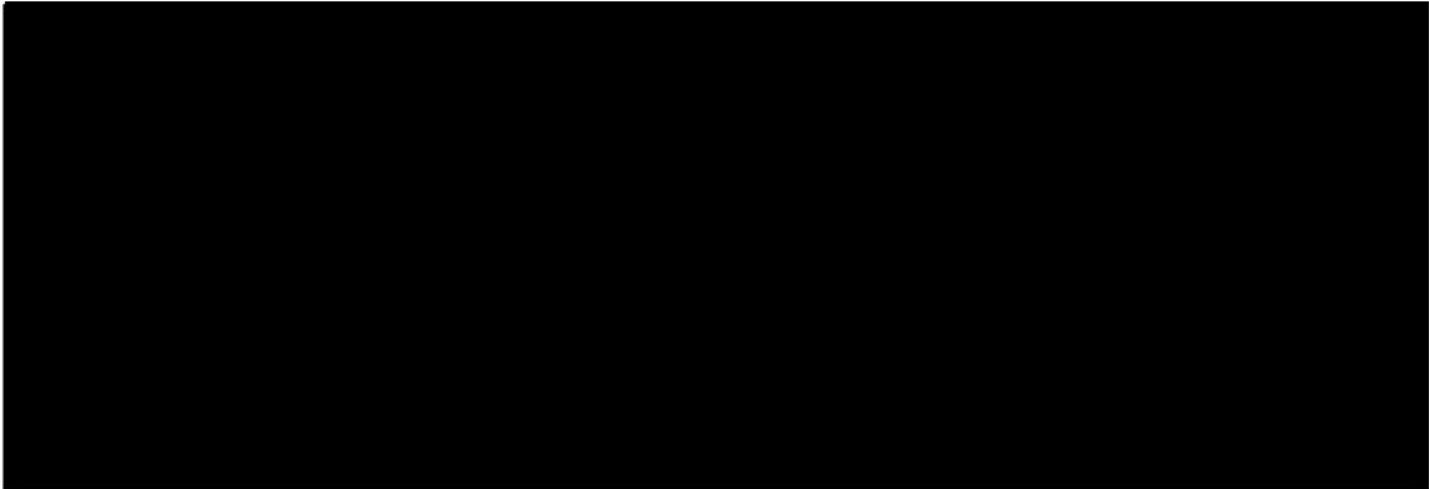

Fwd: Email from Troy Anderson accepting reciprocal confidentiality

1 message



Begin forwarded message:

From: Monte Jewell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2020 5:23 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Anderson, Rich [REDACTED]
Subject: Email from Troy Anderson accepting reciprocal confidentiality

EXTERNAL EMAIL

Hello [REDACTED]

This is to provide a copy of Troy Anderson's follow up email sent Sunday (yesterday) in which he agrees to reciprocal confidentiality for a meeting.

My preliminary opinion of his other comments is that he continues to betray some disappointing confusion about the purpose of a confidential policy as its generally preferable for a person reporting a sexual assault to decide whether and to whom they report, not the institution. When someone who has survived a sexual assault survivor chooses to communicate to a third party about a sexual assault --- which is desirable and normal --- the institution should continue to energetically protect that person's confidentiality, autonomy, and their sense of safety.

Victim-blaming language or an effort to discredit one or more reports generally increases the risk of traumatic stress, both for the person who was assaulted and for people at risk of future sexual assaults at the institution from undetected serial perpetrators. During my conversation with Troy Anderson, he initially asked me to agree with him that you had not been sexually assaulted and to discuss and agree about the number of sexual assaults which had occurred at Churchome.

I declined to engage in that conversation with him and declined to discuss or to comment on the specific facts of the situation given the purpose of our call. Despite attempts to refocus the communication on a conversation about future policies and actions, the language in Troy Anderson's Sunday email includes inappropriate and victim-blaming language.

