taken at face value, this appears on the part of Danny to be an admission that the recommendations of the ASI panel will be binding. But I'm unsure that we can take his comments at face value.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:57 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: [Fwd: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"] Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 13:30:48 -0600 From: Walt Thompson</p> <p>Hi Bob,</p> <p>ASI has advised us to discontinue communication with our accusers while they are working. I will wait for the process to occur before commenting further.</p> <p>Walter Thompson MD</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:58 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <hr/> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem" Date: Thu, 23 Nov 2006 14:18:36 -0600 To: Walt Thompson</p> <p>Hi Walt.</p> <p>I would imagine that folks who have a few questions would not be called "accusers," and thus I wonder if you might have a few comments about the propriety of putting Tommy in the limelight before the allegations against him get resolved. It just doesn't seem wise to me.</p>

I was talking to a conference official the other day, and they said that anyone who knows about the allegations regarding Tommy who doesn't report them to the proper authorities could be in trouble. I certainly don't want to get into any kind of legal trouble, and so I'm wondering if these allegations were ever reported to the authorities? To whom and when?

Hope your Thanksgiving is going well.

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:00 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

The following was Gailon's reply to my last email to Danny. Harold Lance is the one coordinating the development of the ASI panel review process.

Gailon refers to Danny's statement that ASI had asked him not to answer anymore questions. Since ASI is supposed to be neutral in this process, Gailon is wondering why they would be advising Danny.

If you believe that Danny is correct that ASI really did advise him in this way, then you might agree that there is a problem. But as always, it is wisest to get both sides of the story before coming to a conclusion.

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

Subject: Re: "We got a problem"

Date: Fri, 24 Nov 2006 15:28:45 +0000

From: (G. Arthur Joy)

To: Bob

CC: (Harold Lance, Esq)

Who, at ASI, would be advising him not to answer questions? Am I all wet in assuming that ASI is completely neutral and would prefer the parties resolve as many issues as possible amongst themselves? Is ASI acting as counsel to 3ABN?

Yes, we have a serious problem...he is suggesting that Harold Lance is representing and counseling Danny and 3ABN. I hope that is not the facts in this case!!!

Also, why would 3ABN not deal with all the issues and avoid the need for a tribunal??? Would not this make much better sense??? And it would show some serious reform on the part of the board...which would avoid some other issues as well.

Gailon Arthur Joy  
AUReporter

<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 08:01 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>This is Gailon's response to my last email to Walt.</p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: "We have a serious problem" Date: Fri, 24 Nov 2006 15:40:56 +0000 From: gabbjoy4@comcast.net (G. Arthur Joy) To: Bob, Walt Thompson CC: (Linda Shelton), (Harold Lance, Esq)</p> <p>I am beginning to believe that the entire process proposed by ASI is an attempt to whitewash the issue. Why would ASI be giving any advise to 3ABN and if they are, then where is the impartiality?</p> <p>This would clearly explain why Harold Lance opted to use an intermediary to approach Linda, rather than approach her himself.</p> <p>Unless Harold Lance specifically denies these allegations and the ASI "adviser" properly identified, there is little value in this approach.</p> <p>Smells to high heaven!!! Very disappointing!!!</p> <p>And remember who the original accusers were here-Danny &amp; 3ABN!!! Wouldn't be here today if 3ABN had done it's job properly on all the issues.</p> <p>Gailon Arthur Joy AUReporter</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 08:06 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>I prefer to have a different perspective than the above. ASI is an organization that is doing an incredible amount of good work around the world in advancing the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Rather, I prefer to assume that some of Danny's choices have compromised the reputations of many, many innocent individuals, as well as people who have simply made some honest, innocent, well-intended mistakes.</p> <p>I personally have worked at and for three different supporting ministries that are members of ASI. May God continue to bless each of the many, many lay-led ministries that are members of ASI in their endeavors to finish the Lord's work and</p>

hasten the soon return of our Lord.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+  
Member)

12/05/06 08:07  
AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"

Date: Fri, 24 Nov 2006 08:26:23 -0600

From: Walt Thompson

CC: Danny Shelton

Dear Bob,

The allegations against Tommy were made about 30 years ago. They were reported to the proper authorities. No physical actions ever occurred. Tommy apologized to the kids and offered recompense. The DA said there was no case. No restrictions were ever imposed. Tommy is employed by 3abn with full board approval, knowing the facts. The author of a book, "These kind don't change, do they?" was interviewed on 3abn recently. You may wish to purchase that book and read it (The sad thing about this is that the ones who are loudest in spreading falsehood know this, yet continue to agitate and keep the fires burning.)

Jesus said, he that is without sin, let him cast the first stone. I would echo Jesus statements today. All of us at 3abn are human. All have sinned. But, thank God, He forgives and uses our fallings as stimulants to make us grow. 3ABN is in the work of healing broken people, but we too are still in a sense broken. Almost every employee has a record they would not be proud of. Yet, God takes great pleasure in accomplishing His purposes on earth by people just such as us. No where in the Bible are there examples of people who have fallen who have suffered the wrath of God who have confessed their sins and learned from their mistakes. Yet, for the past almost 3 years 3abn has been bombarded with lies and insinuations. Of course, we know where they come from, and we know that no one ever wins when he enters argument with the devil. Therefore, we have tried to let the Lord fight our battles. We have resisted the temptation to take on the battle ourselves and I am sure have sometimes said too much or too little, but never the less, know in our hearts that we have taken the high road in this battle. Attorneys that have looked at the evidence agree full heartedly. While not everyone may agree with the decisions we have made, we have continued to rejoice with the blessing of our Lord.

Yes, it is wearing. I can only thank God for giving Danny the strength of faith and health to hang on as he has done. I am sure it is only by God's amazing grace that this has occurred. And I must thank our faithful viewers and supporters who by their prayers of intercession have joined the powers of heaven in this battle.

You speak of the need for damage control. Please place yourself in Danny's shoes for just one day and try to imagine how you would respond. Then imagine being the

source of bombardment day after day, seemingly unendingly. It has not been easy. Danny is a fighter. Without his determination and resiliency, this ministry would have been taken down long ago. I have no doubt that God chose Danny for this task, recognizing that all of our greatest strengths are sometimes also our greatest weaknesses. Yes, I know he sometimes would be better off to keep quiet, let the Lord fight his battles and relax, but that is not always easy. Most of all is the difficulty of knowing when to speak and when to be silent. God told ancient Israel that they should wait upon the Lord and He would fight their battles, but I find it interesting that they still had to go into battle and fight - Gideon is the classic example. While God took the battle into His own hands, Israel was called to do it's part before God could do His thing. Rather than faulting Danny for his tendencies to defend himself, I find I must lift him up in prayer.

You propose to me "that folks who have a few questions would not be called 'accusers.'" This would ordinarily be true, but when in battle for long periods of time, even good soldiers sometimes develop shell shock. When "friends" turn out to be enemies over and over again, one soon "learns" that he can trust no one. A number of e mails and letters that I have written as private responses have appeared on the Internet forums, "spun" to fit the desire of the "friend" who placed them there.

Thanks for your interest,

walt  
Walter Thompson MD

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:10 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

Notice very carefully that Walt acknowledges that there were allegations, and that something was done to children that had to be apologized for. But what happened and when it occurred is still not clear.

Since the above disagrees with the other side of the story, the question arises, what was the source of Walt's information?

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:11 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re: Gailons last email to me. "We got a problem"

Date: Fri, 24 Nov 2006 12:02:03 -0600

To: Walt Thompson

Thanks very much for your reply, Walt.

[**Note:** I wrote the following reply before getting two emails from Gailon, and so I want to add this brief note to reassure you: Gailon is **NOT** getting a blind copy of my reply because, though it may correct false information he has, a few details need to be clarified before it will be effective, and my reply would best not be forwarded hither and yon without those clarifications. **No one** is getting a blind copy of this reply.]

It is the kind of information that you have provided that is most helpful. I first heard about these allegations around August, and this is the first I've heard that there have not been new allegations for the last 30 years, that no physical actions occurred, and that Tommy apologized. Of course, this puts things in a different light, and it is this kind of information that can go a long ways towards squelching rumors.

And squelching rumors and criticisms is what I like to do. For example, there was a rumor accusing Melody of getting married the day after her new husband's divorce was final, and I was able to verify that his divorce was actually final a year before, and was able to squelch that rumor.

I am a little puzzled about a couple inconsistencies I see. Why in 2003 was it recommended to Tommy by letter sent to you that he issue written apologies when he had already apologized? And if he apologized, how can it also be true that one of the Church of God churches he pastored became split over the issue, some folks taking his side and some folks taking the side of the alleged victims, and that after one of his staunchest supporters died, her son came forward and told his story?

It's possible that the person associated with that congregation was just pulling my leg in giving me these details that make it appear that Tommy did not apologize, and that possibility only appears in light of the information you have given. But on an issue as important as this one I just want to make sure I've got the correct picture. Do you have a suggestion on how to harmonize these two different accounts?

In that 2003 letter you were invited to make contact with some of the alleged victims, their families, and the two associations that had given Tommy his credentials. Of these individuals and parties, how many did you actually contact? I ask that just to verify that the source of your information regarding apologies and no physical actions was not just one-sided. If both sides told you that that was the way it was, then that has to be the way it was, and I can then better use this information to put a halt to some of the rumors circulating out there.

Another possible question might be, if there have not been any new allegations for 30 years, why would the 2003 letter ask Tommy to apologize to the congregation in Virginia where I think he was still pastoring in 1999?

One last, simple request. I can relate to your shell shocked analogy. I think everyone at some point must feel that way. After Hal Steenson told me I was "led of the pits of hell," was "one sick puppy," needed "to get a life," was "sick," and needed "to be born again," and then repeatedly threatened to call security at ASI simply because I was asking a few questions privately in a way that no one else could hear, I tried to excuse

his unbecoming behavior by saying that he must have been having a bad day, and must be under strain because of all the attacks. But then when I've gotten no reply whatsoever to my emails asking respectfully and kindly for an apology, when I've gotten no apology whatsoever after asking for one via Joe O'Brien and John Lomacang, and after discussing the matter with Elder Denslow, every month that goes by it becomes increasingly difficult to justify his unbecoming behavior in this way.

It's this kind of thing that is a real problem. Jesus said, "Agree with your adversary quickly while you are in the way." By no stretch of the imagination could I be characterized as an adversary when I chatted with Hal at ASI. If we are to agree quickly with our adversaries, how much more readily with our friends?

So my simple request is that you ask Hal, when opportunity arises, to apologize to me for the insults and threats he gave at ASI.

I have two more issues that trouble me a bit, but this is long enough, and so I'll close for now.

God bless, and have a good Sabbath.

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:13 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Possible way to win 3ABN critics.

Date: Sun, 26 Nov 2006 11:07:44 -0600

To: Walt Thompson

Hi Walt.

I've been thinking about this situation a bit, and I think I see an opportunity perhaps for you to gain some credibility in the eyes of the 3ABN critics. It's an approach I've tried a number of times in various situations, and I get to it near the end of this email.

I'll first say that I am holding off till Tuesday before passing on the information you gave earlier about Tommy so that you can clarify the few points I raised, in order to avoid anyone attacking what you wrote before you have a chance to explain it. In other words, no one is getting a blind copy of this email, and no one will see it till Tuesday.

You wrote:

- "The allegations against Tommy were made about 30 years ago." This implies

that there have been no new allegations since then.

- "No physical actions ever occurred."
- "Tommy appologized to the kids and offered recompence."

The letter you received from the Church of God church in question in 2003 contained the following advice (I quote from the attached "Action Items"):

- "Tommy should issue written apologies over his signature to all victims and to their parents," indicating that he had never apologized.
- "Tommy also should issue written apologies over his signature for his deceit, as well as inappropriate behavior, etc., to ... the congregation of the Community Church of God, Dunn Loring, Virginia," indicating that he had had similar allegations at the church where he was pastoring as late as around 1999.

Some of your critics would likely jump on these discrepancies and use them to accuse you of dishonesty, which I think would be unwarranted and wrong, and which is why I haven't passed this on as of yet. Now since you wrote that "a number of e mails and letters that I have written" ended up being "spun" in a critical manner, I've tried to give some thought as to the best possible ways to spin these discrepancies. I see two other alternatives:

- There is a massive, multi-state, Church of God conspiracy to malign the character of Tommy Shelton, or
- You based your information on Tommy and/or Danny's word without contacting the other side, even though you were invited in that 2003 letter to contact the alleged victims, their families, and the two associations that apparently revoked the ministerial credentials they had given Tommy.

Of these various possibilities, the only one that seems plausible and that puts you in the best light possible is this last one. And that possibility, if it be correct (and I would certainly welcome some other explanation more complimentary to yourself), opens up an opportunity to gain a little traction among the 3ABN critics.

If that's what happened, then it certainly was an error on your part. One can't rely solely on the word of an individual when the allegations being raised against that individual include "deceit," which was the word used in that 2003 letter, especially when the charges are as serious as child molestation. To do so opens up churches and supporting organizations to significant liability if a problem occurs.

What I've found is that if I apologize for whatever I can whenever I have made an error of some sort, folks cut me a lot more slack than they would otherwise. And I feel that if the above is what happened, and if you acknowledge that error and pledge to be more thorough in this and the other investigations, then the tone of some of the critics will soften and mellow a bit, and just might become complimentary.

And that would be a victory for 3ABN.

I sincerely welcome your telling me that you did indeed contact the victims, their

	<p>families, and the associations referred to, or by giving me any alternative explanation that would better explain these discrepancies.</p> <p>God bless.</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 08:16 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>The following is borrowed from the Glenn Dryden documents thread. Pastor Glenn Dryden currently serves a Church of God congregation in Dunn Loring, Virginia.</p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: blacksda.com POSTING Date: Fri, 1 Dec 2006 19:42:46 -0500 From: Glenn Dryden</p> <p>Greetings from Pastor Dryden,</p> <p>I have taken the opportunity to read the postings at blacksda.com. Assuming you are the author of the message to Dr. Thompson of 26 Nov 2006 11:07:44, I would like to commend you for the logic in your plea to him.</p> <p>I think Dr. Thompson must be a good and well-intentioned man and I hope he will soon take heed to your logic.</p> <p>Glenn Dryden</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 08:16 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>Notice that I a number of times in my previous two replies gave Dr. Thompson notice that his crucial information would be passed along.</p> <p>Dr. Thompson said that the allegations were 30 years old. But the allegations he received in 2003 referred to alleged problems where Tommy was pastoring 3 years or less than that.</p> <p><b>Where then did Dr. Thompson and the board get their information that the allegations were <u>30 years old</u>?</b></p> <p>I repeat: Dr. Thompson was led to believe by someone that the allegations were 30 years old when in fact the <u>newest</u> ones were clearly, from the very letter he received via registered or certified mail, not more than 3 years old. <b>Who misled Dr.</b></p>

**Thompson**, intentionally or unintentionally?

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:32 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics.

Date: Sun, 26 Nov 2006 19:10:31 -0600

From: Walt Thompson

Dear Bob,

I am troubled by this whole affair. You claim to be a friend of 3abn and desiring to help, but at the same time you continue to assume that 3abn, its board and its administration are lying, incompetent and sporting a cover-up. That you are also in communication with persons who have already spread rumors and untruths around the world via the Internet bothers me and makes me wonder why I would feel the need to share more information with you. You alledge that by answering your questions I can gain credibility with our critics. This I have trouble believing since it hasn't happened yet. Nothing we have said until now has been accepted as fact, even though presented with ample evidence. Furthermore, it has been spun to suit the purpose of those who refuse to believe. I have been around this world for for a long time, and have often been held up as an example of honesty. You may check with colleagues, church leaders, fellow believers, family - anyone you wish - and though not all will agree with every decision I have ever had a part in making, none will accuse me of dishonesty (accept possibly Linda and Johann!). Likewise, the 3abn board is composed of people with unquestionable characters. The actions that we have taken through the years have not been taken without careful study and deliberation.

I do not understand the responsibility of 3abn to answer the questions of our critics. It is one thing to give answers to people who have honest questions and desire to know the truth, but quite something else to try to convince those who have no desire except to defend their preconceived opinions. If it should be that 3abn had made a mistake, Jesus outlined a path one ought to take in an attempt - privately, not to destroy - but to varify and assist in healing. Instead, a number of those who have come to us seeking information have spread it out on the Internet for the whole world to see and chew on. You see, I do not understand this type of "friend" not this variant of "justice." I may be naive, but this is not how my Bible tells me to do things.

Through the years we have had to make some difficult decisions, not the least of which was the one to let Linda go. Fortunately, most of our viewers and supporters have rallied behind us when we have brought our needs to public attention, and supported us with their earnest prayers and encouragement - doing as I understand all true Christians ought to do. Many, many of our supporters sensed a great loss with the loss of Linda - as all of us have, but they continued to support the ministry and its leadership, knowing that this was the right thing to do until they had ample reason to

do otherwise. Fortunately, most of our viewers recognize the burdens carried by the leadership of this ministry, understand that all are human and fallible, and love and support us in spite of that, just as God has done. While our "critics" have tried their best to undermine these by spreading lies and rumors, most have been able to "see through" these often vicious efforts and continue their support.

If I sound a bit defensive, please excuse me. I do not doubt your expressed statements to me about wanting to help the ministry. In fact, I appreciate your willingness to do so. But for the reasons mentioned, I fail to understand how your proposals might help the cause. Unless you can give me some very convincing reasons why I should do so, I prefer to merely state that we believe we have done things correctly and above board.

I suppose if I were "smart," I would assume that any and everything I wrote to you would be published for the world to read - even though I fail to understand the ethics of this. In this sense, yes, I am sometimes naive and too trusting. Yes, I know we are living in the age of information technology, but I refuse to believe that makes it right to make private conversations public.

Sincerely,

Walt  
Walter Thompson MD

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:33 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

To: Walt Thompson  
Sent: Sunday, November 26, 2006 10:42 PM  
Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics.

Hi Walt.

If you will re-read my communication, I specifically stated that I was assuming that you were not lying. And I will add that I have had no communication with Linda, except when I wrote her way back and told her I thought she was wrong when she was asking to have her membership dropped at Thompsonville.

We do have a definite problem in that allegations have been made publicly on the internet for far too long by far too many people, and they need to be put to rest in some way. The good of the cause demands it, and the allegations aren't going to disappear if we just ignore them. These public allegations must be met just as publicly, if it is possible to meet them.

As far as Matthew 18 is concerned, I am sure you are aware of the fact that Matthew 18 does not apply to public sins. The Spirit of Prophecy is quite clear about

that. And since Tommy's conduct, whatever it was, involved at least six boys in two states, and since it split a church, Matthew 18 does not apply in his case. In other words, what I am trying to say is that your and my communications, which are attempting to resolve a publicly-aired and serious issue, for the good of the cause of God cannot be kept private.

I have not read and analyzed all the communications you have sent out, and thus I can't tell you why in each case people haven't accepted what you have said as fact, but I can state why I cannot yet accept as fact what you told me about Tommy: There are still unresolved discrepancies, and your statements disagree with just about the only evidence I have seen, namely, the letter you received in 2003 from the Church of God that made those allegations.

Now if you can assure me that you did talk to the alleged victims, their families, and the two associations that gave Tommy ministerial credentials, and that they stated that the allegations were 30 years old, that there was no physical actions, and that Tommy apologized, then that makes your statements extremely credible. And I would then endeavor to find out the source of what would have to be slanderous lies about Tommy.

However, if the sole source of your information was directly or ultimately Tommy rather than also the other side, then we definitely have a problem. If I were a pastor and I did something like that, getting my information from only an alleged pedophile when invited to do otherwise, I can imagine my conference president having a little talk with me about my needing to be a bit more competent in such matters.

But we all make mistakes, I sure have, and it behooves us all to be kind toward those who err.

