

Dear Current and Former Directors,

We convened a meeting of several whistleblowers today following the posting of the press release. We have also been in touch with current employees, although, as you can imagine, we need to be very careful when discussing the content of those conversations for the safety and wellbeing of the current employees and their families.

As you gather this weekend for the dedication of the new wing of the VOM headquarters, it would be very helpful if you would be willing to address the following observations and questions.

We want to reiterate what we have in common with you, the board of directors. We love VOM, its ministry, and the Wurmbbrand vision. Many of us whistleblowers have given our heart and soul to help advance VOM's mission – executing VOM projects in some of the most dangerous locations in the world.

We want you to know that our deepest desire is for VOM's success and for the Wurmbbrand mission to help persecuted Christians to continue. All of us share a deep conviction that this work is crucial for the kingdom.

However, each of us believe this is not possible with the current leadership.

Some of us have tried to engage with the board individually, and failing any action, we banded together in a survey that included both current and former staff. In that communication, we asked for an independent, third-party investigation into the leadership at VOM.

Many times in VOM's history, (within this group, stretches back to 2007) VOM chooses to keep “dirty laundry” under wraps rather than deal with crisis in an open, transparent manner. Keeping things secret and on a “need-to-know” basis does not cultivate a culture of living in Christ's light as detailed in 1 John and elsewhere in Scripture.

The 30+ people who spoke up have serious claims of spiritual abuse and other concerns, as well as evidence. Many of us have been deeply affected by the actions of [REDACTED] a.k.a. Cole Richards. But you, the board, did an internal survey and ignored those who were speaking up. In a letter published today, you accused the whistleblowers of having the motive of discrediting leadership.

- As noted in Hopkins story, she has hundreds of pages of emails, texts, and other documentation. How much of this evidence has the board seen? We were told the board did not desire to see more evidence but was waiting on a “word from the Lord.”

- Hopkins also wrote this to Harvey Little: “Some former employees allege Cole retaliated against people who participated in that survey.” Mr. Little’s answer: “Allegations of retaliation are simply not true. Key staff were provided with information from the survey that helped them reconcile with staff members in a professional and Christ-like way.” Our question to the directors now: “Who was reconciled to who?”
- Why were the whistleblowers or those who were hurt never followed up with? We have never desired to go public, but after repeated attempts and with much prayer, felt this was the only option.
- Since the “improvement to internal communications” and “leadership training” for [REDACTED]/Cole, several VOM employees have resigned or been forced out. One board member resigned. Several employees have been demoted. Even a VP “resigned” and was forced to sign an NDA. How can the board fail to act when things continue to happen?
- Is protecting VOM at any cost the priority of the board at the expense of trustworthy employees?

Here is what we desire:

We want the truth. We want true reconciliation. We want to be able to share our evidence and refute counteraccusations by VOM’s leadership. We want a real third-party investigation that considers **all** the testimonies, all the documentation, all the facts.

With heartfelt humility and sincerity, and on behalf of dozens of current and former employees,

Jason Peters

PS: As I shared with Harvey several times during the last year, I welcome your calls or texts anytime at [REDACTED]