

# Firefly

**Independent Sexual Abuse Investigations**

## **Investigation into the Allegations of Sexually Abusive Misconduct Involving Michael Brown**

Prepared for:  
The Line of Fire – Dr. Brown Ministries, Inc.

Prepared by:  
James Holler, Jr.

**April 12, 2025**  
Revised: April 18, 2025

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On January 13, 2025, Firefly was contacted to conduct an independent investigation involving Michael Brown,<sup>1</sup> founder of the Fire School of Ministry<sup>2</sup> and The Line of Fire – Dr. Brown Ministries, Inc.,<sup>3</sup> alleging sexual misconduct toward two adult females within his ministry. The investigation focused on determining the validity of the complaint and whether the alleged actions were deviant. After reviewing evidence, conducting interviews, and analyzing the situation, the investigation concluded that BROWN'S actions toward the two females were inappropriate and unacceptable for his leadership position within the ministry. Such conduct violated the ethical standards expected of someone in his role and undermined the trust and integrity essential to leadership within the church community. The findings highlighted the seriousness of the actions and emphasized the necessity of accountability to preserve the values and reputation of the ministry.

## INTRODUCTION

- **Purpose of Investigation:**

The purpose of this investigation was to examine information received from LOF pertaining to allegations that BROWN had an inappropriate relationship with former FIRE SCHOOL member Sarah Monk,<sup>4</sup> whom BROWN described as being like a daughter to him, and a second inappropriate relationship with a married woman within the congregation.

- **Background Information:**

In 2001 and 2002, multiple members of the FIRE SCHOOL observed BROWN interacting with IS #2 Sarah in such a manner as to give the perception of the two being engaged in a relationship beyond what BROWN described as a father-daughter bond. These allegations included the two holding hands on multiple occasions and IS #2 Sarah sitting on BROWN'S lap. IS #2 Sarah later reported that BROWN would also kiss her on the neck, head, and mouth, and would occasionally slap her buttocks. IS #2 Sarah also provided information pertaining to BROWN having had a relationship (emotional or physical) with a married woman within the congregation around the same time she attended the church.

---

<sup>1</sup> Hereinafter referred to as BROWN

<sup>2</sup> Hereinafter referred to as FIRE SCHOOL

<sup>3</sup> Hereinafter referred to as LOF

<sup>4</sup> Hereinafter referred to as IS #2 Sarah

- **Scope:**

The Investigator Services Agreement<sup>5</sup> between FIREFLY and LOF, dated January 23, 2025, specifies the scope of the investigation: LOF retains FIREFLY to conduct an independent investigation into allegations of sexually abusive misconduct<sup>6</sup> by BROWN in his association with FIRE SCHOOL 2001 - 2002 (which is defunct as a campus school), LOF (or any other ministry where BROWN held a leadership position). While the scope of the investigation is focused on the period that the initial allegations were made (2001-2002), all allegations of sexual abuse/misconduct before or after these dates will be fully investigated. FIREFLY shall also investigate the cover-up of any allegations of sexual abuse/misconduct connected with FIRE SCHOOL 2001 - 2002 (which is defunct as a campus school).

Recognizing that investigations can evolve as new facts emerge, the parties agreed that any material changes to the scope of this engagement will be communicated in writing and signed by both parties.

## **METHODOLOGY**

- **Investigation Methods**

The investigative method used consisted of structured interviews of those with knowledge of BROWN, the FIRE SCHOOL, and any information (either inculpatory or exculpatory) which, once analyzed, would help reach a conclusion in this investigation. In addition, electronic documents were thoroughly analyzed and used in support of the interviews obtained.

- **Sources of Information**

This report's credibility comes from the consistent testimonies of victims and witnesses, creating a detailed and reliable account of events.

Out of respect for the privacy of the individuals interviewed, this report will not include their names or initials unless prior permission was explicitly granted. Participants were offered the option to remain anonymous, ensuring that their names and specific accounts would not be disclosed without their consent. This measure was taken to address their safety concerns and uphold their confidentiality.