But here is the potential problem as I see it: You have, as you likely know, been accused of listening only to Danny's side in the Danny/Linda issue. Whether that is the case or not, I don't know, and I have yet to see convincing evidence establishing either Linda's innocence or her guilt. Because of the situations I've been in, I've been skeptical of Linda's claims of innocence. But here is the problem: If since 2003 you haven't contacted any of the alleged victims, their families, or the licensing associations as invited to do so by that letter from the Church of God, and if you instead ultimately relied on Tommy's word when the information he provided disagrees with the statements as found in that 2003 letter, then that unfortunately makes the accusation that you have only listened to Danny's side more plausible.

In my opinion, if this is what happened, an acknowledgment of error of judgment and a pledge to do better will help the situation, for a refusal to acknowledge such an obvious error would not benefit 3ABN in the least.

But now let's turn away from you entirely and look at a totally different issue with similar implications as the above. You probably realize as I do that \*\*\*\*\* is definitely not pro-Linda. I was put in contact with \*\*\*\*\* during \*\*\*\*\* because \*\*\*\*\* was

trying to locate a copy of the 2003 letter. In our conversation \*\*\*\*\* told me that \*\*\*\*\* because \*\*\*\*\*. Gailon told me that \*\*\*\*\*. I could harmonize those two statements without difficulty.

But then a friend of mine was talking to a 3ABN'er, and they said that \*\*\*\*\*. That was definitely a discrepancy, and so I asked \*\*\*\*\* about it. \*\*\*\*\* replied that when \*\*\*\*\* , Danny had threatened \*\*\*\*\* , and Danny's \*\*\*\*\* . These had then \*\*\*\*\* . The board decided to take Danny's word about it all without investigating \*\*\*\*\* , and \*\*\*\*\* .

\*\*\*\*\* said I could share \*\*\*\*\* side of the story with whomever had heard the \*\*\*\*\* allegation \*\*\*\*\* , and since you obviously know it, I'm sharing \*\*\*\*\* side with you. My guess is that Elder Denslow and you have already discussed this. Since these details are not public knowledge on the internet, unlike the allegations against Tommy, the details of this portion of our communications, given current circumstances, will not be made public.

Consider the implications: Danny is accused of conjuring up evidence against Linda. Someone who is not pro-Linda claims that Danny ordered \*\*\*\*\* evidence to be manufactured against \*\*\*\*\* . What kind of defense can Danny make when a pattern of behavior is claimed by two different parties who aren't on the same page?

Danny is widely accused of financial and managerial improprieties. A non-pro-Linda \*\*\*\*\* claims that \*\*\*\*\* , and was \*\*\*\*\* because \*\*\*\*\* . Again, there is an unfortunate appearance of a pattern of unethical behavior regarding finances and operations.

\*\*\*\*\* . It is quite plain that Linda's side distrusts the board and ASI, and I particularly have been bothered by their distrust of ASI. But \*\*\*\*\*'s story does raise questions about the board's fairness and competence if it is true that no impartial investigation was made into \*\*\*\*\* .

It is possible that \*\*\*\*\* is lying. Of course. It is possible that Danny never threatened \*\*\*\*\* and that the board did do a thorough and impartial investigation. I would welcome evidence to that effect.

But when we line up the huge number of people who claim to have personally been affected by the same kind of financial and operational problems, not to mention the moral problems, even totally ignoring whatever Linda and Johann are claiming, it becomes a big stretch to assume that all these people are lying and only Danny and Tommy are telling the truth, especially when all claimed evidence in their favor is carefully kept under lock and key and cannot be seen by anyone, even when promises to the contrary are adamantly made.

There are still a couple issues that personally trouble me, and I guess I sort of started into one of those with the last part of that last sentence, but once again, this is long enough. I will just say that I do not covet your unenviable position, and my prayers

and sympathies are with you. I hope that all these issues can be resolved in a way that is as redemptive as possible, and I pray that God will give you an abundant portion of His wisdom that you may best know just exactly how to proceed.

God bless.

Bob

P.S. Whatever clarifications you can make that would explain the discrepancies between your statements about Tommy and the 2003 letter you received would be most appreciated, as I will add your information to the mix come Tuesday. And do let me know if you contacted any of the alleged victims, their families, or the licensing associations in arriving at the information you gave.

And if the Holy Spirit impresses you, please speak with Hal for me when an opportunity arises.

Blessings.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:36 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

Notice that before Dr. Thompson makes his startling admissions, I state quite clearly in paragraph three above,

**Quote:**

In other words, what I am trying to say is that your and my communications, which are attempting to resolve a publicly-aired and serious issue, for the good of the cause of God cannot be kept private.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:36 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics.

Date: Mon, 27 Nov 2006 09:04:53 -0600

From: Walt Thompson

Dear Bob,

Thank you for you attempt to understand my sensitivity and that of 3abn administratin and board. We believe we have acted responsibly and wisely, appropriate to the

circumstances. While one can always be criticized after the fact and without all of the evidence then available for consideration, often those same critics would have made similar judgments had they been there.

As I recall the events of 2003, I received a call from Brad Thorp from the General Conference telling me of Pastor Dryden's accusations. Brad appropriately told me that it was not his concern, and that it was ours to handle. As I recall, I contacted pastor Dryden and heard his side of the story following which I received the letter that is circulating. I was at 3abn at the time and spoke at length with Danny about the matter. He shared with me the details as he understood them. Whether or not I was aware of what generated the letter at that time, I do not remember. Based upon my understanding that Dryden had had a long standing feud with Tommy over factors unrelated to the above accusations, it did not seem indicated to approach the boys in question directly, having been informed that no case had ever been filed with the courts or legal disposition made. We then discussed the situation with the full board. Given the alleged events had occurred many years before, attempts had been made to make things right, and no legal action had been taken, we did not see any reason to pursue the issue further nor to follow through with his recommendations. In my reply to pastor Dryden I merely thanked him for fulfilling his obligation to us. (I will make this one further comment. Whereas there are many accusations on the Internet alleging that Danny cannot be trusted, I disagree. I have known Danny now since the beginning of the ministry. Now more than 23 years. I have been fully apprised of many of the difficulties that he has faced during that time. While Danny sees things from his perspective, as we all do, he is honest and trustworthy. I have found no reason to distrust his reports to me. Yes, there are occasions when after having spoken with both sides of an issue it has been a matter of he said vs she said, but in all situations where I could know the facts, Danny has proven true.)

Subsequently, after this issue has been brought back to the forefront (I think there is only one person who could have known about this and brought it to world wide attention, and that person was then on the board and voted with the concensus) I contacted the only person from the Church of God that I could find that knew about the situation, and who had been present and witness to the events. (Accept for pastor Dryden's personal accounts, there are apparently no other records of the allegations) The picture that was painted by that leader of the Church was exactly as portrayed earlier by Danny. Dryden was jealous of Tommy and was out to get him - a jealousy that has continued to the present. I was again informed that the DA knew about the allegations and not finding a basis, refused to act against Tommy. I have been informed that the Church of God is a congregational type or organization with different jurisdictions in different states and that there was no higher authority that I could speak with to resolve the issue further. It was not entirely clear to me how that worked. I was also told that one leader pestered Tommy over and over again until Tommy voluntarily gave up his ministerial license. These are the facts as I have been able to sort them out.

I will not comment regarding \*\*\*\*\* except to say that good people sometimes see things from differing perspectives. We \*\*\*\*\*. We continue to have communication

with \*\*\*\*\* and consider \*\*\*\*\* a friend of 3ABN.

Since you have not described the other allegations against Danny, I am unable to know what you are referring and therefore unable to comment on them.

I hope this is helpful to you.

I would like to request that you not circulate this letter, but that you merely summarize and varify its contents.

Sincerely,

Walt

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 08:38 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

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

To: Walt Thompson

Sent: Monday, November 27, 2006 1:47 PM

Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics.

Hi Walt.

Thanks very much for your clarifications. In hindsight, we can always see how we maybe could have done it a little differently, and learn from that. That's just life.

I'll see what I can come up with regarding an alleged long standing feud between Dryden and Tommy, a feud unrelated to molestation.

How did you get the name of the leader at the Church of God that you spoke to? It would be interesting to know why that person's story differs so radically from that of the alleged victims. If I had to guess, I'd say that maybe they were of the faction in the split church that believed Tommy (a split caused by his allegedly not admitting to the accusations), and that they were not of the faction that sided with the alleged victims. If that be the case, and if you got the name of that person from Danny or Tommy, who certainly would have known who agreed with his version of things, it would explain why that was the person you just happened to talk to, and why you came up with a version of the situation that differs so widely from that of the alleged victims.

If this is how it all happened, if it is true that the allegations are more recent than 30 years and that Tommy did not apologize, then I personally would consider you to be a victim too, but of a different sort. And I think that is a very charitable way to look at it.

How can I contact this person to get their side of the story, and thus verify what you have related?

Do you know who authorized Mike Riva to threaten Pastor Dryden with legal action?

On the other matters I referred to, I'll mention two briefly, and then if we need to discuss details, we can do that.

You referred to Matthew 18, which is a must when dealing with private issues. I'm wondering then why on August 10 on 3ABN Live Shelley Quinn over global television implied that Linda's daughter had lied in her confidential and private testimony about Danny's alleged sexual assault. I found that very troubling, even if Linda's daughter did lie, on two counts: 1) The matter was private and confidential, and 2) repeatedly during that program, the claim was made that they weren't going to defend themselves at all against the lies that were being told about Danny and 3ABN. Yet they did most certainly defend themselves.

In other words, if the matter is a public one, then it should be dealt with in a conclusive way that puts the matter to rest. But to publicly call a lady who asserts sexual assault a liar without providing any conclusive evidence to that effect, and while claiming to not be defending one's self, has the effect of stirring up more concerns in people's minds than what existed before. Such secrecy regarding the evidence while publicly making such insinuations is counterproductive, and gives people the idea that something isn't right.

Secondly, John Lomacang invited folks with questions to call him, so I did on September 1. In that conversation, during which I was listening for something concrete that wasn't based on he said, she said, he stated emphatically that there were phone card phone records of hundreds of hours of phone calls made to Norway by Linda, records of phone calls made prior to March 9, 2004, records he had personally seen. He promised me that if I came to 3ABN I could see them, and told me that wasn't his decision. Thus, it must have been the decision of the board or of management.

On September 8, October 2, 3, 10, 16, and 17 I emailed him concerning taking him up on his offer on my way back from my brother's wedding on October 23. The only reply I ever got from him was after my email of October 2 in which he briefly stated that I would have to contact Mollie who would decide whether the trip would take place. I accordingly wrote her on October 3, 10, 16, and 17, and finally got a reply from her after my email of the 16th stating that John's promise would not be kept after all.

I mention all these dates for a reason. On the first five dates on which I wrote John, I also asked him a super simple question: Were those hundreds of hours of phone calls actual time spent on the phone, or were they billed units. With phone cards it might cost quite a few minutes for every minute on the phone to Norway. I also asked Mollie this question on the 17th, and I asked them both if John had made a mistake

when he made his promise, or, if not, why the sudden change in policy. It has been now more than a month since my last email to them, and I have heard nothing in reply to these questions.

I don't see how we can fault anyone if they think there is a cover-up going on, given such experiences as I have had with John, Mollie, and Hal. I really doubt that I am the only one who has been treated this way. 3ABN's damage control as it currently operates causes more damage than it controls.

Just two more thoughts, and I'll close. It might be good for me to get your side of the story regarding \*\*\*\*\*, since it is a crucial bit of information in trying to sort through everything. It clearly is evidence of fraud on the part of Danny, and something needs to be said to counter that if there is anything that can be said.

As far as passing on your reply, I don't see how I cannot do that and still achieve the goal of getting down to the bottom of things and putting these rumors to rest. If I were to summarize your reply, I would in essence have to quote most of it anyway.

God bless.

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/05/06 08:39

AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

To summarize:

Dr. Thompson earlier said that the allegations were 30 years old, that there were no physical actions, and that Tommy apologized to the children.

This contradicts the facts as stated in the May 2003 letter he received via certified mail on Church of God letterhead. That letter says that Tommy needed to apologize for child molestation, including to the congregation he pastored as late as around 1999.

I then asked Dr. Thompson what the source of his information was, and whether he contacted the alleged victims, their families, and the two associations that issued Tommy's ministerial credentials as he was invited to do. He replied above that he had not, and that he relied on Danny for the information that he gave me.

Thus we have Dr. Thompson's testimony that it was Danny that apparently misled him in 2003. (I say apparently because we have to leave open the slim possibility that all these folks in two different states are lying.) Now we must, to be fair, consider the possibility that Danny was himself misled by someone else. And since Dr. Thompson invited me to verify what he has written, I will endeavor to do that in the only way I know how.

	<p>We have one key question that needs answering. Who gave Dr. Thompson the name of the individual that he contacted since August? Did Danny or Tommy?</p> <p>Any encouragement or sympathy you can give Dr. Thompson I would personally appreciate. Since it appears that he was misled, he in some sense becomes one of the victims too, just of a different sort.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 08:40 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics. Date: Mon, 27 Nov 2006 20:21:19 -0600 From: Walt Thompson</p> <p>Dear Bob,</p> <p>Your e mails have revealed your true colors and have convinced me that you do not have the interest of 3abn at heart. I am requesting that you do not post my recent communications ANYWHERE. These have been sent to you as private correspondence and were not intended to be for the public use. I will not be responding further to your inquiries.</p> <p>Walt</p> <p>Walter Thompson MD</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 08:41 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Re: Possible way to win 3ABN critics. Date: Mon, 27 Nov 2006 21:45:04 -0600 To: Walt Thompson</p> <p>Walt? Why would you respond this way? What's wrong?</p> <p>Specifically, in what way did I write anything that would give you the idea that I don't have the interest of 3ABN at heart?</p> <p>Walt, I was gearing up to defend you and your decisions all I could, but how can I do that if you react in this way?</p> <p>As far as not posting your communications, how can I not do that without perpetuating this horrendous he said, she said situation we presently have? It's this</p>

super secrecy policy that has created the crisis 3ABN now finds itself in. Only by humbly acknowledging wrong wherever wrong has been done, which as you know is our Christian duty and is a requirement for divine forgiveness wherever sin is involved, can confidence in 3ABN be restored.

You acknowledged that you made the mistake of not contacting the alleged victims, their families, and the associations when invited to do so in 2003. It takes a real man to do that. And people need to see that you aren't afraid to do that. And if anyone is inclined to be harsh toward you for that mistake, then I will do what I can to stop their unkind criticisms.

In what way is that not having 3ABN's interest at heart? What specifically in your communications are you ashamed for people to see?

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)  
12/05/06 08:42 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

No harsh criticisms of the man, please. He's had plenty of that already, and has that helped the situation?

Still, there have been some serious errors made. To pit Dryden's info against Danny's and to not contact the alleged victims, their families, and the two licensing associations, that was a very serious error with potential consequences of liability that amount to big bucks. Correct me if I'm wrong, Gregory.

But in case you haven't noticed, church boards, and committees and boards that run supporting ministries are often composed of good people just doing the best that they can. If you would have done better on this issue, there would likely have been one sometime where you would not have.

If Jesus could seek to excuse as far as possible what Pilate was about to do, when He said, "He that delivered me to you has the greater sin," to what length should you go to excuse the error of Dr. Thompson?

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)  
12/05/06 08:46 AM

 **Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**

Here are pertinent excerpts from another email from the Glenn Dryden documents thread.

----- Original Message -----  
Subject: Re: blacksda.com POSTING  
Date: Sat, 2 Dec 2006 20:25:25 -0500

From: Glenn Dryden

Dear Bob,

I am sure we share similar emotions regarding this matter. Perhaps an argument may be made for the criticism you have received regarding the e-mail postings, but I should tell you that they have served to make me comfortable communicating with both you and Mr. Joy and if they serve to put pressure on Danny and Tommy, you may carry the criticism as a badge of commendation.

...

As to the skittishness we all **suffer**, I find a remedy in a Biblical principle. That principle perhaps may be best expressed "The truth shall set you free!"

Too many for too long in too many venues have feared reproach and negative effects. The number of victims has increased as a consequence. Though a foul path, we should shod our feet appropriately and march forward and attack the issue head-on! Ultimately, less will be lost by a full disclosure and honesty than by cover-up and deceit. Not the path of least resistance, but does not this path seem more like the one Jesus would take?

...

This is a divisive issue here and our Board of Trustees and I welcome your prayers in advance of our meeting tomorrow afternoon.

Pastor Glenn Dryden

[Daryl Fawcett](#)  
 (18300+ Member)  
 02/05/07 04:33 PM



**Re: Correspondence leading up to Dr. Thompson's admission of apparently being misled.**



**Ex. C**[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 06:36 AM

**At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statements**

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

Subject: Verification needed for Walt Thompson's statements.

Date: Wed, 29 Nov 2006 09:34:09 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow

Greetings, Danny.

My apologies for bothering you, but Dr. Thompson [suggested](#) that I verify what he told me, and based on his communications I don't know of any other way to approach this than to ask you five questions.

You may remember that after [you contacted me](#) last Thursday [I asked you](#) a few questions. In answer to those questions [Walt wrote](#):

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"The allegations against Tommy were made about 30 years ago. They were reported to the proper authorities. No physical actions ever occurred. Tommy apologized to the kids and offered recompense."

This information was superb, for it was just the kind that could be used to answer the critics, especially if it came from both sides: No new allegations of child molestation in the last 30 years, and Tommy apologized for some unspecified thing that didn't involve physical actions.

The difficulty, though, is that [according to the 2003 letter](#) that Walt received, Tommy has not yet apologized, and there are additional allegations from as recent as the late 1990's in Virginia. These two points are clearly indicated by the Action Items attached to that letter. The question then arose: Did Walt contact the alleged victims, their families, and the two ministerial licensing associations as invited to do so in that [2003 letter](#) to get their side of the story? [His reply](#) was as follows:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"As I recall the events of 2003, I received a call from Brad Thorp from the General Conference telling me of Pastor Dryden's accusations. Brad appropriately told me that it was not his concern, and that it was ours to handle. As I recall, I contacted Pastor Dryden and heard his side of the story following which I received the letter that is circulating. I was at 3abn at the time and spoke at length with Danny about the matter. He shared with me the details as he understood them. Whether or not I was

aware of what generated the letter at that time, I do not remember. Based upon my understanding that Dryden had had a long standing feud with Tommy over factors unrelated to the above accusations, it did not seem indicated to approach the boys in question directly, having been informed that no case had ever been filed with the courts or legal disposition made."

I was chatting with a pastor's wife Sabbath before last about this, and she told me something I had never heard before, based on her experience as a social worker. While social workers may be able to get enough evidence of molestation to warrant removing a child, the burden of proof for that is different than for criminal convictions, and thus many cases that social workers act on never have charges filed in them. It was her recommendation that whenever background checks are in order, that social services be contacted as well as the court system, since they know more. Thus it is a fallacy to think that just because no case was filed that there are no grounds for further investigation.

At any rate, according to the above, Walt did not contact the alleged victims, their families, or the licensing associations as invited to do so, and instead got his information about no new allegations for 30 years and Tommy's apologies solely from you. The difficulty is that, besides this information contradicting the [2003 letter](#), it also appears to conflict with the testimony of the alleged victims and the other parties.

This whole situation puts Walt in an awkward light, for he has repeatedly been accused of only getting your side of the story rather than of fairly weighing both sides of a given issue. On the face of it, just looking at appearances, it appears that he was misled on this one.

I will quickly add that I am more than willing to entertain the possibility that you were misled as well by your sources regarding how recent the most recent allegations really were, and whether Tommy apologized. Thus,

**Question 1:** Can you give me any information that would help me out on this, such as the specific sources of the information you gave Walt in 2003, and ways that I can verify that information in order to establish that all these alleged victims, their families, and the two associations are incorrect?

It appears fair to say that there was a serious error of judgment here when these other parties were not contacted as suggested. Since the [2003 letter](#) specifically asked Tommy to apologize for "deceit," for Walt to put so much weight on his and his brother's side of the story was unwise, if nothing else, for appearance's sake. Plus, it lends support to the idea that Walt has on other issues not fairly weighed both sides of an issue. But I do not wish to criticize him too much, for we all make mistakes, even when we are doing our very best. I certainly have.