Based on these admittedly limited communications, I worry that very basic knowledge may be lacking among Churchome leadership about sexual assault intervention and prevention in an institutional setting like Churchome. To me that may mean that the meeting and the advocacy work you are contemplated may be challenging.

I will leave some additional time for Rich to comment in case he has a different perspective or something to add.

If you would like to set a time to talk on the phone in more detail, we can schedule a time.

Best,

Monte

From: Troy Anderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, February 16, 2020 12:26 PM
To: Monte Jewell [REDACTED]
Cc: Anderson, Rich [REDACTED]; Leon Sandberg [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Follow up re meeting guidelines

Thank you, Monte.

I am fine with not disclosing that we met with [REDACTED] if this meeting goes ahead.

But in light of your response I want to explain why I had asked that we be able to confirm that we met with [REDACTED]

Of course we maintain confidentiality when we receive a report of sexual misconduct or any other sensitive and confidential information. We love people, we are professional in our approach, we maintain confidentiality, and we understand what is appropriate.

My request was because I and other pastors here have been told by former students that [REDACTED] discussed the details of her situation with them and with other church members, and that [REDACTED] has posted on social media about it. So it may have been helpful for us to be able to tell church members who approach us in the future that we have already talked directly to [REDACTED] and her lawyer. But we won't do that.

I will wait to hear back from you about the request that [REDACTED] also attend.

Troy

Troy Anderson | Executive Pastor

[redacted]

On Thu, Feb 13, 2020 at 3:33 PM Monte Jewell [redacted] wrote:

Thank you, Troy.

[redacted]

Your question about confidentiality is appreciated. The rationale for [redacted] privacy request is partly grounded in the overall need to protect confidentiality for persons who report or provide information to institutions concerning sexual assaults or rapes. That confidentiality protects the person reporting but also benefits students, staff, and community members by promoting confidence that future reporting and communications will also be confidential and not a topic of informal communication.

Confidentiality helps the institution to intervene more effectively in the future to respond to or prevent harm to other students or staff. And on a more personal level, [redacted] would simply expect that the fact of her private meeting with you or Pastor Smith will not be communicated to any other staff or member of the church community.

Thanks again.

Monte

From: Troy Anderson [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 1:41 PM
To: Monte Jewell [redacted]
Cc: Anderson, Rich [redacted]; Leon Sandberg [redacted]
Subject: Re: meeting guidelines

Monte,

Since the focus of this proposed meeting is [redacted] sharing her experiences with Judah, her personal inspiration for attending the Bible college program, we'd like to keep the number of attendees to a minimum and keep the conversation streamlined. [redacted] will already have you there for support, so the reason why her parents should attend and be able to share their thoughts and experiences isn't clear to me and doesn't seem to add to the purpose of the meeting. I am happy to meet with them outside of this meeting if they would like.

I agree that the discussions at the meeting should be treated as confidential by both sides, but I'm not sure why [redacted] would not want us to be able to confirm (if asked) that Judah and I met with [redacted] and her lawyer. We asked that [redacted] and her family not share that [redacted] met

with Judah because Judah gets many requests to meet every week and his schedule allows him to accept very few of those requests.

Troy

Troy Anderson | Executive Pastor

[Redacted]

On Tue, Feb 11, 2020 at 3:48 PM Monte Jewell [Redacted] wrote:

Troy,

The suggested guidelines were generally acceptable to [Redacted] though there were two clarifications.

First, [Redacted] would also like to bring her parents to the meeting since you and I will also be there with Pastor Smith. She anticipates that their role will be supportive though they also have knowledge of the situation and are likely to have a helpful, constructive orientation.

Second, the confidentiality of the meeting should be reciprocal. All present would agree not to communicate with anyone outside of the meeting about what was said in the meeting or the fact that the meeting happened. If asked by any third party, then the meeting participants would agree to respond that they are not able to comment.

Please let me know if there is agreement about these guidelines and, if so, which days would be available for a meeting.

Thank you.

Monte

--

Monte Jewell
[Redacted]