

From: Johnnie Moore <[REDACTED]>
Date: August 22, 2019 at 7:31:09 AM EDT
To: Jerry Falwell <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Clergy Protected Communication - Vines

Jerry,

I think you know this but the Houston Chronicle is after Jerry Vines over the Daryl Gilyard saga.

The real risk to Vines isn't legal (we have consulted with a very experienced and retired judge in FL) or reputational damage (his friends aren't changing their minds just like his enemies aren't) but that First Jax will cut he and Mrs. Vines' pensions under pressure.

The new pastor there is a young, inexperienced and reformed guy who might be susceptible to pressure. He is a problem for a few reasons, actually (of which I will save you the opining) but the church is in dire financial shape now. So, that detail alone might cause them to think about this, considering also how critical the current pastor is of Jax's past during the Vines era.

So, as a courtesy (i.e. for free), I have worked with Dr. Vines for a few weeks to develop a strategy:

1. To not speak about the pension to anyone at all so that it's "out of sight and out of mind."
2. We have not been responsive to the Houston Chronicle reporter. We will wait and see what the story says.
3. We have prepared a clear statement and a list of background material discrediting the story that we will only provide to the Baptist Press and we will only do so right after the Houston story is published. We will point all other inquiries to that Baptist Press story once it is published.
4. Then, we will go dark again.

I think the risk of the story becoming a national story is quite small but the Houston Chronicle is the paper that broke and leads the SBC sexual abuse stories. So the risk exists and I don't trust the First Jax pastor to handle this in a way that doesn't add fuel to it. He might actually want to add fuel to it.

I am writing because I wanted to make sure you knew this was coming, that you knew our strategy and also I wanted to put an idea in your head:

If the worst case scenario does happen and First Baptist Jacksonville revokes Vines' pension (which - again - I think is very unlikely) then I am wondering if you would consider taking it up, maybe making Vines a Distinguished Non-Resident professor of preaching, or something, to justify it...or some negotiated portion of the pension. Maybe there is a legal strategy to enforce the pension at Jax but I am doubtful because it doesn't seem there was a binding employment agreement beyond a decision by the deacons (which I presume is reversible by the new deacons).

Again, I think this is HIGHLY HIGHLY unlikely BUT I have found that it is a source of enormous anxiety for Dr and Mrs Vines and I would like to see that anxiety lifted off their shoulders (remember he is 83 this fall) if we can.

Let me know what you think about this or maybe just let him know (he doesn't know I have written you).

By the way, Dr. Vines was gracious to offer to compensate me for the advice and help I have been giving him but I have declined as a gesture of my lifelong admiration for him.

What I didn't tell him is that I intend on putting it on your LU bill retroactively when you eventually retain us 😊

Please please keep this as a close hold for now so that we can keep the circle very very tight in order to not

inject more risk - so, we can keep managing this responsibly and carefully.

Hope the school year is off with the bang, seems from Twitter that Mike Lindell was awesome.

I have been in business meetings in Italy and Switzerland this week. Back in DC Sunday .

Johnnie