And it also appears unwise on your part to not insist that Walt make a thorough investigation of the matter, especially since you might be accused of having a conflict

of interest, since Tommy is your brother. But like I said, we all make mistakes, and we just need to be willing to learn from them. We should be as tolerant of the mistakes of others as we want them to be tolerant of our mistakes. And I mean that sincerely.

At any rate,

**Question 2:** Do you know who asked and authorized [Mike Riva to threaten](#) Pastor Dryden with legal action?

When I first heard of that, it just sounded so foreign to the types of things I've heard Conference officials say about how these kinds of things need to be handled in order to avoid possible liability.

Walt also wrote:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"We then discussed the situation with the full board."

**Question 3:** Was a copy of the [2003 letter](#), along with the suggested "Action Items," given to each board member?

Finally, here is one more bit of information that Walt provided, dealing with the further investigation he conducted recently:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"Subsequently, after this issue has been brought back to the forefront (I think there is only one person who could have known about this and brought it to world-wide attention, and that person was then on the board and voted with the consensus) I contacted the only person from the Church of God that I could find that knew about the situation, and who had been present and witness to the events. (Except for pastor Dryden's personal accounts, there are apparently no other records of the allegations.) The picture that was painted by that leader of the Church was exactly as portrayed earlier by Danny. Dryden was jealous of Tommy and was out to get him - a jealousy that has continued to the present. I was again informed that the DA knew about the allegations and not finding a basis, refused to act against Tommy. I have been informed that the Church of God is a congregational type or organization with different jurisdictions in different states and that there was no higher authority that I could speak with to resolve the issue further. It was not entirely clear to me how that worked. I was also told that one leader pestered Tommy over and over again until Tommy voluntarily gave up his ministerial license."

My understanding is that a church became split over this issue because Tommy denied the allegations, some siding with Tommy and some siding with the alleged victims. If the individual referred to above was of the faction that sided with Tommy, I can understand why his or her account would differ so drastically from that of the alleged victims, their families, and the two licensing associations that Tommy is not in good standing with.

Yet on the other side of the question, Gailon, who had not talked with Pastor Dryden as of yesterday sometime, says that he had no problem finding alleged victims and others who also were witnesses to the events and who tell quite a different story. Thus one is left to wonder why Walt just happened to be only able to locate this one individual who tells such a different story. And that leads up to,

**Question 4:** Who gave Walt the name of this individual to contact, or how did he get their name, and how can I contact that individual to get their side of the story?

Certainly Tommy would have known who sided with him in the church split, and thus I want to make sure that the reason Walt could only locate this single individual was not because that was the only name that either Tommy or you provided to Walt. And/or, by getting his or her side of the story, it is always possible that I might be able to get information that could be used to vindicate Tommy, such as that he really did apologize.

But as far as proving that there haven't been any allegations for 30 years, I just don't know what I can do about that, given what the [2003 letter](#) plainly states. I welcome your suggestions.

Lastly,

**Question 5:** What exactly did Tommy apologize for?

I'm guessing that one possible explanation for the discrepancy might be that Tommy did apologize for something, but not for what certain ones wanted him to, and thus it might be helpful to know what he felt he did do wrong that did need apologizing for.

As I told Walt, I have been very concerned that such serious allegations have been on the internet for so long in such a public way. And I am firmly convicted that such public allegations have to be dealt with in a public way. So do think through your responses and try to come across as courteous as possible, so that I can use them to do that without embarrassing anyone connected with 3ABN.

I think it is such a blessing that we can get this one behind us now, if it is possible to do so. You certainly don't need these kind of unresolved issues as the ASI panel process gets in motion.

God bless.

	Bob
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 06:55 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statemen</b></p> <p>Over the last four months since <a href="#">Glenn Dryden's 2003 letter</a> to Walt Thompson was obtained, an informal and totally unofficial network of active and retired pastors and church administrators has pondered the possibility that some of the allegations hovering over a very prominent, independent ministry not controlled whatsoever by the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and some of that ministry's key personnel, just might be true.</p> <p>It is the feeling of some or all that if these allegations against Tommy Shelton are credible, that there should be no attempt at a cover-up, and that our people should be made aware of them. Yet, I speak entirely on my own and not as an official spokesman.</p> <p>Once again it must be said that Seventh-day Adventists do not condone such things. A Bible verse we often quote says, "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Rev. 14:12). That includes the commands, "Thou shalt not commit adultery," and "Thou shalt not bear false witness."</p> <p>And since the allegations under consideration concern an individual who to my knowledge remains a member of the Church of God, not a Seventh-day Adventist, and since the alleged incidents occurred while that member was pastoring Church of God congregations in two different states over a span of maybe 20 years, I will add that the sentiments of the previous paragraph are shared by members of that faith as well. The Church of God condones neither deceit nor child molestation, and believes Christians are called to a life of obedience to these basic, moral values.</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/05/06 07:01 AM</p>	<p> <b>Re: At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statemen</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Some additional verification needed for Walt Thompson's statements. Date: Tue, 05 Dec 2006 06:14:06 -0600 To: Danny Shelton CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow</p> <p>Greetings, Danny.</p> <p>I trust that you received <a href="#">my email</a> attached at the end, which was sent six days ago as a follow-up to the suggestion of Dr. Walt Thompson, your board chairman, that I</p>

verify what he had told me. As I have pondered it all, I see some further questions that I need clarification on in order to do just that, and so I will add below to my original five questions what I wrote out over the weekend.

I'll first say that I really hope to hear from you soon, since there are many, many people eager and anxious to hear your side of the story, and see you and Tommy cleared of these allegations being brought by a pastor and members of the Church of God, by members of your own community, and, not maliciously and a bit indirectly, your own board chairman. It is highly critical that there be as little delay as possible.

Dr. Thompson wrote:

**Quote:**

"The allegations against Tommy were made about 30 years ago."

Frankly, this was the first time I had heard of any allegations of 30 years ago. The oldest allegations I have heard about were the ones that led to the revoking of Tommy's ordination in Illinois in or around 1985, which I have thought were therefore about 20 years ago rather than about 30. Thus,

**Question 6:** What exactly were these 30-year-old allegations that Walt referred to, and when and in what locality or localities did the alleged events take place?

I have one more chronology-related question. One of your employees, one of the O'Briens, informed me indirectly, maybe a month ago or so, that Pastor Dryden's May 2003 letter to Walt was a rehashing of something that had already been hashed around in the '90's. At the time I thought that someone must have gotten the dates mixed up somewhere, and that the '80's was really what was intended to be or what should have been said, but something Gailon told me last week makes me wonder if there might be another possibility. Gailon wrote:

**Quote:**

"Bad news...the 3ABN board in the mid 90's took up the issue of Tommy Shelton as he was working in production at the time. The board clearly determined it was best that Tommy not be working at 3ABN based upon an investigation of the allegations against Tommy at the Ezra COG. Shortly after this decision, Tommy received a call to the Dunn Loring COG and moved to Mannassas, finally into the parsonage."

I wouldn't even mention this at all since I have no evidence of myself to this effect, but since one of the O'Briens indicated, unless something got garbled in transmission or recollection, which is always possible, that there was some sort of discussion in the '90's, I'll ask the following:

**Question 7:** Did the 3ABN board determine in the mid-1990's that it was not best for Tommy to work at 3ABN; and if so, on what basis was there a later reversal of their position; and if not, how can I get copies of the board minutes leading up to Tommy's departure so that I can post them and put to rest once and for all this allegation?

You may be tempted to pick out some sort of trivial detail that isn't quite absolutely correct and concentrate on that to the exclusion of everything else, so I would simply suggest that, while you may need to correct some minor errors, you also ensure that you put to rest the major points of concern as well.

Walt wrote to me the following:

**Quote:**

"Based upon my understanding [obtained from Danny Shelton] that Dryden had had a long standing feud with Tommy over factors unrelated to the above accusations, it did not seem indicated to approach the boys in question directly, having been informed that no case had ever been filed with the courts or legal disposition made."

I think it would be extremely helpful to know more about Dryden's alleged feud with Tommy. This is especially true given the following facts:

- Walt said that the allegations were about 30 years old.
- Pastor Glenn Dryden says that he did not meet Tommy until somewhere around the early '80's or about 1985 when Tommy's ordination was revoked.
- Dryden says that he first became associated with the Dunn Loring, Virginia, church in 1974, served as an assistant pastor from 1983 until 1993, at which time he moved to Illinois.
- He claims that he had a good pastor-to-pastor relationship with Tommy after meeting him.

**Question 8:** Did Walt mean to say that Dryden was the cause of the original, 30-year-old allegations; is it true that Tommy did not meet Dryden until at the earliest the early '80's; and if both these points are correct, how is it that the allegations were caused by a feud between two men who had not yet met; or, if this is not what Walt meant, what exactly did he mean?

Since I have no evidence at this point that would indicate that either Tommy or Dryden had achieved celebrity status, I think the following question is in order.

**Question 9:** Are Dryden's details regarding his states of residence correct (as well as the date of the revoking of Tommy's ordination), and if so, what was the nature of their feud that would have motivated Dryden to promote allegations of child molestation against a pastor who lived 800 miles away from him?

Walt wrote:

**Quote:**

"The picture that was painted by that leader of the Church was exactly as portrayed earlier by Danny. Dryden was jealous of Tommy and was out to get him - a jealousy that has continued to the present."

Here is an area that becomes a little more nebulous, for it gets into the area of he said, she said, something I prefer to avoid. But it should be mentioned that Dryden denies that this was the case, and claims that there has been no opportunity for jealousy to arise. And frankly, since Dryden arrived in Illinois in 1993 and Tommy left for Virginia in 1995, according to Dryden's chronology, it would seem that there was precious little opportunity for jealousy to arise. Thus,

**Question 10:** What exactly about Tommy was Dryden jealous of, and during what periods of time and in what ways was this jealousy manifested?

Dryden also claims that Tommy has used this jealousy argument as a smokescreen, but with this variation: He claims that Tommy told the folks in Virginia that allegations had been raised against him because churches around him were jealous of both him and the success he was having. Thus,

**Question 11:** Is it true that Tommy told the folks in Virginia something even remotely akin to this and if so, what was the nature of the success that Tommy had that surrounding churches of his own denomination would make false accusations against him of such a serious thing as child molestation?

Dryden also claims that Tommy never informed the folks in Virginia regarding what the nature of the allegations against him were. Thus,

**Question 12:** Who specifically in Virginia did Tommy tell about the exact nature of the allegations against him, and how can I contact them to obtain a signed statement to this effect?

Walt wrote:

**Quote:**

"Except for pastor Dryden's personal accounts, there are apparently no other records of the allegations."

Dryden claims that in early 2003, Roger Clem of West Frankfort confided in him that he had been victimized by Tommy, and that Roger subsequently shared openly about this in his church and about the community.

**Question 13:** Is it true that a member of your small community did indeed share openly his claim that your own brother had victimized him, and if so, a) when did you first become aware of these new allegations, b) how did Walt arrive at the opinion that there are no other accounts of these allegations than Pastor Dryden's, and c) how is it that you never corrected Walt on this major discrepancy?

Dryden claims that after Roger came forward, that,

**Quote:**

"It was within a week or less that Tommy called me."

In that conversation Tommy told Dryden, according to him, something along the lines of, "I have something to read to you. Maybe you don't want to even talk to me. It's difficult." Dryden, thinking this was part of Tommy's damage control efforts and that there might be an attempt at manipulation, told him their conversation would need to be face to face and in the presence of another member of the congregation. Dryden had prayer with him, and he claims the meeting never took place.

Dryden then claims that Tommy called up someone who was a pillar in the church and read his statement to them, which convinced them of his guilt.

Dryden says that Tommy has made statements like, "I made some mistakes," and "I have regrets," and has said such for damage control purposes, but has never made a meaningful apology to his knowledge, nothing like Ted Haggard's confession, and that Tommy has been unwilling to be subject to church discipline. Thus,

**Question 14:** Did Tommy in fact call Dryden and the other individual in the church in early 2003 and make statements to this effect, and if so, how can we get a copy of what he wrote and read at that time, and if not, what evidence or testimony to this effect can be produced?

**Question 15:** Is it true that Tommy was unwilling to be subject to church discipline even though Walt claims he did apologize for some unspecified thing; and if so, for what reasons was he unwilling; and if not, who can I contact to confirm that he indeed was subject to church discipline?

I would want nothing more than to see you personally vindicated, and to see some sort of plausible explanation for not just one or two or three of the perceived inconsistencies, but for every last one of them. This issue of the allegations against Tommy is only one of many swirling around you and/or 3ABN, and I would take great delight in seeing each one of those issues decided in favor of you.

But I think we clearly need to get the air cleared of this one as soon as possible. It is absolutely crucial that we demonstrate that your word is utterly dependable, or else the court of public opinion as well as that of ASI will be less inclined to accept solely your testimony and the testimony of the 3ABN board about Linda's alleged guilt of the

sin of adultery.

And, as a loyal Seventh-day Adventist church member, a member in the middle of nowhere who is but a lone voice without any actual say-so, I must say that I am a bit concerned because of the potential liability issues that could arise if there ever was a problem in the future. I certainly hope that the apparent way this was all handled would never be used in a court of law as a justification for compromising the financial security of the Illinois Conference, which I understand, from websites affiliated with the church or its leadership, voted to move part of their Academy operations to Thompsonville.

Perhaps this is what concerns me most of all, that somehow in all of this God's cause and my church could be brought into reproach, and we as a people could be blamed for the very type of things that we so ardently oppose, through no fault of our own or because of innocent mistakes on the part of some, all because of the not-so-innocent mistakes on the part of others.

Danny, in all sincerity, I pray that God grant you clear discernment of what is right and what is wrong, and what He wants you to do at this hour. May you stand for the right though the heaven's fall, whether it be for the first time or the millionth time.

And may 3ABN and its ministry be truly blessed by the Spirit of God in the days ahead in proportion to its fulfillment of the conditions laid out by the Lord for the reception of the latter rain

Bob

P.S. I really need ASAP the name and contact info from the Church of God leader Walt referred to but did not name. I don't know who else to contact to hear another side of the story, and talking to him or her may help quite a bit.

Also, Pastor Dryden has expressed personal concern for Tommy, indicating that he wishes that we would all pray for his health during the stress of all this, and that he do the right and appropriate thing.

God bless.

Bob

[First email omitted.]

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 11:40 AM

 **Re: At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statemen**

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

Subject: RE: Some additional verification needed for Walt Thompson's statements.

Date: Tue, 5 Dec 2006 09:16:41 -0600  
 From: Danny Shelton  
 CC: Walt Thompson

Bob,

As you know we are letting ASI handle the situation regarding my divorce from Linda.

Did I have biblical grounds for my part in the divorce of Linda and me.

Many lies have been spread by Linda and others using people like Gailon Joy and others.

According to you and Gailon and several others, the 3ABN leadership including myself, have covered up my wrong doing by making Linda the scape goat.

Either this is true or it is not. Much has been said by Johann, Arild, Barbara K. and people who didn't even know Linda and me.

ASI will decide who is doing the cover up. Somebody is lying! After hearing the testimony and evidence from both sides ASI will make a decision. Should ASI decide that the 3ABN board and myself did not "scapegoat Linda" to cover up my sins, then, in my opinion it will become obvious to the public that maybe many of these other accusations are lies also.

If on the other hand ASI decides that me and the 3ABN board covered up my sins to scapegoat Linda, then I believe that it will become obvious that I am probably lying when I deny many of the other accusations coming from Linda and her group.

That's why I choose to wait until ASI handles this huge issue of mine and Linda's divorce before answering questions of all the other accusations manufactured by Linda, Gailon, Derrell Johann, Barbara Kerr and others who have or has had an ax to grind with 3ABN.

For every person accusing me and 3ABN of doing wrong I can show thousands who will testify of all the good that 3ABN in doing including nearly all of it's employees.

Danny

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/05/06 11:47 AM

 **Re: At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statemen**

I question the wisdom of giving the above reply rather than answering questions, while at the same time trying to say that the following is bogus:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

According to you and Gailon and several others, the 3ABN leadership including myself, have covered up my wrong doing by making Linda the scape goat.

By holding to the position that ASI will only investigate Linda's situation, and by his refusal to answer questions in the meantime, he is in fact lending credence to the idea that he is using Linda as a smokescreen.

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/06/06 11:56 AM

**Re: At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statemen**

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

Subject: RE: Some additional verification needed for Walt Thompson's statements.

Date: Wed, 06 Dec 2006 08:13:19 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow

Hi Danny. Thanks so much for your initial reply, which appears below my reply to you.

I must say that I am a little surprised by your reply. I will point out in this email a few difficulties that I see, and why it is extremely difficult for me to use it to clear you of any of the allegations out there, as well as ask some additional questions.

First of all, you will recall that I initially wrote to you a week ago at the suggestion of your board chairman, Dr. Walt Thompson. On Monday, November 27, he gave me some information and said,

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"I would like to request ... that you ... verify [this letter's] contents."

Now Walt gave me only two sources for his information other than Pastor Glenn Dryden. The only one of those two that he named was yourself, and therefore the only way I can fulfill his request is to write to you. And yet you write:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"That's why I choose to wait until ASI handles this huge issue of mine and Linda's divorce before answering questions of all the other accusations manufactured by Linda, Gailon, Derrell Johann, Barbara Kerr and others who have or has had an ax to grind with 3ABN."

As you know quite well, Walt has been accused of being a "lemming" and your "surrogate," language I disapprove of. Yet in light of the fact that you as president can so easily disregard the wishes of your own board chairman, I think it fair to ask,

**Question 16:** How can you demonstrate that Dr. Walt Thompson and/or your board have any definite, real, and actual authority within the 3ABN corporate structure as it currently operates, authority unrelated to whatever you may choose to delegate to them or what is merely described on paper?

I think this question is vital since it does indeed affect perceptions of how the divorce and remarriage were handled, as well as how the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations were handled, and perhaps even the success or failure of the appeal of the tax case I understand 3ABN has pending.

In light of the fact that it is now one week since I requested the name of the other source so that I can verify Walt's information, I think it fair to ask,

**Question 17:** What might be the reason or reasons why there is such hesitancy to provide that name, as well as the name of the person who gave that name to Walt Thompson?

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"According to you and Gailon and several others, the 3ABN leadership including myself, have covered up my wrong doing by making Linda the scape goat."

I believe the term "smokescreen" would be more appropriate than "scapegoat."

You also write:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"After hearing the testimony and evidence from both sides ASI will make a decision. Should ASI decide that the 3ABN board and myself did not 'scapegoat Linda' to cover up my sins, then, in my opinion it will become obvious to the public that maybe many of these other accusations are lies also."

By referring to only two "sides" when you full well know that there are many more parties than two, and by pitting ASI's conclusions regarding your divorce and remarriage against all the remaining allegations, you again demonstrate that you have chosen not to allow ASI to review all the allegations, a fatal mistake in my opinion.

In other words, while claiming to be false the perception that you are trying to use the Linda issue as a smokescreen, you then go on to prove that that perception of the situation is correct. Thus,

**Question 18:** Will you and/or the 3ABN board make a formal request in writing to ASI that they examine all allegations of financial, operational, and personal misconduct, and will you provide us a copy of that letter as soon as possible, and if not, could you please list whatever you are afraid of that you might lose from such a process, and why?

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"Much has been said by Johann, Arild, Barbara K. and people who didn't even know Linda and me.

"...

"That's why I choose to wait until ASI handles this huge issue of mine and Linda's divorce before answering questions of all the other accusations manufactured by Linda, Gailon, Derrell Johann, Barbara Kerr and others who have or has had an ax to grind with 3ABN."