By safeguarding participants' personal information, the aim was to foster a secure and trusting environment where they felt comfortable sharing their experiences openly and

---

<sup>5</sup> See attached Investigator Services Agreement signed by Line of Fire - Dr. Michael Brown, INC., on January 8, 2025

<sup>6</sup> FIREFLY will take a wider view of sexual abuse and sexually abusive misconduct to include not only abuse within the historically narrow understanding of those terms (sexual assault and battery without consent) but also to include physical and nonphysical conduct that a person suffers, submits to, participates in, or performs due to the deception, manipulation, coercion, grooming (children and adults) and/or intimidation by another.

without fear of repercussions. This commitment to maintaining anonymity not only adheres to ethical standards but also encourages more candid and honest communication. Through this careful handling of sensitive information, the report aspires to be both authentic and impactful.

Throughout this report, victims who opted to remain anonymous will be referred to as Interviewed Survivors (IS),<sup>7</sup> while witnesses will be designated as Interviewed Witnesses (IW).<sup>8</sup> This terminology ensures the privacy and protection of all individuals involved while providing precise and consistent identification for reference purposes.

The courage demonstrated by those who have come forward is truly commendable. Their bravery sheds light on their own experiences and serves as a poignant reminder of the countless others who may still be enduring their struggles in silence.

- **Data Collection Process**

FIREFLY posted a public online survey that was made available to the broader Brownsville School of Ministry<sup>9</sup> and the FIRE SCHOOL community (former and active) to assist the investigative team in collecting relevant information within the scope of this investigation. This engagement is limited to the above-referenced scope that the parties have agreed to in the engagement agreement.

FIREFLY received one hundred and three (103) submissions through various channels, including online survey responses, emails, and phone calls. Three submissions were made anonymously via the survey platform. During the investigation, FIREFLY conducted seventy-four (74) initial interviews with witnesses and survivors. We followed up with fourteen (14) reinterviews to ensure clarity and consistency. All interviews were conducted privately with the individuals involved. During these interviews, any documents, including email exchanges or meeting notes, were reviewed to corroborate the statements made. Upon completion, FIREFLY meticulously reviewed and analyzed over five hundred documents directly related to this case.

During the investigation, potential victims were not sourced from lists provided by groups, organizations, or individuals. Instead, every IS and IW included in this report independently and voluntarily came forward to share their experiences. All victims were interviewed through phone calls, video conferences, or in-person conversations. This approach underscores the fact that their disclosures were voluntary and genuine, without external solicitation or influence.

This investigation was grounded in factual evidence and firsthand statements collected meticulously throughout the process. While numerous accounts were received from a diverse range of individuals, it became evident that some of these were based on second or third-hand information and, as such, lacked the credibility required for the purposes of

---

<sup>7</sup> Hereafter, we utilize the acronym IS for Interviewed Survivor

<sup>8</sup> Hereafter, we utilize the acronym IW for Interviewed Witness

<sup>9</sup> Hereafter, we utilize the acronym BRSM

this investigation. Reliable sources and verifiable facts were prioritized to maintain the integrity and accuracy of the findings. By clearly defining the scope of the investigation, each issue was able to be approached systematically and with a focused perspective. This methodical approach not only ensured that each specific concern was thoroughly addressed but it also enabled key insights to be uncovered that contributed to a comprehensive understanding of the matter. This commitment to precision and objectivity allowed this investigation to provide conclusions that are both clear and substantiated by evidence.

Furthermore, this investigation explored a more comprehensive approach to addressing sexual abuse and misconduct, including instances of clergy sexual abuse. The expanded framework extended beyond traditional definitions of sexual assault and battery without consent, incorporating both physical and non-physical forms of misconduct. Such behaviors may include instances where individuals are compelled to suffer, submit to, participate in, or perform actions due to deception, manipulation, coercion, grooming (of both children and adults), and/or intimidation by another individual. By addressing these issues within the context of clergy abuse, the framework seeks to ensure accountability and protection for all individuals impacted by such misconduct.

The Board of Directors of LOF and BROWN have actively participated in the investigation by providing interviews and full cooperation. Their proactive stance and collaborative efforts highlight a strong dedication to transparency and accountability, reflecting their commitment to upholding the values of integrity throughout this process.

Lastly, throughout the investigation, no restrictions were placed on FIREFLY, ensuring complete autonomy. Moreover, no group or individual has attempted to sway or influence the course of the investigation. Additionally, the names of the victims and witnesses have remained confidential and have not been shared with anyone during the investigation. This steadfast commitment to impartiality and privacy underscores the integrity of the investigative process and, therefore, the credibility of the findings.