John Lomacang on September 1 told me the same, that all these allegations were manufactured by or are the result of Linda and "her boyfriend," the doctor, and their allies. I told him I can't buy that, since the not-quite-most-recent Tommy Shelton allegations date from the first half of 2003, about a year before Linda's alleged affair. Thus,

**Question 19:** How did Linda, Derrell, Johann, and Barbara manufacture the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations a year before Linda's alleged affair; what sort of ax to grind against 3ABN would Church of God member Roger Clem have in 2003 that he would come forward and accuse Tommy, not 3ABN, of child molestation; and what sort of ax to grind against 3ABN would motivate members/attendees of the Church of God congregation Tommy pastored in Virginia to accuse Tommy, not 3ABN, of sexual misconduct before he ever returned to Illinois around 2000 and began working at 3ABN again?

Lastly, you write:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"That's why I choose to wait until ASI handles this **huge issue of mine** and Linda's divorce ...." (bold added)

As serious as the allegations are that you lied about Linda having an affair in order to justify divorcing her, it is fair to ask,

**Question 20:** By saying this, are you suggesting that being accused of intentionally lying about your wife being an adulteress is an extremely more serious issue than the allegation that you intentionally lied to your board chairman about the serious nature, wide extent, and recent timing of the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations, and thus put innocent children at continued risk?

I think these are the only challenges I see in your reply, challenges that make it difficult to use to clear you of the allegations against you. And as I have expressed to you before, I think that if you truly have the best interest of 3ABN at heart, you will need to immediately alter the way you address these issues. There is a desperate need of greater transparency, straightforwardness, and openness if these issues are ever going to go away, and I am certain that you must realize that.

May God grant you special courage and wisdom at this time.

Bob

[Danny's reply omitted.]

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)

12/06/06 12:37 PM

 **Re: At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statemen**

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

Subject: Final questions for now on Tommy Shelton allegations.

Date: Wed, 06 Dec 2006 11:48:57 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow

Hi Danny.

I think this may be the last email I send you regarding the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations, and I will try to end it on an encouraging note.

Again, I want to just say that you and I initiated this discussion one week ago because your board chairman, Dr. Walt Thompson, [gave me some information](#) and said:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"I would like to request ... that you ... verify [this letter's] contents."

The following is what I can thus far come up with regarding some of the allegations against Tommy:

- Walt claims that there are allegations of some sort against Tommy regarding children that are 30 years old.
- Tommy's ordination with the Church of God, Anderson, was revoked around 1985 because of allegations of child molestation arising from his pastoring the Ezra congregation in West Frankfort, Illinois.
- Roger Clem claims that he was molested at the age of 16, which would be about 1988, while Tommy was pastoring the breakaway Ezra congregation that had sided with him and against the previous alleged victims.
- Tommy pastored a Church of God congregation in Dunn Loring, Virginia, from 1995 to about 2000, and then left apparently because of the surfacing of some sort of sexual misconduct allegations against him.
- Just now in late 2006 we have [a new allegation of child molestation](#) coming to light in Virginia at the Church of God congregation where he used to pastor.

Gailon has talked to quite a few individuals on this matter. As of this point, I have only spoken to Walt Thompson, Church of God pastor Glenn Dryden, a member of the board of the Dunn Loring congregation who wished to remain anonymous, and alleged victim Roger Clem.

Walt wrote:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"Based upon my understanding that Dryden had had a long standing feud with Tommy over factors unrelated to the above accusations ...  
"Dryden was jealous of Tommy and was out to get him - a jealousy that has continued to the present."

Both Roger Clem and the Dunn Loring board member I spoke with made it very plain that there was no malice, no feud, and no jealousy between the two men. The board member said that they had known Dryden and his family since 1990, and that they first heard rumors two years ago, which was a year or more before Dryden returned to Virginia. (Why did they hear about it only two years ago? They said they had had a lesser position and thus would not have been privy to such allegations.)

**Question 21:** Do you believe that the above scenario(s) and time line painted by these four individuals is fairly accurate, and if so, why did you essentially tell Walt Thompson, [as he claims](#), that there were no new allegations for the last 30 years, and if not, how many more individuals do you think I should interview before concluding that the above time line is essentially correct?

Walt wrote:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"No physical actions ever occurred."

Pastor Dryden, based on what alleged victims have confided to him, and Roger Clem, based on his own experience, both declare that this is false. Thus,

**Question 22:** Do you personally believe that no physical action occurred, and if not, what way would you propose that we establish that none indeed occurred?

Soon after Clem came forward in 2003, Tommy phoned him. Clem says that it was somewhere around a year later when [he sent a letter to Tommy](#). That letter ended with the following:

**Originally Posted By: Roger Clem**

"I will tell you up front, if I get a letter or phone call from your brother or an attorney that in any way appears threatening, I will immediately go to the sheriff's office and file charges against you. This has gone on long enough with nothing being done. This is Not a threat. It all rests on you Tommy, let your conscience be your guide. I will not wait long before I will decide what action is best to resolve this."

Clem says that before Tommy had a chance to open and read the letter, Tommy's wife had opened it, even though it was addressed to Tommy, and read it to their daughters, and was calling Clem about it.

**Question 23:** Is there any tendency among Tommy's family to try to cover for him when these sort of allegations come up?

Clem had stated clearly, "I will not wait long before I will decide what action is best to resolve this," and he claims that Tommy called him the next day, this second phone call taking place a year or so after the previous one, and said,

**Originally Posted By: Tommy Shelton**

"What do you want me to do?"

Clem replied,

**Originally Posted By: Roger Clem**

"Register as a sex offender."

Clem claims that Tommy replied,

**Originally Posted By: Tommy Shelton**

"Well, that's just not going to happen. I've dealt with it with my family. I've dealt with it in counseling. That's all I feel I should have to do."

Thus,

**Question 24:** Do you believe that Tommy did indeed make this much of an admission verbally and/or made anything akin to this kind of reply, and if so, a) do you agree that all that's necessary for someone to do who has had allegations of child molestation leveled against them for so many years is to deal with it in their family and in counseling, and b) can you please describe for us the nature, timing, and duration of the counseling Tommy obtained?

I touched on the next one previously. Walt wrote:

**Originally Posted By: Walt Thompson**

"Accept for pastor Dryden's personal accounts, there are apparently no other records of the allegations."

Clem has two brothers. In one of the two calls Tommy made to Clem in 2003 and 2004, Clem asked Tommy,

**Originally Posted By: Roger Clem**

"Did the same thing happen to my brother that happened to me?"

And, according to Clem, Tommy replied,

**Originally Posted By: Tommy Shelton**

"Which one?"

Other things that Clem claimed were that people caught Tommy with boys doing things that he shouldn't have been doing on back roads and such. He claims that abuse happened at church, at Tommy's house and in his car, and right down the road from the first building of "3 Angels."

[Dryden wrote:](#)

**Originally Posted By: Pastor Glenn Dryden**

"In the summer of 1993 as my wife and two teenage sons and I were

preparing to relocate from Northern Virginia to West Frankfort, Illinois, Tommy Shelton again was visiting in Virginia and asked to meet with my wife and I. During this meeting he alerted us that we may 'hear some things' when we got to Illinois. He also informed us at this meeting that he had been caught in a lie during his pastorate at the Ezra Church of God, intimated extenuating circumstances and said he had sought and received forgiveness. Indeed we did hear some things after arriving in West Frankfort, Illinois, in mid-1993, including the circumstances surrounding the lie (He was found alone with a young man in a home to which he had access and when challenged said the young man [who was out of view] was his son when in fact he was not. The individual who came upon him confirmed this by immediately driving to the church school Tommy's son attended and finding his son there.). It was not until another victim's mother spoke with me in early 1996 that I fully realized that not only was sexual abuse of adolescent boys the nature of the allegations but that there was substance to these allegations as well."

Clem told the same story without being asked, and added this one detail: The lady from the congregation after seeing Tommy's son at the school drove back to the house and saw a red-faced boy leaving it, trying to cover his face.

After Clem came forward in early 2003, he claims that Tommy called him shortly thereafter. Clem was very open about everything in his church and community, and told me by name about two ministry leaders or pastors of two different faiths, individuals who had backed Tommy previously, whom he approached and informed that the allegations were true after all because it had happened to him. One of those men said, "You don't know how much that disturbs me."

**Question 25:** Would you consider that these accounts are essentially correct, and if so, why did Walt think there were no other accounts of allegations except for Dryden's, and if not, which precise points would you dispute and which ones would you not?

Clem claims, as Dryden did, that Tommy has never given a meaningful apology. He also says that Tommy has never apologized in writing and is manipulative. In [his letter sent around 2004](#) to Tommy, Clem wrote, among other things,

**Originally Posted By: Roger Clem**

"When someone would confront you about what you did, you would try to take the attention off of what you did by having some sort of health problem (loss of memory, heart problems, nervous breakdown). It seemed odd to me that you recovered quick when you realized that you were in the clear. You really disgust me. It makes me sick to realize how many lives you damaged and the only time that you feel the need to apologize is when it all comes back up again. Then you put on this POOR PITIFUL ME act (how you wish it didn't happen, the reason you do this is because

you were abused as a child, you would take it all back if you could, and the all-time favorite, please don't put my family through this again). What about what you put all of us through?"

**Question 26:** Is there any truth to the allegation that Tommy resorted to manipulative behavior, such as having transient health problems and/or trying to create sympathy in order to hush up the accusers; and can you give us examples of when and to whom Tommy apologized either before a big public spectacle took place, or when he apologized in writing, or both?

In [the same letter](#), Clem writes:

**Originally Posted By: Roger Clem**

"Then what makes me mad is when your brother calls to try to scare people into not saying anything or when the church receives a letter from Mike Riva telling us to stop saying anything. ... I will tell you up front, if I get a letter or phone call from your brother or an attorney that in any way appears threatening, I will immediately go to the sheriff's office and file charges against you."

Similarly, the board member I spoke with from Dunn Loring, Virginia said that whenever allegations would arise, you would "execute a lot of pressure," and "make them go away."

**Question 27:** Is it true that you called people who were raising allegations, and what exactly did you say that might have given them the idea that you were trying to pressure them into silence?

Your Illinois Tax Case lists as one of the attorneys present,

**Originally Posted By: 3ABN v. Dept. of Rev. of the St. of Il.**

"Mr. D. Michael Riva for 3 Angels Broadcasting Network."

On June 13, 2003, [Riva issued a letter](#) that appears to be a reply to [Pastor Glenn Dryden's letter](#) of May 14, 2003. In that letter of seven paragraphs, paragraphs 1, 2, 6, and 7 contain language threatening legal action against both the Ezra Church of God and Pastor Dryden. From what I can tell, and I am not an attorney, the only legal basis he gives for such a potential lawsuit appears in paragraphs 3-5, and consists of supporting arguments after the following sentence:

**Originally Posted By: D. Michael Riva**

"**Even if the actions occurred**, there is no criminal jeopardy as the

statute of limitations has long since passed." (bold added)

**Question 28:** Do you think that it was wise for an attorney who does or has served the network that preaches the undiluted three angels' messages to use this sort of logic to threaten a non-Adventist minister with legal action in order to shut him up regarding his concerns over alleged child molestation?

Since the attorney who sent this threatening letter does or has served 3ABN, this question appears in order:

**Question 29:** Did Mr. Riva perform his services for Tommy Shelton pro bono, or did Tommy pay for them out of his own pocket, or did you pay for them out of your own pocket, or did 3ABN cover the cost, and what sort of documentation can you provide to substantiate your answer?

[Pastor Dryden writes:](#)

**Originally Posted By: Pastor Glenn Dryden**

"Tommy vaguely alluded to the allegations in Illinois at times in his preaching when invited by our founding pastors to minister at the Community Church of God in the late 1980s. He did so by speaking not of the allegations but of the '**persecution**' he and his family suffered as a consequence. He was successful in drawing sympathy thereby as he spoke of hardship suffered by he and his family." (bold added)

Now let us consider the following facts:

- [A special 3ABN Live telecast on August 10, 2006](#), claimed that you and 3ABN were receiving "**persecution**" and that "lies" were being told about you.
- Shelley Quinn in that broadcast, to all appearances, compared you to John the Baptist, Linda to Herodias, and Salome to Linda's daughter.
- Before Shelley identified the daughter she was speaking of as being Salome, she described her as one who had become "entangled in the web of deceit," when the Bible story does not indicate that there was any deceit involved in regard to Herodias and Salome.
- Linda's daughter had previously issued a signed and confidential statement alleging that you had sexually assaulted her.

Thus it appears that that broadcast was particularly attempting to call Linda's daughter's allegations a lie and "**persecution**," even though throughout the broadcast the claim was repeatedly made that you and the others would not be defending yourselves.

**Question 30:** Would you have any comment to make about this apparent similarity

between how Tommy (according to Dryden) and you have both related to allegations of sexual misconduct?

On November 4 [you wrote to me](#) and said, among other things,

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"I will just say this, ... I have done nothing legally wrong in my administration with 3ABN."

According to what Hal Steenson and John Lomacang told me, I'm uncertain that this is true. But I won't go into that now.

I want to end by sharing with you a story from the Spirit of Prophecy, a story from a sermon given by Ellen White in Minneapolis in 1888 and from an 1888 letter, that is hard for me to read without getting choked up. I was talking to my family about it yesterday, and even though it's been a long time since I read it through, it still got to me. And while formatting it for this email, I could not refrain from weeping.

If any of the more serious allegations against you, Tommy, and anyone else are true, I invite you and them to consider following the example of the man she referred to, and just see if perchance there may be a possibility that you will reap similar results of blessings and good will, and that the cause of God will advance with much greater power.

**Originally Posted By: Ellen G. White**

"We have seen of the grace of God since we met you last. ... I was at the Selma camp meeting. During my stay there I was introduced to a tall man--over six feet tall--and well proportioned. When he took my hand he seemed much affected and said, 'I am so glad to meet you; I am thankful that I can speak with you.' After going into the tent a brother came in and said, 'That man has a history.' Then he went on and told how a year before he had been converted; how he had once kept the Sabbath but had gone back, and how he claimed that he never had been converted. Then after he gave up the truth he went back into the company of hard cases, and Satan took complete possession of him. Two or three were linked with him in his wickedness--men who would not want it to be known that they were in such business. They stole and did wickedness in every way.

"He was not a licentious man; he had a wife and he respected her. She was a Sabbathkeeper, and he would not allow a word to be said against her. This was the position he took; he loved her, but not enough to stop his evil course. He did not care for the spoil of his robberies, but did it for the enjoyment he found in it. Well, Elder [E.P.] Daniels was holding meetings, and he was speaking on confession. What was said seemed to take hold of this man's mind, and he could not resist. He seemed to turn white, and

then left the tent. He could not stand it. He went out and then he came back again. This he did three times; he looked as if he were going to faint away.

"After the meeting had closed he said, 'I must talk to you, sir.' He told Elder Daniels his condition and said, 'Is there any hope for me? I am a lost man; I am undone; I am a sinner. Will you pray for me? I dare not leave this place to go home for fear the Lord will cut me down in my sins.' He said he could not stay in the tent, and went out again and again, but did not dare remain outside for fear the power of the devil should fasten on him and that would be the last of him.

" They prayed for him, and the man was converted right there. The defiant look was gone; his countenance was changed. 'Now,' said he, 'I have a work to do. I stole thirty-one sheep from that man in Selma, and I must go and confess to him.' Elder Daniels was afraid to have it known for fear they would shut him up. He said he would rather go to prison and stay there than to think that Christ had not forgiven his sin. So he started, with a young man who before this was engaged with him in thefts, to go and see the man. He met the man on the road and stopped him. The man commenced to shake like an aspen leaf. He was an infidel. Well, he got on his knees before them in the road and begged to be forgiven. The man asked, 'Where did you get this? What has brought you into this state? I did not know that there was any such religion as this.' They told him that they had been down to the camp meeting, and heard it preached there. 'Well,' said he, 'I will go over to that meeting.'

"They confessed to having burned houses and barns. And they went to the grand jury and confessed to having stolen here and there. Mind, they confessed to the authorities. They said, 'We deliver ourselves up. Do with us as you see fit.' So the case was considered in court, and they had a council over the matter. One suggested that they better put those men through. The judge looked at him and said, 'What, put him through? Put a man through that God is putting through? Would you take hold of a man that God is taking hold of? Whom God's forgiving power has taken hold of? Would you do that? No, I would rather have my right arm cut off to the shoulder.' Something got hold of those men so that they all wept as children.

"The report of that experience went everywhere. People thought that there was a power in this truth that was in nothing else--a power that shows that Jesus lives. We have seen the power of His grace manifested in many cases in a remarkable manner." (*1888 Materials*, pp. 81, 82)

"Brother Will Smith is a man that was converted last year. He was in the truth years ago, but for some reason gave it up, and the devil took possession of him, and he became a desperado. His wife kept the

Sabbath. He is a tall, well developed, powerfully built man. He went into all sorts of lawlessness, stealing, and tried to kill, but his victim did not come in just when he was prepared to kill him. Last year at Fresno under the labors of Elder [E.P.] Daniels he was powerfully wrought upon, and he repented with another backslider who had gone with him in all his wickedness. Then commenced the work of confession and restitution. One man they went to see and met him in the road and down they went in the very dust and dirt on their knees, weeping and confessing, and the infidel wept like a child. 'Now,' said they, 'We want you to forgive us, and we do not ask you to arrest us for stealing your sheep, but we ask pardon; we will pay every cent of the cost of the sheep.'

"The man who had been wronged said, 'What has wrought upon you to make this confession?' Said they, 'We have been attending the campmeeting, and the spirit and power of God and the religion of Jesus Christ have taken hold upon us.' 'Well,' said the man, 'If the work done there is of this order I must go there,' and he did go, and he did tremble under the sharp arrows of God. The influence of these confessions made to many others who have been wronged, is as far reaching as eternity. This man in his wickedness had nothing, but since his conversion the Lord has blessed him greatly with means, and he is using it in making restitution and in advancing the cause of truth. He is free, generous to a fault, he is humble as a child, sitting at the feet of Jesus, ready and willing to do anything. He takes 150 Signs and distributes. He has done more missionary work alone the past year than the whole Fresno Church together." (*Manuscript Releases*, vol. 6, pp. 150, 151)

May God grant you, Tommy, and the rest by His grace the courage to right every wrong, whether that wrong be small or great.

Bob

[Johann](#)  
(600+ Member)  
12/06/06 05:35 PM



**Re: At Walt Thompson's suggestion, letters to Danny Shelton seeking verification of Walt's statemen**

Let's pray this will be accepted in the spirit it is written, and that it will be taken seriously!

[Bob Pickle](#)  
(1000+ Member)  
12/08/06 08:59 PM

**Truce?**

This was the appeal I sent to Danny Wednesday night.

I wish I could say that the reply I got back was not defiant. That reply will not be posted at this time.

Bob

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

Subject: Truce?

Date: Wed, 06 Dec 2006 19:41:51 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

Hi Danny.

This is more of a pastoral letter than anything else.

You know, before I sent that last email, I was really beginning to feel bad for you. It looks like such an impossible situation, with no good solutions, like a bad dream. I would not want to be in your shoes just now.

I've been in bad situations before (nothing like this, though), and it sure wasn't fun. It can be so devastating. And I truly do feel bad for you.

What do you think would bring the most glory to God, and be truly the best for 3ABN? Would it not be to step aside after doing what you can to facilitate the immediate implementation of some of the structural reforms Gailon has had in mind, where there are proper checks and balances to prevent this kind of thing from ever happening again?

I just thought I would try to reach out to you before, well, before whatever happens next.

Did you have opportunity to read that story from the SOP I attached to the end of my last letter? What did you think of that? I honestly could not read it without breaking down and crying. Praise God for His mercy, power, and grace!

Long ago I had a sermon entitled, "Mercy for Manasseh." Too many people think they have sinned too much to be pardoned, forgiven, cleansed, and saved. Well, Manasseh was a preacher's kid of sorts, offered his own kids up as sacrifices, sawed Isaiah in half, and filled Jerusalem with blood, and the Bible even says that God sent Judah into captivity because God couldn't forgive Manasseh's sins.

Yet in spite of all that, when Manasseh was in a dungeon in Babylon, he turned to God and prayed, and God forgave him personally even though He could not forgive the nation as a whole for those sins, and Manasseh was restored to his throne.