## **FINDINGS**

- **Supporters**

Throughout the investigation, numerous supporters of BROWN stepped forward, including former students, staff members, and colleagues from the various ministries he was affiliated with. These individuals passionately attested to his godly character, unwavering integrity, and the purity of his heart. Many shared personal stories and experiences that highlighted BROWN'S profound impact on their spiritual journeys, his unwavering dedication to serving others, and his consistent embodiment of faith-based principles. Their heartfelt testimonies not only reflected their admiration **but** also underscored the enduring legacy of trust and inspiration he has cultivated within his community.

For instance, IW #12 Jonathan Lenzi shared that he had known BROWN since the 1990s and described him as “the most godly person he had ever known.” IW #18 Rui Porfirio expressed that he has known BROWN for 27 years and considers him a “spiritual father and lover of Jesus who truly walks carefully in the fear of the Lord.” Similarly, IW #22 Alastair Geddes described BROWN as “humble, honest, and a man of integrity.” IW #30 Jenny McCoy affirmed that in the 25 years she was around or interacted with BROWN, she never sensed “any threat, misconduct, inappropriate interactions, threatening or manipulating, or any abusive misconduct.”

IW #7 Christa Mays recounted her experience working closely with BROWN from 2018 to 2022 in her role as his assistant and Partner Relations Manager. She detailed numerous one-on-one interactions during this period and emphasized that she never felt unsafe or uncomfortable at any time. IW #7 Christa Mays described BROWN as consistently respectful, pointing out his insistence on maintaining a professional environment by keeping the office door open during all their meetings. She also highlighted his courteous communication style and his focus on fostering a collaborative atmosphere within the workplace.

Through speaking with many of BROWN’S supporters, it was clear that BROWN’S ministry has impacted millions of people worldwide. For over 40 years, he has taught at numerous ministry schools and Bible colleges, equipping thousands of students, some of whom now lead ministries that have directly impacted tens of millions of people.

- **Strict Policies at FIRE SCHOOL**

FIRE SCHOOL, like many other Bible schools of its era, maintained stringent policies and procedures regarding sexual contact between students. These regulations were designed to uphold the institution's moral and ethical standards, reflecting the school's commitment to fostering a disciplined and spiritually focused environment. Students were expected to adhere to these strict guidelines, with any violations resulting in serious consequences. The school's administration believed that such measures were essential to create a safe and respectful community where students could focus on their spiritual growth and academic pursuits without distractions. Additionally, these policies aimed to protect the reputation of the institution and ensure that its values were consistently upheld. By enforcing these rules, FIRE SCHOOL sought to create an atmosphere of integrity and accountability where students could develop their character and faith in a supportive and structured setting.

Through our findings, the purity culture within the organization discouraged any dating in the first semester, visiting opposite-gender housing, or any form of physical relationship. Strict dress codes were enforced, especially regarding the length of women's tops and skirts. Violations of these policies could result in severe consequences, including expulsion from school. These rules were intended to maintain a high standard of moral conduct and to ensure that students remained focused on their spiritual and academic growth. The administration believed that by enforcing such strict guidelines, they could create an environment that was conducive to personal development and spiritual maturity.

This approach was seen as essential to preserving the integrity and reputation of the institution, as well as fostering a community of respect and accountability among students.

IW #27 Milissa McGavin recalled her time as a student at BRSM and an incident where BROWN addressed the class in the Orange Room, the largest classroom and sanctuary on campus. During this session, BROWN rebuked the entire class, stating that a student had confessed to having sexual relations with another student in her class and in 1998 was subsequently expelled from the school. IW #27 Milissa McGavin also recounted instances where BROWN preached from the pulpit about the type of underwear women should wear, claiming that choosing thong panties was a reflection of hidden intentions that could lead their brothers to stumble. Additionally, she remembered BROWN admonishing women for wearing perfume, accusing them of attempting to lure their brothers into sin. Despite the strict policies prohibiting any appearance of impropriety on or off campus, IW #27 Milissa McGavin recalled how BROWN would walk alongside her, wrapping his arm around her and pulling her close to his side.

IW #8 Gregg Montella recalled his first day at BRSM, where BROWN preached vehemently against any clothing deemed remotely attractive, especially if it could potentially “cause a brother to stumble”. Women were forbidden from wearing blouses with necklines lower than three fingers from the base of the neck, and open-toed shoes were labeled as immodest. IW #8 Gregg Montella also remembered students being expelled for seemingly innocuous activities, such as dancing at weddings, going swing dancing with friends (not at bars), watching R-rated movies, and swimming in mixed company while wearing swimwear.

IW #8 Gregg Montella also recalls being in BROWN'S office while watching documentaries, including footage from the Woodstock Festival. These clips featured topless women and brief scenes of couples engaging in public sexual acts. He remembers feeling shocked, particularly given that students caught viewing similar content on campus would have faced expulsion. This stark contrast between BROWN'S actions and the strict standards imposed on students left IW #8 Gregg Montella deeply unsettled, highlighting the situation's hypocrisy and lack of accountability.

- **Spiritual Father**

Many of BROWN'S students fondly regarded him as a spiritual father during their time at school. His mentorship and guidance left a lasting impact, fostering deep connections and inspiring personal growth among those he taught. During Firefly's interview with BROWN, he shared multiple email correspondences from students over the years, many of which began with greetings such as “Hey Dad” or “Dad Brown.” One email read, “Dr. Brown, thank you for being a spiritual Father to all of us!!! We love and appreciate you.” BROWN frequently relied on students to drive him to various locations, including the airport, hospital visits, and venues where he delivered speeches. He also often invited students to join his family for dinner and valued the time he spent with them. BROWN was constantly surrounded by students, graduates, and staff, both male and female,

including some couples. Some of these people were also in his mentoring group (each of the leaders had a group), and some worked for his wife, Nancy Brown. BROWN advised that some of the students and graduate students looked to him as a spiritual father; however, he did not regard them as his own (familial) children. More specifically, with regard to female staff, graduates, or students, he did not regard them as his own (familial) daughters. BROWN acknowledged that he developed many friendships, some of which remain to this day, with missionaries and graduates around the world, and noted, "I did view them in a fatherly way, in a biblical sense, wanting them to do well as I would my own kids, similar to Paul's words in 1 Cor 4:15, where Paul expressed his fatherly concern for the Corinthians."

IW #11 revealed that she considered herself one of "Dad Brown's Daughters," describing her personal involvement with BROWN as "extremely unhealthy." BROWN functioned as though he were her biological or adopted father, frequently signing his emails with "Love, Dad." She further stated that this group of young women spent personal time at BROWN'S home, accompanied him on trips, and were occasionally invited to his hotel room. They also participated in tasks such as shopping with him for his clothing, which she now views as crossing professional and ethical boundaries. IW #11 expressed discomfort with BROWN'S inappropriate physical interactions, including wrapping his arms around her for long embraces, giving her his coat to wear, or having her adjust his microphone, straighten his collar, or fix his hair for speaking engagements. IW #11 stated, "I was both his student and his employee. I was not, in fact, his daughter." BROWN referred to himself as their "dad," assuming the role of a father figure in their lives. She reflected, "We weren't just around him a lot. We were under his influence in every area of our lives." The closeness was observed by others close to BROWN, one of whom sometimes referred to the group of young women as "his harem." IW #11 described this closeness as inappropriate, unprofessional, and unethical, adding, "If it happened in a church in front of congregants, they would be horrified. No man would let a preacher treat his eighteen-year-old the way Mike treated me and other young women with whom he cultivated this type of relationship. He crossed boundaries he was actively setting for others around him. Blatantly." She concluded that such conduct blurred the lines between mentorship and personal entanglement, leaving the young women vulnerable to manipulation. This behavior, she suggested, was particularly inappropriate considering BROWN'S position of authority (both as the head of the school they attended and as their employer) and the impressionable age of the students, many of whom were in their late teens and early twenties.

IW #28 was a student at BRSM and later at FIRE SCHOOL from 1999 to 2001 before transitioning to a staff role. She recalled occasions when she and other female staff members traveled with BROWN and were invited into his hotel room to "just hang out" or discuss work. While Nancy Brown was present on one occasion, IW #28 specifically remembered a time when it was just her, BROWN, and a coworker in the hotel room. She expressed feeling discomfort in these situations, as she felt that being in such a personal space with BROWN, especially alone or in small groups, was overly intimate and inappropriate, although she did not share these concerns at the time.