Then he immediately went about trying to undo all the damage he had done. Of course he couldn't succeed in that entirely, but he tried, and that's all that God is looking for.

Now if God could pardon Manasseh, he most certainly can pardon you and me.  
Praise His name!

Do you believe that? That's the first and biggest step, to believe. Would you take that step just now?

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/10/06 05:15

PM

 **Re: Truce?**

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

Subject: RE: Truce?

Date: Wed, 6 Dec 2006 23:18:59 -0600

From: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson

Bob,

If you really are a pastor I feel sorry for you. You should know better than to listen to rumors and false accusations and judge those are doing the work of God. It seems your time would be better spent winning souls than trying to destroy people.

Please don't feel sorry for me. I am very happy. I have spent the last 22 years of my life doing what God has called me to do.

God's word does not tell us that serving Jesus will be easy. Look what happened to the Son of God when he walked among people. They wrongly judged Jesus just as you and Gailon and others are doing with me and the 3ABN board and others as you see fit. You are a pawn in Linda's hand and you apparently don't even know it or maybe it's just that you don't care.

I don't know.

You might want to ask yourself how you would have stood had you lived on earth when Jesus was here. Would you have judged Him also and found Him wanting?

I feel sorry for you and Gailon and others who have fallen for lies. I am very confident that an unbiased ASI group will see truth when it is presented to them.

You and Gailon have judged me based on rumors and lies. The ASI group will judge me and Linda based on evidence. I have told you all along that I have evidence that I have not presented to you because I didn't need to. I was saving it for the right time if necessary. I believe that now is the time to present eye witnesses and evidence at the ASI hearing.

3ABN has always had check and balances. Our financial records are in perfect order. We have nothing to hide. It's just that we don't have to show every one who comes along all our records just because he thinks he is

a Sherlock Holmes as you and Gailon seem to think you are. You have bought Linda's lie hook line and sinker because you have believed a few people who claim to "know" certain things. You will ultimately find you are wrong even tho you may never admit it. Linda knows all the bad seeds she has planted about the management of 3ABN is not true. It is all a smoke screen. If all this wrong doing had been going on all these years then she would also be accountable as she was the VP of 3ABN. Yes, she was privy to all facets of this ministry. No secrets were kept from her. Why is she now "spilling the beans". If she honestly saw such terrible mis management why didn't she do the right thing and bring glory to God by giving everyone a chance to correct wrong doing or as a last resort "spill the beans" to the right authorities. We are supposed to love God more than father mother sister or brother. I realize all this is going over your head, but for some reason I'm writing it anyway. 3ABN is God's ministry. He will take care of us as He has for the last 22 years. I'm amazed that if those of us in leadership are so crooked and such awful liars as you and your group seem to think, that God would continue to bless us in every way. This has been our best year ever financially. Our wills and trust department has brought in more money this year than ever before also. Virtually every day I hear from or about people around the whole world who have given their life to Jesus by watching 3ABN and others who have already joined the SDA church because of the ministry of 3ABN. The bible says we will know people by their fruits. The fruit of 3ABN's labor under the direction of our 3ABN board, with God's added blessings, has been wonderfully successful in the last 22 years. But the truth is we have never grown so fast as we have the last 2 1/2 years.

Bob, you are trying to look at the physical side of the controversy between good and evil. Satan is the prince of the flesh. Those who follow after flesh will/have been deceived. You will only make it through to the kingdom of God when you begin to live in the spiritual world

If I lived in the physical realm I might be troubled and discouraged and might even want to quit. But because the picture that God shows all of us when we look at the spiritual realm is,, that God has us in the palm of His hand! He will never leave us or forsake us. In the spiritual realm one praises God for trials and tribulation thrown at him. This is the Jesus treatment. We all deserve this kind of treatment. It purifies us as gold in the fire.

No Bob, the last thing on my mind right now is resigning from 3ABN. I will resign when the Lord is ready for it.

Most of the complainers are not the prayer warriors and financial contributors to 3ABN. You have a few people following the deception road you are traveling, but for the most part, people support those who are

giving them spiritual food.

You can believe Gailon and Linda if you choose. But I know first hand about their lies they have told. Barb Kerr just wrote me and told me that Gailon is voicing that he has uncovered at least 8-10 affairs that I have had since I married Linda. God knows and I know that is lie. There has never been one!

I have talked to church leaders who tell me that Gailon Joy could not be Christian. They judge him by his fruits, his emails he sends them. He is not making an impact on responsible SDA's for the good. Quite the contrary.

To the spiritually discerning Christian, it is easy to read Gailon's arrogance, his pride, his hatred towards me and any who oppose his views. In the long run, I'm predicting that he will be no help to Linda's cause.

I shocked that you as a pastor, if you are one, would rally behind someone with so un Christian of a spirit. It seems it would be easy for you to see. Most people I have talked to that he has sent emails to them, say things like "This guy is a nut". Some have said he is obviously led by the Devil, ect, ect. When you wake up outside your little chatroom world you will find he has no credibility. People finding out that he is a convicted embezzler has helped your little group also.

You don't need to answer this email to you.

Ps. I didn't read the last two emails from you. I just deleted them so I don't know what story you are talking about, but you don't need to bother to re send it.

Thanks,

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/10/06 05:16

PM

 **Re: Truce?**

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

Subject: Re: Truce?

Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2006 20:41:13 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow

Greetings.

I hesitate to send a copy of this to Elder Denslow too, since some of the points seem less important than the major, major issues we have been discussing the last ten days, but since he is the conference president and a member of the 3ABN board, I do think I need to keep him abreast of all of this correspondence. Particularly, I think he needs to see the pastoral appeal I wrote to Danny late Wednesday, as well as your reply to it, both of which appear at the bottom of my reply to yours.

You'll have to pardon me, but I'm not exactly sure who to address this reply to. I can see at least five internal clues in your reply that Danny Shelton was not the author. And a couple others who have read it are likewise absolutely positive that Danny

didn't write it. So I will address you as the author, but speak of Danny in third person.

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"It seems your time would be better spent winning souls than trying to destroy people."

You will be happy to know that just last Sunday afternoon, I spent four and a half hours in a Bible study in a home of a family of ten. Wasn't sure what to expect since the idea was for them to share with me where Adventists could improve in their doctrines. We ended up covering the topics they chose such as the Spirit of Prophecy, the scapegoat, the investigative judgment, the perpetuity of the law of God and spiritual gifts, law and grace, Christ in the Old Testament, and the Sabbath. We parted with them asking for literature about the Sabbath.

We didn't discuss the state of the dead, though. My daughter had covered that last time we met.

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"I feel sorry for you and Gailon and others who have fallen for lies. ... You and Gailon have judged me based on rumors and lies."

I am not sure what to make of this. Since our current discussion began Wednesday a week ago because of Dr. Walt Thompson's written statement that Danny had essentially misled him regarding the serious nature, wide extent, and recent timing of the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations, are you trying to say that Danny's trusted board chairman and staunch defender was lying to me?

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"I am very confident that an unbiased ASI group will see truth when it is presented to them. ... The ASI group will judge me and Linda based on evidence."

In my opinion, Danny's persistent refusal to allow ASI to review all the allegations, including the elaborate fabrication Dr. Thompson indicated that Danny told him in 2003 in order to cover up the serious nature, wide extent, and recent timing of his brother's child molestation allegations, that persistent refusal is a fatal mistake. And that fact is obvious to nearly everyone who knows about it.

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"Our financial records are in perfect order. We have nothing to hide. It's just that we don't have to show every one who comes along all our records just because he thinks he is a Sherlock Holmes as you and Gailon seem to think you are. You have bought Linda's lie hook line and sinker because you have believed a few people who claim to 'know' certain things."

Maybe Danny didn't tell you that I didn't believe outright what Gailon wrote about his trying to hide during his distribution of marital assets case the amounts that he pocketed from the free distribution of *Ten Commandments Twice Removed* last spring. That's why I wrote Danny on Oct. 31 and asked him if he was indeed trying to hide that, and I also asked him how much royalty was paid by whom and to whom. Did he really get 11 cents a book x 4.5 million books = roughly \$500,000?

Since in Danny's four replies he evaded all attempts to clarify that figure, he thus led me to believe that his personal profits from that free distribution must have been substantial. And on Nov. 3 he did say:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"The info Galon or whomever, gave you about royalties and costs of books ect. is a lie also. ...

"I will not at this time devulge any more info about this book at this time. I may when mine and her settlement case is over."

And as I made very clear in my next reply to Danny, I took these words to mean that he was indeed hiding how much he had profited from the free distribution of *Ten Commandments Twice Removed* during the distribution of marital assets proceedings. Correct me if I am wrong, but Danny did not correct my perception in his replies of November 4 and 5, and still today, I am at a loss to take his words in any other way.

In other words, I have come to believe that Danny did make a killing on the free distribution of *Ten Commandments Twice Removed*, and that he was trying to hide the amounts of those profits during his distribution of marital assets proceedings, I have come to believe that because of Danny's own testimony, not because of what Gailon or any of Danny's critics have said.

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"Linda knows all the bad seeds she has planted about the management of 3ABN is not true. It is all a smoke screen. If all this wrong doing had been going on all these years then she would also be accountable as she was the VP of 3ABN. Yes, she was privy to all facets of this ministry. No secrets were kept from her."

This has been my concern almost from the beginning. I have been concerned that Danny might try to take anyone and everyone down with him, including the totally innocent and those who have simply made some innocent mistakes.

Whether Linda falls into that category, I cannot say and do not know. But I would advise Danny that it will not be good PR for his cause if he starts trying to drag a host of others into the midst of this.

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"I'm amazed that if those of us in leadership are so crooked and such awful liars as you and your group seem to think, that God would continue to bless us in every way. This has been our best year ever financially. Our wills and trust department has brought in more money this year than ever before also."

I am a bit puzzled at this. The book of Job; Mat. 5:45; Luke 12:16-20; 16:23-25; Rev. 3:17; and other passages all tell us that material blessings are not necessarily evidence that we are in the Lord's will, and Seventh-day Adventists have always believed and taught that. Are you suggesting that Danny no longer believes this?

You write:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"No Bob, the last thing on my mind right now is resigning from 3ABN. I will resign when the Lord is ready for it."

I think any unbiased onlooker to our discussions the last ten days would say that the Lord is ready for it. Shall we take a poll?

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"Most of the complainers are not the prayer warriors and financial contributors to 3ABN."

This may in part be due to the fact that Danny apparently ensures that those who

don't personally agree with his course are removed from or prevented from being on 3ABN's email lists. I only suggest that because I signed up a long time ago and have yet to receive a thing.

And of course, anyone who finds out that Danny's own board chairman has essentially admitted that Danny misled him regarding the serious nature, wide extent, and recent timing of the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations would likely hesitate to continue financially supporting 3ABN, until these extremely serious issues are resolved. Most folks probably do not want to contribute to a ministry if they think their contribution just might possibly get diverted from the Lord's work and be used instead to defend and settle cases of alleged child molestation. And with the apparent negligence that Danny has shown in this matter, one can only dream of the amount of punitive damages a jury just might award.

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"You can believe Gailon and Linda if you choose. But I know first hand about their lies they have told. Barb Kerr just wrote me and told me that Gailon is voicing that he has uncovered at least 8-10 affairs that I have had since I married Linda. God knows and I know that is lie. There has never been one!"

For the record, I am basing what I believe to be fact upon what Danny, Dr. Thompson, Hal and Mollie Steenson, John Lomacang, Melody Firestone, and the O'Briens have said.

As far as how many affairs Gailon said that Danny has had, Gailon's actual wording in his email of Nov. 26 states that Danny has had "inappropriate relationships," not "affairs." I would very much appreciate Danny writing back and stating unequivocally that he has not had one single inappropriate relationship in the last 22 years.

Regarding Barb Kerr's main reason for writing Danny:

**Originally Posted By: Barb Kerr**

"I am writing once again to ask you to donate the master copies of all of my cooking videos to my ministry. I now have my non-profit 501(c)(3) status and would be happy to give you a receipt for your donation. I would also like, in writing, a statement that gives me the rights to use the programs as I see fit. I appreciate so much your generosity towards my ministry since you are no longer airing the programs or selling them."

Will Danny be donating the master copies of and rights to Barbara Kerr's cooking programs that she put so much effort and time into, and if so, when, and if not, why not?

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"I have talked to church leaders who tell me that Gailon Joy could not be Christian."

Which church leaders have told Danny that? How can we be sure that this statement is any more factual than the fabrication that the child molestation allegations against Tommy Shelton are all 30 years old?

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"People finding out that he is a convicted embezzler has helped your little group also."

Yes, as he explained in detail to Danny, Gailon did convert to his own use money that he had an interest in, which according to Vermont statute constitutes embezzlement. In laymen's oversimplified, imprecise, and not quite accurate terms, he stole his own money. This sounds just a tad more serious than the charge that Ellen White plagiarized since she didn't use quotation marks and cite references in every instance where she copied from her own writings.

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"Ps. I didn't read the last two emails from you. I just deleted them so I don't know what story you are talking about, but you don't need to bother to re send it."

Here is something which one of Danny's friends pointed out to me when he called the other day. Danny wrote on Tuesday:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"According to you and Gailon and several others, the 3ABN leadership including myself, have covered up my wrong doing by making Linda the scape goat. ... Should ASI decide that the 3ABN board and myself did not 'scapegoat Linda' ...."

I replied in my next to last email:

**Originally Posted By: Bob**

"I believe the term 'smokescreen' would be more appropriate than 'scapegoat.' "

And in this email you write:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"It is all a smoke screen."

Danny's friend thought that this indicated for sure that either you or Danny had indeed read my next to last email, contrary to your assertion. Or, as someone pointed out, instead of reading them, maybe Danny had someone read my last two emails to him. Thus, he could have known their contents without actually reading them.

Thanks so much for passing on this reply to Danny.

Bob

**[Bob Pickle](#)**

(1000+

Member)

12/10/06 05:17

PM

** Re: Truce?**

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

Subject: Re: Truce?

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2006 09:03:58 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow

Sorry to bother you again, Danny's penman, but I think the following should be added to my reply to your reply.

Romans 2:1 says, "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things."

You wrote:

**Originally Posted By: Unknown Author**

"I have talked to church leaders who tell me that Gailon Joy could not be Christian. They judge him by his fruits, his emails he sends them. He is not making an impact on responsible SDA's for the good. Quite the contrary. To the spiritually discerning Christian, it is easy to read Gailon's arrogance, his pride, his hatred towards me and any who oppose his views. In the long run, I'm predicting that he will be no help to Linda's cause. I shocked that you as a pastor, if you are one, would rally behind someone with so un Christian of a spirit. It seems it would be easy for you to see. Most people I have talked to that he has sent emails to them, say things like 'This guy is a nut'. Some have said he is obviously led by the Devil, ect, ect."

	<p>Arrogance, pride, hatred toward anyone who opposes his views, an unchristian spirit. If that really is the correct way to characterize Gailon Joy's emails, then perhaps you and he have a few things in common. Take, for example, the emails Danny sent Johann on May 31 and June 3, 2004, or some of the ones Danny has sent me. "It seems it would be easy for you to see."</p> <p>Truly hoping that you both might surrender all to our Lord Jesus at this eleventh hour,</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">7Trumpets</a> (New Member) 12/10/06 05:43 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Truce?</b></p> <p>"Danny's reply" certainly did not sound like it was coming from Danny. Glad you caught that one.</p>
<p><a href="#">Daryl Fawcett</a> (18300+ Member) 12/10/06 07:09 PM</p> 	<p> <b>Re: Truce?</b></p> <p>Bob,</p> <p>How do you know it didn't come from Danny?</p>
<p><a href="#">Redfog</a> (700+ Member) 12/10/06 07:51 PM</p> 	<p> <b>Re: Truce?</b></p> <p>It's interesting to know that business that are doing well are all blessed by God, i.e. casino's, the mob, beer companies, drug cartels....</p> <p>Redfog</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/10/06 10:06 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Truce?</b></p> <p>Daryl,</p> <p>Can't say, 'cause next time they might do a better job and then it would be harder to tell.</p> <p>RedFog,</p> <p>Good point.</p>

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

12/15/06 08:01

AM



**Question on discrepancy regarding automobile title.**

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

Subject: Question on discrepancy regarding automobile title.

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2006 09:44:17 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow

Greetings, Danny.

I came across a discrepancy yesterday, and was wondering if you could help me out with it. I'll write this as if I'm tacking it on to the four emails I sent at Dr. Walt Thompson's suggestion (he had written me and said, "[I would like to request ... that you ... verify \[this letter's\] contents](#)"), even though the topic is a little different.

For the last four months I've tried to avoid digging through the details regarding your divorce and remarriage. It just hasn't interested me; I haven't been on a mission to exonerate Linda. But it does seem appropriate to finally look into the topic a little.

What I'm trying to do is avoid any and all details that are based merely on your or Linda's word, and stick with concrete facts that can be irrefutably proven using legal and other documents. Thus, your statements to Gailon in your email of October 8, 2006, caught my attention.

You will recall that in [that email](#) you went into a bit of detail about how good a "liar" Linda is, and then described the watch incident. Since you and she dispute the cost of the watch, the reason for the gift, and the precise circumstances of its discovery, I want to ignore that and just touch on the following:

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

"She told me that she was going to go lay out by the swimming pool. I decided to go look in her car for any evidence to support the PI's claim that had not been mailed to me yet. Our car door was locked. **Yes, I'm aware that she claims it was her car but I have proof that it is titled to both she and I even unto this day.** She didn't apparently remember that I too had keys to this Toyota Sequoia. I opened the car door and opened the glove compartment. What did I see? Yes, I saw the same watch described to me by the PI.

...

"I then pulled the picture of the watch from underneath my shirt and showed it to her at which point she yelled out, **"I can't believe you broke into my car and got into my personal belongings!** This is

abuse!" " (bold added)

I received a fax of Linda's automobile title from her bank yesterday. You can view the title's top half, the half that contains all the details, at [Maritime](#). The VIN on the title did check out as belonging to a Toyota Sequoia (4 dr. wagon/sport utility with a 4.7 V8), so you are correct about that. I'll put below the portions that concern the date of purchase, the date the title was issued, and the owner(s) listed on the title:

PURCHASE DATE  
12/30/02

DATE ISSUED  
02/11/03

OWNER(S) NAME AND ADDRESS  
LINDA S SHELTON  
2954 NEW LAKE RD  
WEST FRANKFORT, IL 62896  
FIRST LIENHOLDER NAME AND ADDRESS

**Question 31:** Can you explain how Linda's title has had only her name on it since February 11, 2003, when you claimed that your name was also on the title, or do you have any other explanation for this discrepancy?

It would not surprise me if Linda has difficulty telling the truth, and so if you do have irrefutable, concrete evidence similar to the above that Linda has indeed lied, please send it to me at your earliest convenience.

Regarding my previous [four emails](#) containing questions about the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations, I do hope you can soon provide either some answers to explain the discrepancies or at least issue an apology for how those allegations were handled. I think it is absolutely vital that you give some sort of response as soon as possible that either directly addresses those discrepancies or makes an apology, for each day that goes by without this, it just seems that your credibility is called more and more into question.