- **Allegations of Sexual Misconduct by BROWN**

Throughout the investigation, there were two survivors identified who experienced sexual misconduct perpetrated by BROWN. It appears both occurred between 2001-2002. One of the two survivors was interviewed; the second is deceased. The name of the married woman is withheld out of respect for her family, as she is deceased. For this report, she will be referred to as IS #1. There is corroborating testimony and credible information that support any findings regarding her relationship with BROWN.

These acts of sexual misconduct had profound and lasting impacts on the lives of the victims and their families, causing significant emotional, psychological, and spiritual harm. The identified survivor IS #2 Sarah has shown immense courage in coming forward to share her experience despite the fear and trauma associated with these events.

The question arises, based on the reported incidents, whether these were isolated occurrences of sexual misconduct by BROWN or indicative of a broader pattern of predatory behavior. This investigation seeks to determine if the actions in question were singular deviations or part of a systemic issue, requiring a deeper examination of the circumstances and context surrounding each report. It also raises the need to evaluate any potential enabling factors within the environments where these incidents occurred, including organizational oversight, accountability measures, and cultural dynamics. By addressing these aspects, the investigation aims to uncover the full scope of the situation and ensure that appropriate steps are taken to prevent any recurrence

- **Timeline of Events**

In 2000, BROWN split from the BRSM to start FIRE SCHOOL in 2001 in Pensacola, Florida. The school was subsequently relocated in 2003 to Charlotte, NC. It was between 2001 and 2002 that the majority of the incidents documented in this report occurred, even if reported/disclosed years later.

IW #3 Scott Volk, who served as BROWN'S personal assistant from 1997 to 2002, recounted an incident from late 2001 during a ministry trip with BROWN. IW #3 Scott Volk observed what he considered excessive communication between BROWN and IS #1. Feeling uneasy about the situation, IW #3 Scott Volk confronted BROWN with his suspicions. Although IW #3 Scott Volk stated he could not recall the specifics of BROWN'S response, he understood that BROWN recognized the inappropriateness of the communications and intended to take action to address the matter.

In January 2002, BROWN confessed the nature of his relationship with the married woman (IS #1) to IW #3 Scott Volk and Nancy Brown and he assured them that it would end. IW #3 Scott Volk further noted that he was left with the impression that BROWN had confessed the situation to his wife, Nancy Brown, and understood from BROWN that he and Nancy Brown met with the married woman and her husband (IW #1) to resolve the issue together.

IW #3 Scott Volk personally understood that this issue had been fully addressed, with all four individuals involved (BROWN, Nancy Brown, IS #1, and her husband IW #1) reaching a resolution. IW #3 Scott Volk also understood that BROWN and Nancy Brown underwent counseling as part of the process to work through the situation. FIREFLY interviewed two therapists, with BROWN'S permission, and successfully verified that BROWN attended a healing program.

When IW #3 Scott Volk was asked if he had ever spoken about the situation, he replied that he had never discussed it with anyone outside of the four people involved. He stated, "Nancy Brown forbade me from speaking about it to anyone, even my wife. After a very heated conversation, I gave her my word that I would honor her request. I also resolved that if anyone ever asked me about it, I would be truthful in all of my responses, which I have been through the years."

Regarding the above-mentioned incident, IW #1 stated that in late January or early February 2002, he became aware of the inappropriate relationship between his wife, IS #1, and BROWN. IW #1 confronted BROWN in his office, with Nancy Brown present. According to IW #1, BROWN admitted to the inappropriate relationship during this meeting. Shortly afterward, IW #1 stated that one of BROWN'S senior staff members called him and asked, "I just want to know one thing. Did anything happen?" According to IW #1, the staff member was referring to whether BROWN and IS #1 had a physical encounter. IW #1 responded with "No" and the staff member indicated that was all he wanted to know.

IW #4 Ron Cantor, an instructor and faculty member at the BRSM from 2000 to 2001, grew deeply troubled by allegations against BROWN that surfaced in 2024, referring to events from 2001-2002. In response, IW #4 Ron Cantor initiated a series of emails to BROWN about the accusations involving IS #1 and IS #2 Sarah. IW #4 Ron Cantor stated the emails were not confrontational in nature but an effort to gain clarification and understanding of what happened between BROWN and IS #1 and IS #2. Initially, Cantor emailed BROWN alone but then added IW #3 Scott Volk and Ward Simpson as witnesses.

In an email<sup>10</sup> response from BROWN to IW #4 Ron Cantor on October 26, 2024, BROWN stated:

"Re: [REDACTED], (IS#1) I did not have an affair, but we developed a very unhealthy and sinful soul tie. I was not caught. Instead, I repented in agony of heart to Nancy Brown, she (IS #1), then followed suit, because of my repentance, with her husband. And because there had been no physical relationship, both spouses said that nothing more should be said. I, for my part, wanted to tell the whole world – the FIRE leaders; the students; everyone! I was asked to say nothing, and I said nothing. God is my witness as to the depth and thoroughness of my repentance. It was during this time – totally burnt out; emotionally wrecked with the split; under hellish financial pressure – that I allowed this to happen and exercised such idiotic judgment with Sarah."

---

<sup>10</sup> See attached October 26, 2024, email

In the above email, BROWN mentioned, "...such idiotic judgement with Sarah." The person BROWN is referring to is IS #2 Sarah. As this report continues, the reader will find IS #2 Sarah's story directly ties into the uncovering of BROWN'S relationship with the first Identified Survivor, IS #1.

On October 27, 2024, IW #4 Ron Cantor reached out to BROWN via email,<sup>11</sup> asking questions about past documentation and IS #2 Sarah's role in handling sensitive information related to IS #1. IW #4 Ron Cantor wrote:

1. You wrote below that "[REDACTED] (IS #1) had said some inappropriate things to me which I had documented in case I was ever accused of starting something with her; Sarah found that in a drawer in our bedroom while housesitting for us and watching our dog and she asked me about it." Do you still have that? If that exonerates you, are you able to share it with us? I am just following the logic; you documented it for exactly a day like today.

2. How did Sarah process this information? Were you concerned that she would share it with others? I know you said that the four of you decided it was best not to share it—you wanted to, but you honored their feelings but how did Sarah deal with this knowledge? Was she asked not to talk about it? That is a massive secret for a young lady to carry around for 20-plus years.

In reply to IW #4 Ron Cantor's email<sup>12</sup> dated October 27, 2024, BROWN addressed the two questions posed, offering clarity on [REDACTED] (IS #1) documented remarks and Sarah's handling of sensitive information. BROWN elaborated that he did not retain the documentation, emphasizing his commitment to repentance and reconciliation. He also shared insights about Sarah's reaction to the note, highlighting her supportive role and the mutual understanding between them. BROWN stated the following:

"No, I didn't think of saving that at all, plus it would just be my word. In any case, she's deceased, we didn't commit adultery – to repeat, I have never had a physical relationship of any kind with any woman other than my wife from the day I got saved until today – and there's nothing more to say about it. The fact we had a wrong soul tie, that I repented, that all parties met, there was forgiveness, I made major lifestyle changes and got intensive counseling, and nothing even remotely repeated like that in my life – so, one misstep, not adultery, in 53 years – is nothing the rest of the world needs to know, unless repentance and forgiveness and righteous dealing with sin has no more meaning in God's kingdom.

Sarah asked me about it, she felt bad for me, we talked things through (it's all journaled), and I was careful to see how she was doing in the days that followed. As for asking her not to say anything, I don't think it dawned on me to do so. She really was like a daughter to us and very much on our side. And the only thing the note would have done was make the other woman look bad, not me."

---

<sup>11</sup> See attached October 27, 2024, email (CANTOR TO BROWN)

<sup>12</sup> See attached October 27, 2024, email (BROWN TO CANTOR)

On February 20, 2025, BROWN was interviewed by Firefly at the FIRE SCHOOL, 6509 Hudspeth Road, Harrisburg, NC. During this interview, BROWN admitted to what he called an “emotional affair” during the second half of 2001 with IS #1 via phone calls, texts, and emails. BROWN stated they “both said some sinful things to each other and that it was the most despicable thing he had ever done.” BROWN also noted that “there was never a physical, sexual relationship of any sort between us, but I don’t minimize the ugliness of my sinful emotional attachment. In the words of Jesus, it was certainly adultery of the heart.”