Trusting that your day will be filled with the peace that passes understanding, peace that comes from the presence of the Spirit in a heart renewed and cleansed by divine

	<p>grace,</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a> (1000+ Member) 12/19/06 09:48 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Question on discrepancy regarding automobile title.</b></p> <p>----- Original Message ----- Subject: Question on Linda's vacations with the doctor. Date: Sun, 17 Dec 2006 21:44:00 -0600 To: Danny Shelton CC: Walt Thompson</p> <p>Hi Danny.</p> <p>I noticed that in your email to Gregory Matthews on Oct. 27, 2004, that you got very specific about the number, location, timing, and duration of vacations that Linda took with the doctor, and that you stated that you had proof of these things. If you do have such proof, I would definitely consider joining your camp. What sort of proof do you have?</p> <p>It's been two and a half weeks since I wrote you at Dr. Walt Thompson's request. Have you been able to find any explanations for the discrepancies regarding your brother's child molestation allegations?</p> <p>Did you get my last email about the automobile title discrepancy? If so, have you been able to find an explanation yet for that discrepancy?</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Johann</a> (600+ Member) 12/20/06 10:21 PM</p> 	<p> <b>Re: Question on discrepancy regarding automobile title.</b></p> <p>It so happens that my wife, Irmgard and I, rode with Linda in that very Toyota around the holidays in 2003 - it was either December 2003 or January 2004. I later rode in it in May 2004, and then in July 2005. I had also seen Linda driving it in January 2003. Still the same vehicle.</p> <p>Johann Thorvaldsson</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a></p>	<p> <b>Re: Question on discrepancy regarding automobile title.</b></p> <p>Thanks for that info, Pastor Thorvaldsson.</p>

(1000+ Member)  
12/21/06 06:20 AM

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+ Member)  
12/21/06 06:26 AM

 **Questions pertaining to conversation with Hal Steenson**

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

Subject: Questions pertaining to conversation with Hal Steenson

Date: Wed, 20 Dec 2006 22:29:36 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow

Greetings, Danny.

In [my \[second\] email to you of December 6](#), I left you hanging a bit at the end, and I don't think that's fair. So I thought I'd write you again and fill my comment in a little. In that email I wrote:

**Quote:**

"On November 4 [you wrote to me](#) and said, among other things,

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

" I will just say this, ... I have done nothing legally wrong in my administration with 3ABN."

"According to what Hal Steenson and John Lomacang told me, I'm uncertain that this is true. But I won't go into that now."

It isn't fair to you to keep you hanging forever on that one, so I will touch on it now. On August 3 or 4 (most likely 4), 2006, at the ASI Convention, I had opportunity to privately ask Hal Steenson a few questions without anyone overhearing us. One of those questions was simply when your daughter Melody got married. Hal diverted the conversation to that of you and Linda, a topic I wasn't even going to touch, and gave me as proof of Linda's guilt three things:

- Since the only Bible grounds for divorce and remarriage is fornication, and since you got remarried, Linda has to be guilty.
- Since the board is composed of godly people and they went along with it, Linda has to be guilty.
- There is a recording that is so bad, conference presidents have listened to it and after 30 seconds they say, "Turn it off," it is that convincing.

As of late October, your conference president had not yet heard it. Thus,

**Question 32:** Who all has heard this recording, and which conference presidents have heard it, or did Hal get his details mixed up?

I found the following at <http://www.rcfp.org/taping/consent.html> and <http://www.rcfp.org/taping/states/illinois.html>, information that is particularly relevant to reporters. I would imagine that under the statutes individuals would be treated roughly similar, but I'm not an attorney, and so I do not know for sure. The actual state statute appears [here](#), and I'll quote just a little from it as well.

**Originally Posted By: Info on legal implications of recording conversations.**

"**Criminal purpose.** Federal law requires only one-party consent to the recording and disclosure of a telephone conversation, but explicitly does not protect the taping if it is done for a criminal or tortious purpose."  
(<http://www.rcfp.org/taping/consent.html>)

"720 Ill. Compiled Stat. Ann. 5/14-1, -2: An eavesdropping device cannot be used to record or overhear a conversation without the consent of all parties to the conversation under criminal statutes. An eavesdropping device is anything used to hear or record a conversation, whether the conversation is in person or conducted by any means other than face-to-face conversation, such as a telephone conversation.

"In addition, it is criminally punishable to disclose information one knows or should know was obtained through an eavesdropping device. Offenses of the eavesdropping law are punishable as felonies, with first offenses categorized as lesser felonies than subsequent offenses. 720 Ill. Compiled Stat. Ann. 5/14-4. Civil liability for actual and punitive damages is authorized as well. 720 Ill. Compiled Stat. Ann. 5/14-6."  
(<http://www.rcfp.org/taping/states/illinois.html>)

"Sec. 14-2. Elements of the offense; affirmative defense.

"(a) A person commits eavesdropping when he:

...

"(3) Uses or divulges ... any information which he knows or reasonably should know was obtained through the use of an eavesdropping device."  
([720 Illinois Compiled Statutes 5/Article 14](#))

You'll notice that Illinois law appears to cover the recording of any type of conversation, while federal law seems to specifically concern just telephone conversations.

**Question 33:** Is Hal correct that such a recording exists and/or was made, and if so, how many parties were there to the conversation and how many of those parties gave their consent to being recorded?

**Question 34:** Assuming that the recording does exist and/or was made, to whom, besides myself, and by whom was information from that recording divulged, and can you demonstrate that the taping was not done for a tortious purpose?

Out of everything that Hal told me, this recording was the one thing that was concrete, not merely based on someone's word. I therefore told him I wanted to hear it. At that point he proceeded to say, "You are led of the pits of hell." "You are one sick puppy." "You are sick." "You need to get a life." "You need to be born again." He then repeatedly threatened to call security. It was quite an unnerving experience.

**Question 35:** Do you have any explanation for the stark contrast between the relative ease at least one 3ABNER manifested when talking about evidence of Linda's infidelity, and the apparently extreme paranoia manifested when asked to actually give proof that such evidence really exists?

That's it for this one.

Have you found anything to explain the [title discrepancy](#) yet? Or anything that would explain [the discrepancies](#) that Walt said you told him regarding your brother's child molestations allegations, and which Walt wanted me to verify? Did you get [the email](#) I sent Sunday about the proof you said you have about Linda taking a number of vacations with the doctor in the U.S. and Europe between May and October 2004?

Hope to hear from you soon.

Bob

[Bob Pickle](#)

(1000+

Member)

01/02/07 03:54

PM



**Questions on John Lomacang's claims.**

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

Subject: Questions on John Lomacang's claims.

Date: Tue, 02 Jan 2007 14:09:31 -0600

To: Danny Shelton

CC: Walt Thompson, Elder Ken Denslow, Pastor Lomacang, Mollie Steenson

Hi Danny.

Before getting to the subject of Pastor Lomacang's claims, I'd like to review just a little bit. This series of communications was initiated by yourself when you wrote me on [November 23](#). That email exchange led to Dr. Walt Thompson's emails to me of [November 24](#) and [27](#) in which he gave me information about the Tommy Shelton child molestation allegations, and your handling of those allegations, at the end of which

Walt wrote:

**Originally Posted By: Dr. Walt Thompson**

"I would like to request that you ... verify [this letter's] contents."

Since Dr. Thompson, your board chairman, had given me only one named source out of two sources for his information, and since you were that single named source, the only way I could fulfill this part of Dr. Thompson's request was to contact you further. I therefore wrote you on [November 29](#), [December 5](#), [December 6](#), and a second time on [December 6](#) seeking verification for the information Dr. Thompson had given.

Yet to date I have received nothing at all from you that makes any attempt whatsoever to verify Dr. Thompson's information. With that in mind, please note the following from Judge Rowe's opinion in [3 Angels Broadcasting Network v. The Department of Revenue of the State of Illinois](#):

**Originally Posted By: Judge Barbara S. Rowe**

"I must conclude from the evidence of record, that applicant is controlled by Danny and Linda Shelton, and all final decisions are made by them and not by a disinterested impartial board of directors" (p.36).

I think it very important to make some sort of reply to the questions raised as soon as possible, for each week that goes by just raises more questions: If the wishes of the 3ABN board chairman can so easily be ignored by yourself over such serious issues as the alleged mismanagement and cover up of child molestation allegations, is Judge Rowe correct in her assessment after all? And could that potentially be used to undermine a future appeal of her decision?

Toward the end of my [second email](#) of December 6, I wrote:

**Quote:**

"On November 4 [you wrote to me](#) and said, among other things,

**Originally Posted By: Danny Shelton**

" I will just say this, ... I have done nothing legally wrong in my administration with 3ABN."

"According to what Hal Steenson and John Lomacang told me, I'm uncertain that this is true. But I won't go into that now."

In my email to you of [December 20](#), I explained to you what Hal Steenson had told me, but I made no comment about what John Lomacang had told me. I will do that now.

On or before August 24, 2006, [Pastor John Lomacang wrote](#) a gentleman named Jonathan the following, which was posted on the adventism\_prophecy at yahoo.com email discussion list::

**Originally Posted By: John Lomacang**

"If you honestly want to know the truth you can call me. Sorry for the misrepresentations that you have read and heard. When we talk on the phone you can ask me any questions that you wish. I am leaving my home number. Please call me. If there is anyone who is willing to hear what they are not being told you can have them call me there also."

Taking Pastor Lomacang up on his invitation, I called him on September 1. In that conversation he referred to a concrete piece of evidence against Linda, namely phone card phone records. According to him:

- These phone card phone records amounted to hundreds of hours of phone calls made by Linda to Norway.
- Regarding how these records were obtained, John stated that there is a phone number one can call to get them.
- When asked whether he had personally seen these records, John replied, "Yes."

I either was told by or got the impression from John that these phone cards were purchased from Wal-Mart. Linda agrees with this detail:

**Originally Posted By: Linda Shelton**

"I do not remember everything precisely, but I do know I purchased phone cards from Walmart."

Wal-Mart's web site presently lists three Wal-Mart branded, AT&T prepaid phone cards. I therefore called AT&T and spoke to multiple customer service representatives to ensure that I was getting the correct information. These representatives told me:

- Anyone who has access to both the phone card and the PIN number can obtain the following information for 60 days after a call is made:
  - The called-from and called-to area codes and/or country codes, but not the actual called-from and called-to numbers.
  - The date and time of the call, the duration of the call, and the amount of total "minutes" or billed units the call cost.
- These records are available verbally over the phone. They are not available in

writing or through the mail, a policy that has been in force for at least several years.

- The only way to obtain written records and actual called-to and called-from numbers is by subpoena.

In light of the recent Hewlett-Packard scandal, it seems appropriate to ask,

**Question 36:** Did you or anyone else obtain a subpoena to obtain these records, and if not, were these records either obtained illegally or forged, or was John being less than truthful when he said he had personally seen these phone card phone records, or is there any other explanation for this major discrepancy?

Since according to AT&T call-to and call-from numbers cannot legally be obtained without a subpoena,

**Question 37:** How exactly did you determine which calls were made by Linda, and which calls were made to Dr. Abrahamsen, which ones to Pastor Thorvaldsson, which ones to Irmgard Thorvaldsson, and/or which ones to some other individual in Norway?

As far as phone card phone records actually existing, it would be nice to chalk this one up to an innocent mistake, but that does not appear possible, as will be seen later.

Here are a couple other details from Pastor Lomacang's conversation:

- John promised that I could see for myself the same phone card phone records that he had seen if I came to 3ABN.
- He promised that I could bring anyone I wanted to with me, and we could all see these phone card phone records.
- When I told him that it was unrealistic to ask someone to travel all that distance (there are less expensive ways to obtain such documentation), he said that that wasn't his decision, and that if it were up to him, he would have nailed the coffin shut a long time ago.

Thus, according to Pastor Lomacang, since it wasn't his decision and since if it were up to him these records would be more freely available, it must have been the decision of the 3ABN board or 3ABN management that this piece of evidence could be seen if one traveled to 3ABN. Therefore,

**Question 38:** Whose decision was it that these phone card phone records could be seen by whomever came to 3ABN and asked to see them?

This phone conversation with Pastor Lomacang was September 1. By September 8 it had dawned on me that if I went to my brother's wedding, I would be returning home right by 3ABN on October 23. That fact led me to pursue taking John up on his offer to see these phone card phone records. I accordingly communicated with him via email on the following dates:

- [September 8.](#)
- [October 2.](#)
- [October 3 \(a\).](#)
- [October 3 \(b\).](#)
- [October 10.](#)
- [October 16.](#)
- [October 17.](#)

Why I wrote that many times may be apparent shortly.

The only reply I ever got was on [October 2](#):

**Originally Posted By: John Lomacang**

"I received your email. You will need to contact the general manager of 3ABN to make an appointment. Her name is Mollie Steenson. If she approves then your trip will occur. She will determine the usefulness and necessity of your meeting."

It did sound a bit strange that Mollie would decide whether I could go to my brother's wedding, but it is likely that John just made a poor choice of wording.

I accordingly wrote Mollie on:

- [October 3.](#)
- [October 10.](#)
- [October 16.](#)
- [October 17.](#)

The only reply I have ever received came on [October 17](#), before the final communication listed above:

**Originally Posted By: Mollie Steenson**

"Rather than making the evidence available to individuals, which 3ABN has that validate the basis for the actions we have had to take in this matter, we have turned this matter over to a group of respected church leaders who will be looking at all the evidence, not just portions of it, and they will publicly give their findings in the near future."

Out of the eleven emails I sent John and Mollie regarding seeing these phone card phone records as promised, the phrase "phone card(s)" occurs ten times, and that does not include when a previous email was attached to a new one for reference purposes. Not once in the two replies I got from John and Mollie did they indicate that there had been some mistake, and that these phone card phone records were really something else or did not exist after all. Thus it is difficult to assume that there has been some sort of misunderstanding.

I also mentioned in [my email to Mollie](#) on October 3:

**Quote:**

"[John] indicated that that wasn't his decision. So I assume that it was 3ABN's board or management that determined that those interested in seeing this evidence can indeed see it if they come to 3ABN."

Mollie thus far has made no correction to this conclusion that it was a decision by the 3ABN board or 3ABN management that anyone who wished could see these phone card phone records if they came to 3ABN.

Now for the next troubling discrepancy. John explicitly said on September 1 that these phone card phone records documented hundreds of hours of calls. I used the phrase "hundreds of hours" 15 times in my eleven emails to John and Mollie, not including the number of times that this phrase appeared in the previous emails I attached. Not once did John or Mollie indicate that John was mistaken in his claim.

But here is information from Wal-Mart and AT&T that raises questions about this claim:

- Wal-Mart currently sells Wal-Mart branded AT&T prepaid phone cards in denominations of 150, 500, and 1000 minutes.
- 1000 minutes would be the equivalent of 16 hours and 40 minutes if the calls were domestic calls that were billed at that flat rate with no surcharges, and thus "hundreds of hours" would require a minimum equivalent of 12 phone cards.
- Each minute of actual time to a land line in Norway currently costs 7 "minutes," and thus "hundreds of hours" using 1000-minute cards to a land line in Norway would require a minimum equivalent of 84 phone cards, assuming that there were no surcharges.
- Each minute of actual time to a cellphone in Norway currently costs 20 "minutes," and thus "hundreds of hours" to a cellphone in Norway using 1000-minute cards would require a minimum equivalent of 240 phone cards, assuming that there were no surcharges.

Since every phone card has different PIN numbers, in order to legally obtain information for "hundreds of hours" of calls, one would need to get a hold of a lot of Linda's phone cards, and she does admit that you did borrow one and refused to return it. Thus,

**Question 39:** How many of Linda's phone cards did you in actuality get a hold of, and how many hours of time do they really represent, including and not including recharges?

In my eleven emails to John and Mollie, I asked the following question a total of six

times beginning with September 8, and though it is rapidly approaching four months later, neither of them has had the courtesy to give any sort of reply. Thus,

**Question 40:** Did John's statement that there were hundreds of hours of phone calls by Linda to Norway refer to a) actual time spent on the phone or b) billed units; in other words, did "hundreds of hours" really mean 10 to 30 hours of actual time spent on the phone, since we must divide the value of the phone card by a factor ranging from perhaps 7 to 20?

John also stated on September 1 in our phone conversation that his involvement in this whole matter began on March 9, 2004. In trying to figure out the details about these phone card phone records, I asked him whether these calls were made prior to March 9. He said that they were. Thus,

**Question 41:** Over how long a period of time do these phone card phone records cover, and over that period of time, how many days was Linda actually in the States and Dr. Abrahamsen actually in Norway, and according to these phone card phone records, what was the total amount of time Linda spent on the phone to Norway (allowing us to calculate an average amount of time per day and per week)?

To make it easy to follow everything, here is [Mollie's sole reply](#) again from October 17:

**Originally Posted By: Mollie Steenson**

"Rather than making the evidence available to individuals, which 3ABN has that validate the basis for the actions we have had to take in this matter, we have turned this matter over to a group of respected church leaders who will be looking at all the evidence, not just portions of it, and they will publicly give their findings in the near future."

There were a total of four questions in [my reply](#) of October 17 to the above:

**Quote:**

"1) Has there been a change of policy since September 1, when Pastor Lomacang promised that we could see the phone card phone records if we came by? He indicated that that wasn't his decision. Or was he somehow totally mistaken?

"2) Pastor Lomacang indicated that these records showed hundreds of hours of phone calls, but I have thus far been unable to confirm from him that these hundreds of hours are actual time spent on the phone rather than billed phone card units. Can you confirm this?

"3) What group of respected church leaders has the matter been turned

over to? Who are they?

"4) Will they be making public the evidence that supports their findings, or will they only make public their findings?

"I ask this last question because from a damage control and apologetic perspective, the only real way to put all the rumors to rest once and for all is to come across as if 3ABN has nothing to hide.

"Take for example these phone records, which Pastor Lomacang stated emphatically that he had personally seen. After he promised that we could see them if we stopped by, it has taken more than five weeks to discover that 3ABN will not allow this, and that gives the impression that they either do not exist or that they do not say what he claimed they say.

"This is even more so the case since I asked him on [September 8](#) and [October 2](#) and [October 3](#) and [October 10](#) and [October 16](#) whether the hundreds of hours were actual minutes or billed minutes, and though I did get a short reply from him on [October 2](#), he has yet to answer that simple question. The definite impression being given is that there never were hundreds of hours spent on the phone."

Since it is now two and a half months later and still no reply from Mollie, I will ask the following of you:

**Question 42:** Who made and authorized the dramatic change in policy between September 1 and October 17 regarding who could see these phone card phone records, and why did it take from September 8 (one week after John promised they could be seen) until October 17 to be informed that there had indeed been a change in policy?

**Question 43:** What group of respected "church leaders" has the matter been turned over to, have they agreed to investigate the matter and is it certain that they will do so, and if so, what specific issues have they agreed to investigate, and if not, why have they not agreed and/or why is it not certain?

**Question 44:** Have they agreed to examine the question of whether the phone card phone records or any other evidence, such as the recording [Hal Steenson alleged](#) exists, was legally or illegally obtained, and if not, will evidence of this sort even be allowed to be considered?

**Question 45:** Will both the findings of, and the evidence considered by, these respected "church leaders" be released, and if not, what sort of process is in the works to assure Seventh-day Adventists everywhere that the findings will not constitute yet another attempt at evasion, stonewalling, and/or cover up?

Trusting that this new year will be much more pleasant for you than last year has

	<p>been,</p> <p>Bob</p>
<p><a href="#">Daryl Fawcett</a> </p> <p>(18300+ Member) 01/02/07 04:21 PM</p> 	<p> <b>Re: Questions on John Lomacang's claims.</b></p> <p>It will be interesting to see what kind of a reply you will receive, assuming you will even receive a reply.</p>
<p><a href="#">Daryl Fawcett</a> </p> <p>(18300+ Member) 02/05/07 04:35 PM</p> 	<p> <b>Re: Questions on John Lomacang's claims.</b></p> <p>I assume you never did receive any reply?</p>
<p><a href="#">Bob Pickle</a></p> <p>(1000+ Member) 02/06/07 01:58 PM</p>	<p> <b>Re: Questions on John Lomacang's claims.</b></p> <p>No reply whatsoever.</p>

**Ex. D**

1300 Washington Square  
100 Washington Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401  
T (612) 337-6100 F (612) 339-6591  
siegelbrill.com

**SIEGEL BRILL  
GREUPNER DUFFY  
& FOSTER P.A.**

M. GREGORY SIMPSON  
612-337-6107  
gregsimpson@sbgdf.com

June 13, 2008

**VIA FEDEX**

Mr. Robert Pickle  
1354 County Highway 21  
Halstad, MN 56548

**Re: Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc. and Danny Lee Shelton vs.  
Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle  
Court Docket No. 07-40098-FDS  
Our File No. 24,681-D-002**

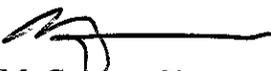
Dear Mr. Pickle:

Enclosed please find a CD containing documents responsive to your request for documents dated December 7, 2007. Specifically, the documents are relevant, non-confidential and non-privileged and are responsive to your Requests Nos. 8, 22 and 34.