- **Sarah Monk (IS #2 Sarah)**

IS #2 Sarah, age nineteen, attended BRSM, and graduated in 2001. After graduating, she stayed on as staff for the FIRE SCHOOL. Like many other students, IS #2 Sarah relied on the faculty for spiritual and life guidance. In her role as staff, she developed a close working relationship with BROWN, assisting him with numerous tasks within the school.

During a ministry trip to Mobile, Alabama, in January 2002, IW #2 Kris Bennett, then a young man in his early 20s, observed BROWN and IS #2 Sarah sitting in the front of a vehicle. BROWN was driving and IS #2 Sarah was in the passenger seat. IW #2 Kris Bennett noticed the two holding hands with their fingers interlocked. At one point, BROWN lifted their joined hands and addressing the others in the vehicle, said something along the lines of, “I can do this because she’s like a daughter to me.”

Later, back at the school, IW #2 Kris Bennett observed another interaction where BROWN was hugging IS #2 Sarah in the office in a full, frontal embrace.

IW #2 Kris Bennett felt confused by what he had seen. Within a few weeks, he shared his concerns with IW #6 Niels Prip, specifically mentioning the hand-holding incident. Troubled by the report, IW #6 Niels Prip contacted IW #5 Keith Collins. Both men agreed that the behavior needed to be addressed, especially given BROWN’S awareness of the school’s strict behavioral guidelines and his own messages on revival and personal purity.

When they met with BROWN, he explained that his actions toward IS #2 Sarah were entirely father-daughter, insisting there was nothing inappropriate. Not long after the meeting, IW #2 Kris Bennett was called into BROWN’S office. There, BROWN reprimanded him for how he had handled the situation, saying he should have come directly to him first, citing Matthew 18. BROWN warned that gossip and rumors could damage BROWN’S ministry.

IW #2 Kris Bennett accepted responsibility for not approaching BROWN first. He apologized, chose to believe the best, and moved on.

Later that evening, IW #6 Niels Prip got a call from BROWN and Nancy Brown around 10 o’clock, accusing him of trying to bring down the ministry, that he (IW #6 Niels Prip) would single-handedly bring it down. IW #6 Niels Prip stated, “It was a serious problem