As we discussed in our teleconference on Wednesday, June 4, (and again on Thursday, June 5), we are producing documents in accordance with our letter dated May 27, 2008: 1) June 13, 2008 – “relevant, non-confidential and non-privileged responsive documents”; 2) June 20, 2008 – “relevant, confidential documents (not containing donor-identifying information), pursuant to the discovery protocol of Magistrate Judge Hillman’s April 17 Confidentiality and Protective Order”; 3) June 27, 2008 – “relevant, confidential documents containing donor-identifying information, with the donor-identifying information redacted as necessary, pursuant to the discovery protocol of Magistrate Judge Hillman’s April 17 Confidentiality and Protective Order”; and 4) July 11, 2008 – produce a privilege log identifying all relevant, privileged responsive documents.

We are working on the document production due by Friday, June 20. In the meantime, please contact us if you have any difficulty accessing the CD.

Sincerely,



M. Gregory Simpson

**Ex. E**

1300 Washington Square  
100 Washington Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401  
T (612) 337-6100 F (612) 339-6591  
siegelbrill.com

**SIEGEL BRILL  
GREUPNER DUFFY  
& FOSTER P.A.**

M. GREGORY SIMPSON  
612-337-6107  
gregsimpson@sbgdf.com

June 20, 2008

**VIA FEDEX**

Mr. Robert Pickle  
1354 County Highway 21  
Halstad, MN 56548

**Re: Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc. and Danny Lee Shelton vs.  
Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle  
Court Docket No. 07-40098-FDS  
Our File No. 24,681-D-002**

Dear Mr. Pickle:

Enclosed please find a CD containing documents responsive to your request for documents dated December 7, 2007. Specifically, the documents are relevant, confidential and non-privileged and are responsive to your Requests Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 20, 26 and 32.

To reiterate, we are producing documents pursuant to our mutually agreed production schedule in our letter dated May 27, 2008 and your oral affirmation during our teleconferences on June 5 and 6. We respectfully request that you wait until we have completed the document production to voice concerns with the production of documents.

Additionally, in your letter dated June 19, 2008, you have indicated our lack of production of documents pursuant to your Request No. 8. During our teleconference, we discussed with you that we would not produce documents that were publicly available from other sources. That said, issues of *3ABN World* are available through 3ABN's website, (<http://www.3abn.org/magazine.cfm>), from 2005 to present. While we do not believe these documents are relevant to the current action, you may download the issues you desire using that link.

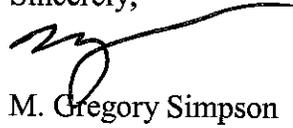
Mr. Robert Pickle

June 20, 2008

Page 2

We are working on the next round of document production due by Friday, June 27, 2008. In the meantime, if you have any difficulty accessing the CDs please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Gregory Simpson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

M. Gregory Simpson

MGS/ajd  
Enclosure

**Ex. F**

1300 Washington Square  
100 Washington Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401  
T (612) 337-6100 F (612) 339-6591  
siegelbrill.com

**SIEGEL BRILL  
GREUPNER DUFFY  
& FOSTER P.A.**

**KRISTIN L. KINGSBURY**  
612-337-6100  
KristinKingsbury@sbgdf.com

June 27, 2008

**VIA FEDEX**

Mr. Robert Pickle  
1354 County Highway 21  
Halstad, MN 56548

**Re: Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc. and Danny Lee Shelton vs.  
Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle  
Court Docket No. 07-40098-FDS  
Our File No. 24,681-D-002**

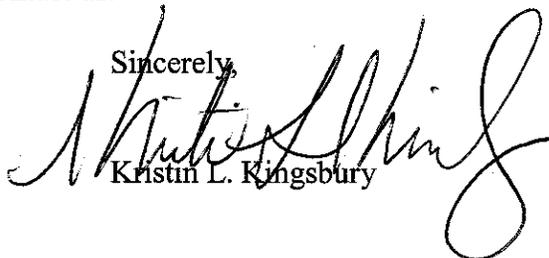
Dear Mr. Pickle:

Enclosed please find a CD containing documents responsive to your request for documents dated November 29, 2007 and December 7, 2007. Specifically, the documents are relevant, confidential, redacted and non-privileged and are responsive to your Requests Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 20, and 26.

These documents are produced to you pursuant to the production schedule set forth in our May 27, 2008 letter to you and teleconferences with you held on June 4 and 5.

Now that we have completed the assessment of the documents received from our client, we are making a good faith effort to ascertain whether we have produced all documents that are relevant to the case issues and responsive to your requests. In the meantime, if you have any difficulty accessing the CD please contact us.

Sincerely,



Kristin L. Kingsbury

KLK/ajd  
Enclosure

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc., an Illinois non-profit corporation, and Danny Lee Shelton, individually,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
v.	)	
	)	
Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

Case No.: 1:08-mc-03

**DEFENDANT ROBERT PICKLE’S MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF HIS MOTION  
TO COMPEL REMNANT PUBLICATIONS**

**INTRODUCTION**

Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc. (hereafter “3ABN”) and Danny Lee Shelton (hereafter “Plaintiff Shelton”) filed suit on April 6, 2007, in United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, a suit captioned *Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc. and Danny Lee Shelton v. Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle* (No. 07-40098-FDS (D. Mass.)). See Affidavit of Robert Pickle (hereafter “Pickle Aff.”), Ex. A.

The Defendants seek relevant documents by subpoena from Remnant Publications (hereafter “Remnant”) of Coldwater, Michigan, pertaining to a) royalty or other payments made directly or indirectly to Plaintiff Shelton, b) the flow of money or assets from 3ABN through Remnant to Plaintiff Shelton, his relatives, or 3ABN officers, directors, or employees, c) the underlying agreements which establish or define the relationships and payments between Remnant and the Plaintiffs, and d) the manuscripts or books Remnant publishes or prints for the

Plaintiffs. See Pickle Aff., Ex. B. Remnant refuses to comply with the subpoena, will not produce a single document without the granting of a motion to compel, and did not show up at the scheduled time for inspection and copying. See Pickle Aff., Ex. C–E.

### **STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS**

#### ***Background***

Both 3ABN and Remnant are publicly supported, non-profit, 501(c)3 corporations which file Form 990's with the Internal Revenue Service annually. See Pickle Aff. at ¶¶ 4, 12. Remnant has performed printing and publishing services for the Plaintiffs, and, due to Remnant having a seat or seats on 3ABN's book committee, is in alliance with 3ABN in regards to the Plaintiffs' publishing ventures. See Pickle Aff., Ex. F.

The U.S. Congress requires that Form 990's be open to public inspection, thus making 3ABN and Remnant to a degree accountable to the public from which they solicit support. Both 3ABN and Remnant are supporting ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

From 1985 until September 2007, Plaintiff Shelton was the president, CEO, and managing director of 3ABN, and he remains an influential director of and the only founder still employed by 3ABN.

Plaintiff Shelton has been the subject of numerous and varied allegations of malfeasance and misconduct, as well as negative internet commentary, long before either Defendant became involved in mid-August 2006. These allegations have included wrongful termination, sexual assault, the ignoring or cover up of child molestation allegations, unbiblical divorce, deceit, private inurement, and conflict of interest.

In June of 2004 Plaintiff Shelton divorced his then wife Linda Shelton in Guam, though both were residents of Illinois. Their marital property remains undivided. See the open case filed in 2005, *In Re: The Marriage of Linda Sue Shelton vs. Danny Lee Shelton*, IL Franklin County

(2nd). In a July 2006 financial affidavit filed in these divorce proceedings, Plaintiff Shelton reported no other income than his 3ABN salary. See Pickle Aff., Ex. G.

In mid-August 2006 the Defendants, both members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, launched ecclesiastical investigations into the conduct of Plaintiff Shelton, and began publishing investigative reports in harmony with their First Amendment rights of Freedom of the Press, Freedom of Speech, and Freedom of Religion. The Plaintiffs repeatedly claimed to have evidence to prove various allegations false while also refusing to provide that evidence to inquirers.

The Plaintiffs filed suit on April 6, 2007, charging the Defendants in court filings with causing 3ABN's donations to decline. See Pickle Aff., Ex. A at ¶ 78. A confidentiality order in the underlying case was issued by Magistrate Judge Timothy Hillman on April 17, 2008. See Pickle Aff., Ex. H.

### ***The Allegations of the Plaintiffs in Their Complaint***

Regarding financial matters, the complaint of the underlying suit accuses the Defendants of accusing Plaintiff Shelton or 3ABN Board members of personally enriching themselves in violation of the Internal Revenue Code. See Pickle Aff., Ex. A at ¶ 46g. It specifically alludes to allegations concerning royalties that Remnant paid Plaintiff Shelton, that Plaintiff Shelton did not disclose to the 3ABN Board, and that Plaintiff Shelton did not disclose on his July 2006 financial affidavit. See Pickle Aff., Ex. A at ¶¶ 46h, 50i.

The underlying suit uses its allegations of violations of the Internal Revenue Code and failure to disclose in the financial affidavit as grounds for its claim of defamation *per se*, thus transferring the burden of proof to some extent to the Defendants. See Pickle Aff., Ex. A at ¶ 75.

### ***Plaintiff Shelton's Publishing Ventures***

Rather than allowing 3ABN to make a publisher's profit, Plaintiff Shelton instead maximized his own personal profits by using his DBA, D & L Publishing, to sell tens of

thousands of dollars of books to 3ABN, even though 3ABN revenue can't inure to the benefit of any private person. See Pickle Aff. at ¶ 8. After his divorce, Plaintiff Shelton used DLS Publishing in this same way. Id.

Table 1 lists the purchases attributable to Plaintiff Shelton's books or products for the years 2001 through 2006 as derived from 3ABN's financial statements available from the Illinois Attorney General's office. See Pickle Aff., Ex. I–N at Note 14. None of these purchases were similarly disclosed on 3ABN's Form 990's.

**TABLE 1: 3ABN's Purchases of Shelton's Products**  
(Data from Note 14 of 3ABN's Financial Statements)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Reported Total</b>
2001	Owned by Two Board Members	\$75,000
2002	D & L	\$130,612.50
2003	D & L	\$73,112.50
2004	D & L	\$35,000
2004	DLS	\$44,724.38
2005	Unspecified	\$82,712.43
2006	Unspecified	\$2,982,793.71
<b>Total Purchases</b>		<b>\$3,423,955.52</b>

A January 2004 decision against 3ABN in 3ABN's Illinois property tax case suggests that Plaintiff Shelton needed to avoid earning royalties from sales connected to his 3ABN activities, and raised questions about whether 3ABN engaged in charity by giving product away, or whether it instead sold books and videos with a view to profit. See Pickle Aff., Ex. O. The decision also noted that 3ABN could not document items that it had given away. See Pickle Aff., Ex. O at ¶ 77. Whereas 3ABN had before this decision reported sales of books as gross sales of inventory offset by cost of goods sold, from 2004 onward it reported such sales as contributions and cost of goods given away, thus concealing the nature of the sales and generating the formerly missing record of

items given away. See Pickle Aff., Ex. K, revenue of “Other sales” on p. 4, expense of “Cost of goods sold or given away - Other” on p. 12; Ex. L, no revenue attributable to “Other sales” on p. 4, expense of “Cost of goods given away - Other” on p. 12.

That the Sheltons were authoring or publishing books prior to 2001 is clear from the advertisement 3ABN carried on its website in 1998 for *Especially for You*. See Ex. P.

### ***The 2006 Book Campaign***

In the first half of 2006, 3ABN heavily marketed Plaintiff Shelton’s book, *The Ten Commandments Twice Removed* (“*TCTR*”), and distributed 4.8 million copies in exchange for 25 cents a book for shipping, suggesting that 3ABN took in \$1.2 million dollars to cover the cost of shipping. 3ABN took orders and payment, and Remnant handled the publishing, printing, and fulfillment. See Pickle Aff. at ¶ 10. Plaintiff Danny Shelton reported no income attributable to this enormous volume of sales in his July 2006 financial affidavit. See Pickle Aff., Ex. G.

Tables 2 and 3 give figures from 3ABN and Remnant’s 990’s, from which may be derived approximate figures for the royalties Plaintiff Shelton received for the 2006 *TCTR* campaign, the cost to 3ABN for 4.8 million *TCTR* books, 3ABN’s resulting loss for the year, and Remnant’s resulting gain. See Pickle Aff., Ex. M–N, Y–Z.

**TABLE 2: 3ABN: Comparison Between 2005 and 2006**

(Data from Form 990, Lns. 1, 12, Statement 2)

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Inc (Dec)</b>
<b>Cost of Goods</b>	\$605,744	\$3,167,235	\$2,561,491
<b>Contributions</b>	\$14,060,275	\$15,075,120	\$1,014,845
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$14,956,597	\$16,602,282	\$1,645,685
<b>Net Gain (Loss)</b>	(\$482,493)	(\$2,996,016)	(\$2,513,523)

A careful analysis of tables 2 and 3 takes note that a) the figures by which 3ABN’s cost of goods and Remnant’s sales of literature increased are roughly the same, b) the approximate

amount of royalties Plaintiff Shelton earned are represented by the increase in Remnant's royalty expense, and c) 3ABN's losses in 2006 may have been attributable to the pricing structure for *TCTR*, 3ABN's payments to Remnant, and Remnant's royalty payments to Plaintiff Shelton instead of a decline of donations due to Defendants' investigative reporting.

**TABLE 3: Remnant: Comparison Between 2005 and 2006**  
(Data from Form 990, Lns. 35, 38, 43, 93)

	2005	2006	Inc (Dec)
<b>Literature Sales</b>	\$1,228,662	\$4,316,011	\$3,087,349
<b>Royalties Paid</b>	\$116,556	\$508,767	\$392,211
<b>Printing</b>	\$445,558	\$1,680,814	\$1,235,256
<b>Shipping</b>	\$112,769	\$394,640	\$281,871
<b>Net Gain (Loss)</b>	(\$162,212)	\$601,501	\$763,713

According to Remnant's Form 990 filings, its officers and directors consist of Dwight Hall (president), his two brothers Dan Hall and Rudy Hall, and his father Darwin Hall. See Pickle Aff., Ex. S-Z at Part V. Remnant's reported 2006 gain might have been higher had it not been for an increase in two other expenses attributable to increased payments for occupancy and travel. See Table 4.

**TABLE 4: Remnant: Occupancy and Travel Costs**  
(Data from Form 990, Lns. 36, 39, 43)

Year	Occupancy	Utilities	Travel
1999	\$400	\$9,931	\$5,925
2000		\$26,119	\$6,199
2001		\$23,303	\$15,440
2002	\$72,792		\$17,460
2003	\$74,879		\$27,521
2004	\$60,000		\$61,462
2005	\$96,500		\$103,547
2006	\$120,000		\$148,964

***Sources Confirm Hiding of Remnant Royalties***

Former general counsel and director of 3ABN, Nicholas Miller, claimed in September 2006 that he was “quite certain” that Plaintiff Shelton had earned “several hundred thousands of dollars” from *TCTR*, but that he was hiding the amount from his board members, that this was a “gross conflict of interest,” and that this could cost 3ABN its tax exempt status. See Pickle Aff., Ex. AA. Miller’s later story about Plaintiff Shelton’s channeling monies from 3ABN to his future wife through a third-party non-profit suggest the creative lengths Plaintiff Shelton might go to hide the method of his obtaining his royalties. See Pickle Aff. at ¶ 12.

In November 2006, Plaintiff Shelton stated that he was refusing to disclose his royalties until after his marital property case with Linda Shelton was settled. See Pickle Aff., Ex. BB at p. 5.

In early 2007 sources informed the Defendants that Plaintiff Shelton and Dwight Hall had conspired to hide Plaintiff Shelton’s royalties from the 3ABN Board, and from his ex-wife Linda Shelton, whom Plaintiff Shelton believed was entitled to some of the royalties. According to these sources, the money sat on Remnant’s books and was secreted in an account in a Coldwater, Michigan, bank. See Affidavit of Gailon Arthur Joy. Allegations also surfaced that Dwight Hall was supplementing his Remnant salary by payments made by Remnant to Hall-controlled companies for building and aircraft leases. See Pickle Aff. at ¶ 15.

After publishing editions of *TCTR* claiming to have been copyrighted in 2005 by Danny Shelton and Shelley Quinn and carrying publication dates of 2005 and 2006, Remnant published yet another edition in 2007. This 2007 edition, contrary to industry standards, carried the same ISBN number as the previous editions, and claimed instead to have been copyrighted only in 2005 by only Remnant. See Pickle Aff. at ¶¶ 16–17, Ex. W–Y. This false copyright claim in 2007 after 5 million copies of the previous editions had already been distributed suggests that Dwight

Hall and Remnant are willing to go to extreme lengths to aid Plaintiff Shelton in concealing his ownership of the rights to *TCTR* as well as his royalties.

## ARGUMENT

### **I. THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN IS THE CORRECT COURT**

Remnant's counsel refers to the Federal Rules and complains that "it is a waste of judicial resources and contemptible" for the Defendants to have served Remnant with the instant subpoena from the Western District of Michigan after having already served Remnant with a subpoena from the District of Massachusetts. See Pickle Aff., Ex. B. Yet Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(a)(2)(C) requires that the subpoena be issued from the Western District of Michigan, since that is where the requested production of documents is to take place.

### **II. THE SUBPEONA IS NOT BURDENSOME**

#### **A. Production of an "Enormous Volume of Paper" Not Required**

Remnant's counsel contends that the subpoena is burdensome because it requires "producing this enormous volume of paper." And yet the Defendants' cover letter to Dan Hall explicitly stated:

To avoid any expense to Remnant, unless you have another suggestion, we would plan on providing our own equipment to copy the requested materials, and would do our own copying. We would need at your earliest convenience the types of materials we are talking about so that we can make sure we have the right equipment and blank media.

Remnant's counsel's contention assumes that some of the information sought is in electronic form and must be converted to paper, while the Defendants express their willingness to use whatever media and/or equipment is necessary to copy the information in whatever form it happens to be in, all at their own expense. The Defendants assume that some of the information sought is in electronic form and that it will not have to be converted to paper.

#### **B. Locating Requested Documents Not "Time Consuming"**

Remnant's counsel contends that searching for the documents will be time consuming. However, regarding electronically stored information, it is a relatively easy task to isolate relevant emails, word processing documents, and desk-top-publishing documents using various search tools. The located documents can then be burned to a CD or DVD rather quickly.

Regarding paper documents, publishers and printers must routinely organize and keep track of manuscripts and correspondence in order to properly service clients and customers. Retrieval of relevant, extant paper documents should be able to be done in short order, provided that Remnant operates its business like a typical publisher or printer.

### **III. THE SUBPEONA IS NOT OVERBROAD**

#### **A. Limited in Scope to Documents Pertaining to the Plaintiffs**

Remnant's counsel complains that the subpoena seeks documents from too many corporations and individuals. Yet D.MA Loc. R. Civ. P. 26.5 ("Uniform Definitions in Discovery Requests") states:

(5) *Parties*. The terms "plaintiff" and "defendant" as well as a party's full or abbreviated name or a pronoun referring to a party mean the party and, where applicable, its officers, directors, employees, partners, corporate parent, subsidiaries, or affiliates.

Thus the Defendants' request for documents is fully in line with the local rules of the district in which the case is venued.

Plaintiff Shelton acknowledged trying to hide his royalties. Credible sources allege that Dwight Hall conspired with Plaintiff Shelton to assist him in doing so. Thus, Defendants must explore whether royalties attributable to Plaintiff Shelton's books were channeled by Remnant through Plaintiff Shelton's relatives, or individuals or entities associated with the Plaintiffs.

Remnant is not a massive corporation which has no idea what entities or individuals associated with the Plaintiffs it has done business with. It is a relatively simple matter for it to determine who it needs to seek documents for. Furthermore, the Defendants have limited their

requests to only those documents pertaining to entities or individuals Remnant already believes or knows to be associated with the Plaintiffs.

**B. Limited in Scope to the Less Than the Presently Documented Time Period of Plaintiff Shelton's Publishing Ventures**

According to 3ABN's advertisements and tax return filings, the Sheltons have been authoring or printing books since at least 1998, though the Plaintiffs' utilization of Remnant may have begun later. Accordingly, the Defendants limit their request for documents from Remnant to a time period commencing on January 1, 2000, or commencing from when Remnant first started providing printing or publishing services for Plaintiff Shelton or the stated entities, whichever commencement date is later.

Given the fact that Remnant and 3ABN have both creatively channeled part of their revenue to their officers or directors even prior to the 2006 *TCTR* campaign, the Defendants have a basis for discovering whether 3ABN or Plaintiff Shelton used Remnant as such a conduit for private inurement at any point in time after the appropriate commencement date.

**IV. THE DOCUMENTS SOUGHT ARE RELEVANT**

Remnant's counsel claims that the documents sought are not relevant to the allegations of the underlying suit. Yet the underlying complaint refers to allegations concerning a) Remnant's royalty payments to Plaintiff Shelton, b) those royalties being concealed, and c) other 3ABN personnel similarly enriching themselves. Accordingly, Defendants seek to inspect and copy documents pertaining to these individuals from Remnant: a) documents pertaining to royalties, b) manuscripts and works for which royalties would be earned, c) records of payments made and received, d) records and bank statements pertaining to monies held, and e) the underlying contracts and agreements which establish relationships between Remnant and the Plaintiffs.

**V. A CONFIDENTIALITY ORDER IS IN PLACE**

Lastly, Remnant's counsel expresses the need of having a protective order. A

confidentiality order has now been handed down, and Remnant can avail itself of the terms of that order if it so chooses. If Remnant wishes a protective order of a different sort, they have certainly not sought one from the court, even though they have had plenty of time to do so.

#### **VI. REMNANT FAILED TO FILE A TIMELY MOTION**

Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(c)(3)(A) explicitly allows an entity or individual subject to a subpoena to seek relief “on timely motion” if the subpoena “requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter, if no exception or waiver applies,” or if the subpoena “subjects a person to undue burden.” Remnant failed to file a motion by April 15, 2008, the date of production on the subpoena, and thus failed to file a timely motion. Remnant therefore cannot obtain relief by way of Fed. R. Civ. P. 45(c)(3)(A).

Besides the subpoena not being unduly burdensome, it must be noted that the Plaintiffs waived claims of privilege regarding publishing contracts or payments to or from Remnant when they put at issue in the controversy the matter of Plaintiff Shelton’s royalties from Remnant.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Allegations in the Plaintiffs’ complaint in the underlying suit, statements by the 3ABN Board chairman, sources, and public documents all provide a basis for the requests in the Defendants’ subpoena. Accordingly, their subpoena is not only not burdensome or overbroad, but its requests are relevant and reasonably calculated to result in admissible evidence, thus falling within the scope of Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1). Furthermore, the Defendants made it quite clear that they intended to cover all copying costs, and the Plaintiffs waived potential claims of privilege by placing Remnant’s royalty payments to Plaintiff Shelton at issue in the underlying suit.

Remnant’s refusal to produce a single document without a motion to compel is therefore entirely unreasonable. The Defendants consequently seek the granting of their motion to compel, and, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(a)(5)(A), their reasonable expenses in bringing this motion

before the Court.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 1, 2008

/s/ Robert Pickle, pro se

Robert Pickle, *pro se*  
1354 County Highway 21  
Halstad, MN 56548  
Tel: (218) 456-2568

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc., an Illinois non-profit corporation, and Danny Lee Shelton, individually,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
v.	)	
	)	
Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

Case No.: 1:08-mc-03

**AFFIDAVIT OF ROBERT PICKLE**

NOW COMES Robert Pickle of Halstad Township, Norman County, Minnesota, who deposes and testifies to the following under pain and penalty of perjury:

1. On April 6, 2007, the Plaintiffs Three Angels Broadcasting Network (“3ABN”) and Danny Shelton filed suit against the Defendants in U.S. District Court. Relevant pages of the complaint are attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

2. On March 31, 2008, the Defendants served a subpoena on Remnant Publications (“Remnant”), attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. Remnant’s counsel served a response back on April 1, 2008, attached hereto as **Exhibit C**, indicating that a motion to compel would be required. An earlier subpoena had mistakenly been issued from the District of Massachusetts, to which Remnant’s counsel had responded in similar fashion. A copy of my response at that time is attached hereto as **Exhibit D**. This response refers to an earlier conversation with Dwight Hall in which Dwight told me that he would not make it hard for us to obtain documents, and which

informs Remnant's counsel that we would expect reimbursement of our expenses if we have to file a motion to compel. Either Gailon or I have spoken to Dwight Hall or Remnant's counsel about six times since around December.

3. At the time specified on the subpoena, on April 15, 2008, James Salway was at the Branch County Courthouse, but Remnant or its counsel did not show up. His notarized statement is attached hereto as **Exhibit E**.

4. As 501(c)3 organizations, both 3ABN and Remnant file Form 990's with the Internal Revenue Service.

5. 3ABN Board chairman Walt Thompson has stated that Remnant has a seat or seats on 3ABN's book committee. His communication to this effect is attached hereto as **Exhibit F**.

6. Relevant pages of Danny Shelton's July 2006 financial affidavit are attached hereto as **Exhibit G**.

7. Magistrate Judge Timothy Hillman's confidentiality order issued in the underlying suit is attached hereto as **Exhibit H**.

8. Relevant pages of 3ABN's 2001-2006 financial statements are attached hereto as **Exhibits I-N**, documenting the fact that 3ABN has bought millions of dollars of Danny Shelton's products or books via D & L Publishing ("D & L" stands for "Danny and Linda"), DLS Publishing ("DLS" stands for "Danny Lee Shelton"), and Remnant. These financial statements are available from the Illinois Attorney General's office.

9. Relevant pages of Administrative Law Judge Barbara Rowe's January 24, 2004, decision are attached hereto as **Exhibit O**.

10. In 1998, 3ABN had a products page on their website that featured a book by Linda Shelton. The relevant part of that products page is attached hereto as **Exhibit P**.

11. In 2006, 3ABN heavily marketed Danny Shelton's book, *Ten Commandments*

*Twice Removed*, and distributed about 4.8 million copies for 25 cents each to cover the cost of shipping. 3ABN took the orders and payment, and Remnant shipped the books to the customers.

12. Relevant pages of 3ABN's Form 990 filings for the years 2005 and 2006 are attached hereto as **Exhibits Q–R**. Relevant pages of Remnant's Form 990 filings for the years 1999 through 2006 are attached hereto as **Exhibits S–Z**.

13. Nicholas Miller is 3ABN's former general counsel and a former director. An email from Nicholas Miller pertaining to Danny Shelton hiding his royalties from Remnant is attached hereto as **Exhibit AA**. Miller later told me that after the 3ABN Board had voted not to pay Danny Shelton's girlfriend Brandy Elswick Murray, that he funneled 3ABN funds to her through a third-party non-profit.

14. Danny Shelton told me that he was waiting until his marital property division case was settled before disclosing how much royalties he had received because of the *Ten Commandments Twice Removed* campaign. His email is attached hereto as **Exhibit BB**.

15. Sources have informed us that Dwight Hall has been supplementing his Remnant salary by payments made by Remnant to Hall-controlled companies for building and aircraft leases.

16. Attached hereto as **Exhibits CC–EE** are the copyright pages of three editions of *Ten Commandments Twice Removed*. The edition that claims to have been published in 2007 states on the cover "2nd Edition - Over 5 MILLION Copies in print." Since the massive 2006 book campaign is what resulted in 5 million copies being distributed, the 2007 edition had to have been published after that 2006 campaign.

17. Standards in the publishing industry dictate that each edition of a book carry a different ISBN number.

FURTHER DEPONENT TESTIFIES NOT.

Signed and sealed this 1st day of May, 2008.

/s/ Bob Pickle

Bob Pickle  
1354 County Highway 21  
Halstad, MN 56548  
Tel: (218) 456-2568

Subscribed and sworn to me  
this 1st day of May, 2008.

/s/ Melanie Dee Nelson

Notary Public

My Commission Expires Jan. 31, 2011

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

	)	
Three Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc.,	)	
an Illinois non-profit corporation, and	)	
Danny Lee Shelton, individually,	)	Case No.: 1:08-mc-03
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	
v.	)	
	)	
Gailon Arthur Joy and Robert Pickle,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

**AFFIDAVIT OF GAILON ARTHUR JOY IN SUPPORT OF  
DEFENDANT ROBERT PICKLE’S MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF  
REMNANT PUBLICATIONS, INC. DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO FRCP 45**

NOW COMES the Affiant, Gailon Arthur Joy, of Sterling, County of Worcester,  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and declares and states as follows:

The affiant is an ecclesiastical journalist and a defendant in an action brought by Three  
Angels Broadcasting Network, Inc. (hereafter “3ABN”) and Danny Lee Shelton (hereafter  
“Shelton”), individually, both parties being from Thompsonville, Illinois. Plaintiffs have alleged  
that Defendants are engaged in a conspiracy with the Plaintiff 3ABN’s former vice-president and  
the ex-wife of Shelton, for “publication and dissemination of defamatory, disparaging, and  
slanderous statements regarding 3ABN and its President Danny Shelton.”

Plaintiffs further have alleged that the Defendants “have published numerous untrue  
statements that 3ABN and its President Danny Shelton have committed financial improprieties  
with donated ministry funds,” that “3ABN Board members have personally enriched themselves

as officers and directors of 3ABN in violation of the Internal Revenue Code,” that “Danny Shelton wrongfully withheld book royalties from 3ABN and refused to disclose those royalties in proceedings before a court of law related to the distribution of marital assets,” and concluded that “each and every one of the statements set forth above is false and Defendants published them with malice, either knowing them to be false or with wanton and reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the statements.” Plaintiffs further allege that the Defendants have claimed “Shelton perjured himself through the course of court proceedings relating to his divorce from Linda Shelton,” and therefore “Defendants’ conduct as heretofore set forth evidences a malicious and purposeful campaign of defamation, slander, and disparagement intended and designed to embarrass, discredit, and defame 3ABN and its President Danny Shelton and to vitiate, dishonor, and impair the reputation and goodwill of 3ABN and its President, Danny Shelton,” “and impute serious misconduct to Plaintiffs 3ABN and Danny Shelton and are therefore defamatory *per se*.”

Defendants have denied the allegations and have undertaken discovery to defend against the allegations of the Plaintiffs, including the production of documents from non-parties pursuant to FRCP 45.

The Defendant Joy’s investigation discovered that the Plaintiff Shelton was the respondent to an action for dissolution of a marital estate brought in Illinois by the Petitioner Linda Sue Shelton in 2005 following a Guam fast track divorce in June 2004 that left the settlement of the marital estate open. According to the tax returns of the joint parties, Linda Sue Shelton was a partner in the d/b/a, D&L Publishing. Defendant Joy was told that Linda Sue Shelton was a publishing “partner” with the Plaintiff Shelton from about 1999 to about December of 2004. The public records of the Secretary of State for the State of Illinois show that Plaintiff Shelton formed a new corporation in late November of 2004 entitled DLS Publishing, Inc. Upon information and belief, the assets of the partnership D&L Publishing were somehow

merged into DLS Publishing, Inc., and no provision for a division of the marital asset was made to the knowledge of Linda Sue Shelton and the Defendants.

Defendant Joy discovered from former employees of 3ABN that Shelton had arranged for the first known book deal in 1999 known as *Channel of Blessing*. One employee saw an invoice demonstrating that Plaintiff 3ABN had purchased twenty thousand (20,000) books from the publisher for the sum of twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) per book. When that employee challenged the invoice noting that the cost per book should not exceed four dollars (\$4.00) per book, the employee was told that Shelton had made the arrangements and the invoice was to be sent to the treasurer for payment. The employee stated that upon information and belief, the invoice was paid and incurred a royalty to Shelton. The 3ABN Form 990 did not reflect disclosure of the publication deal nor did it disclose the royalty income to Plaintiff Shelton. Linda Sue Shelton stated that she was not aware that 3ABN had purchased and inventoried the book and understood the publisher had taken the contingency risk to recover publication costs and would split royalties after the costs of production were covered from the sale of the books. Linda Sue Shelton was not aware that the book ever reached profitability.

Upon information and belief, the Plaintiff Shelton continued to receive royalties from publications copyrighted during the marriage and for draft documents originally written during the marriage, eventually purchased and inventoried by the Plaintiff 3ABN. One such document was the book *Antichrist Agenda* purportedly written and published by Shelton which was later redrafted into a smaller publication known as *Ten Commandments Twice Removed*, in a joint venture between Shelton and Shelley Quinn. The co-author, Shelly Quinn, states that *Ten Commandments Twice Removed* sold over seven million (7,000,000) copies.

The Defendants had discovered from interviews with former employees of 3ABN and Remnant Publications, Inc. that the original printing was done by Pacific Press Publishing

Association in the sum of about 500,000 copies that were purchased and inventoried by the Plaintiff 3ABN. Shelley Quinn and a group of administrators of 3ABN in concert with administrators at Remnant Publications, Inc. put together a campaign to distribute the book *Ten Commandments Twice Removed* via congregations of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for the cost of shipping and handling at 25¢ per book from March through May of 2006, culminating in a National Ten Commandments Weekend Rally in Washington, DC hosted by 3ABN. Upon information and belief, 3ABN purchased an additional four million three hundred thousand (4,300,000) books from Remnant Publications, Inc. at a cost of about three million dollars (\$3,000,000), or about sixty seven cents (67¢) per copy prior to the event. Based upon Shelley Quinn's public statement, they have printed and published about two million two hundred thousand (2,200,000) books since the event from Remnant Publications, Inc. at an unknown cost, except that one Remnant source told this journalist that a 3ABN Director had paid a sum in the amount of three hundred thirty five thousand dollars (\$335,000) to Remnant Publications, Inc., to pay a 2007 invoice for the same book.

Based upon representations of former employees of Remnant Publications, Inc. and the former General Counsel of 3ABN, Nicholas Miller, the Plaintiff Shelton specifically hid his 2006 royalties from his own board of directors. The board was put in the position of borrowing from trust and annuity accounts of the 3ABN Trust Services Department and incurred nearly a three million dollar (\$3,000,000) loss to the Plaintiff 3ABN despite record revenues for the 2006 fiscal year, according to their filed 2006 990. Further, while Remnant Publications, Inc.'s 2006 Form 990 demonstrated a substantial increase in royalties paid for the year 2006, 3ABN's Form 990 did not reflect a disclosure that 4.3 Million books were purchased from Remnant, nor did it disclose that the President, co-founder and Director, Shelton, received any royalties or other consideration for this project.

The Plaintiffs have claimed that the loss of nearly three Million (\$3,000,000) dollars was the result of inaccurate reports from the Defendants and filed suit against the Defendants to recover its purported losses, despite the fact the record will demonstrate that the Plaintiffs undertook the campaign knowing that it would result in substantial losses and that the Plaintiff Shelton clearly stood to benefit from the campaign regardless of the damages to Plaintiff 3ABN.

Further, Plaintiff Shelton did not amend his Financial Statement filed with the Illinois Family Court to reflect any income from the sale of books or publishing activities. Upon inquiry, Linda Sue Shelton states she did not receive royalties from this or any other book.

Defendant Joy's investigation discovered from former employees of Remnant Publications, Inc. that the Plaintiff Shelton had formed a contract with Remnant Publications, Inc. with the assistance of Dwight Hall, the President of Remnant Publications, Inc., which was later amended at the Fall Campmeeting of 3ABN in late September, 2006. I quote from one source:

“Last year when 3ABN launched the 10 commandment book give away I thought it was wonderful that they where doing this kind thing, I soon learned the Danny was getting royalties from Remnant Publications, which was odd since he was the one who decided to give the books away, in my opinion it was a conflict of interest but anyways. ... and when the board started to inquiry about the royalties, Danny secretly talked with Dwight Hall the president of Remnant Publications and made a deal with him that Remnant would hold all future royalties till they worked something else out that would not cause any more controversy - meanwhile Remnant is sitting on \$80, 000.00 dollars (that's right eighty thousand dollars) of Danny's royalties not wanting anyone to know about it ... As a Christian ministry's they should be transparent not hiding things. You may wonder how I know this - ... I was told in a round about away don't worry about it - it was none of my business.”

And later:

“I can assure you what I have shared is a fact and I can provide all the details with dates and times and details about the contract deal Dwight and Danny worked out, when and where Danny and

Dwight meet, when and where he signed the contract - that was suppose to be top secret. Remnant is hiding Danny's money. And it was done at Danny's request - and Dwight agreed to do it. The only other person at Remnant that knows about it is Dwight's brother Dan Hall he is the CFO - ... and they don't let to many people see what really goes on."

And finally:

"Danny first talked with Dwight about the Royalties in June 06 and told him he needed to find some way to shelter the money for awhile because of Linda was trying to get some of it and because 3 ABN's [board] wanted to know what he was getting. Dwight told him he would hold it till they could work something else out and Dwight would keep it [quiet] so nobody knew. The 80k was the first installment for royalties that was due Danny, after 3ABN's [board] wanted to know how much Danny was getting. Remnant did not run any more royalties reports - Remnant runs a standard report every quarter on all the books shipped, they stopped running it on Danny's book after June 06 at Danny's request. Remnants original contract with Danny stated he would get 10% royalty of the **retail price** [emphasis provided] - Dwight never thought they where going to sell 4.3 million books, Dwight talked with Danny about re-doing the contract and putting the royalty on a sliding scale based on volume Danny agreed to it. ... Dwight re-did the contract and brought it to Danny at 3ABN's fall camp meeting ... and signed the new contract. 3ABN paid for all the books that where ordered - Remnant billed 3ABN for almost 3 Million dollars."

Another source later confirmed this story and noted that they had seen a six figure sum credited to Defendant Shelton and carried on the books of Remnant Publications which "...was close to three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000)." If these allegations are correct then we have a violation of the Internal Revenue Code and would constitute a personal inurement to the Plaintiff Shelton undisclosed by Plaintiff 3ABN or Plaintiff Shelton with the assistance of the officers and directors of Remnant Publications.

The Plaintiffs have alleged Defamation and Defamation *per se* by and through counsel as well as in their complaint. Therefore it is incumbent upon the Defendants to prove that they have issued reports based upon reasonable representations from reliable sources, and we have the duty

to discover from the co-conspirator, Remnant Publication, Inc., the documentation to validate the statements of sources and to prove our case by a preponderance of the evidence at bar in the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts, Central Division.

Further, Defendants' forensic accounting expert requires the complete picture of financial activity and will need the documentation from Remnant Publications to fit together with documentation from the Plaintiffs, and the Plaintiffs' auditor and bank statements. The court has already ordered the production of bank statements subject to the confidentiality order of the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts, Central Division.

Defendants have also reported, based upon various sources, that the Internal Revenue Service criminal division is investigating the Plaintiffs. The Plaintiffs have asserted that the Defendants' various allegations of financial impropriety implies that the Defendants are claiming that the Plaintiffs' actions as reported by the Defendants constitute crimes or criminal activity. The Plaintiffs purport that this supports their claims of defamation *per se* alleging and that the Defendants' inaccurate reporting was maliciously intended to cause financial damage to the Plaintiffs.

In fact, the Defendants need the documentation from Remnant Publications, Inc. and other third parties to demonstrate that it was the maladministration and misdeeds of the Plaintiffs that have raised serious public questions and caused damage to the Plaintiffs 3ABN and Shelton, and to demonstrate by the preponderance of the evidence that the Defendants properly reported journaled information from multiple and reliable sources.

FURTHER AFFIANT TESTIFIES NOT.  
Signed and sealed this 1st day of May, 2008.

/s/ Gailon Arthur Joy

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Gailon Arthur Joy  
P.O. Box 37  
Sterling, MA 01564  
(978) 422-3525