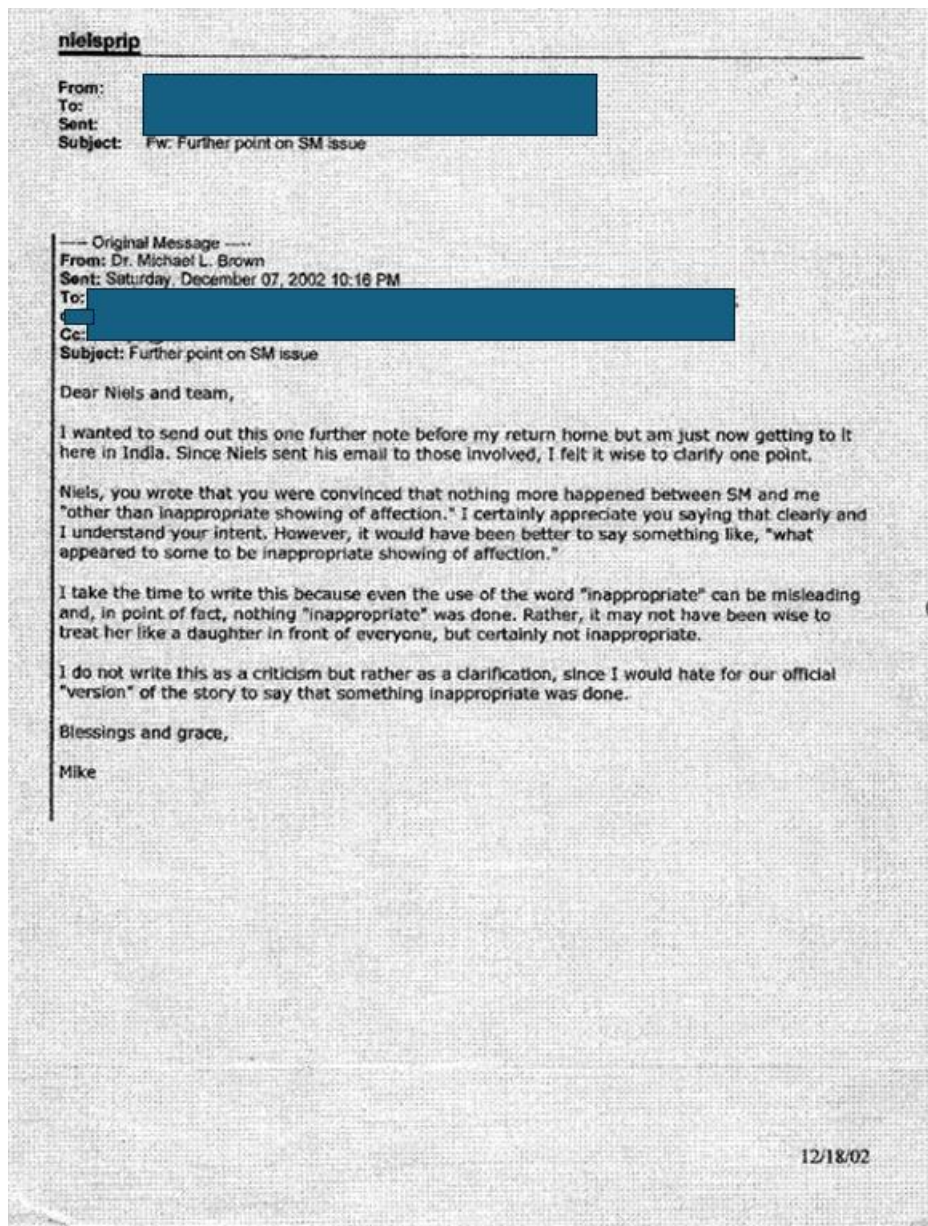
for the Browns that I did not come out of that meeting telling Mike that I believed him. There are some earmarks about this sort of thing, and I had seen them before. They were very upset with me, and I was told, 'I don't see how you can continue to be part of this ministry.' I did tell them I was planning on leaving anyway, so it didn't matter. I told them I would finish up some admin stuff and be done."

Soon after, IW #2 Kris Bennett was summoned to attend another meeting, this time with IW #15, John Cava, the Director of Missions. The purpose of the meeting was to ensure IW #2 Kris Bennett was fully aligned with BROWN'S explanation and he believed that the interaction with IS #2 Sarah reflected a father-daughter relationship and nothing beyond that. IW #15 John Cava suggested that such behavior might be understood differently depending on cultural context and downplayed its significance. Once again, IW #2 Kris Bennett agreed and accepted that interpretation.

On December 7, 2002, BROWN sent an email to IW #6 Niels Prip and the leadership team, which, along with IW #6 Niels Prip, included IW #15 John Cava, IW #10 Josh Peters, IW #9 Robert Gladstone, IW #5 Keith Collins, and IW #3 Scott Volk.

BROWN writes:

"Niels, you wrote that you were convinced that nothing more happened between SM and me "other than inappropriate showing of affection." I certainly appreciate you saying that clearly and I understand your intent. However, it would have been better to say something like, "what appeared to some to be inappropriate showing of affection." I take the time to write this because even the use of the word "inappropriate" can be misleading and, in point of fact, nothing "inappropriate" was done. Rather, it may not have been wise to treat her like a daughter in front of everyone, but certainly not inappropriate."



Between 2001 and 2002, IW #8 Gregg Montella entered BROWN'S office with a question in mind. To his surprise, he found IS #2 Sarah sitting on BROWN'S lap, his arm tightly wrapped around her. The sight left IW #8 Gregg Montella confused and uneasy, grappling with guilt for feeling that the scene might be inappropriate.

During the first or second quarter of 2002, IW #10 Josh Peters, Assistant Director of Missions, advised that he and his wife remember an impromptu meeting with about 20 students in a common room or the library in between classes where BROWN and IS #2 Sarah shared about the handholding and asked for forgiveness for any foolish actions on their part.

In 2001/2002, when IW #14 was 14 years old, she frequently observed BROWN and IS #2 Sarah spending considerable time together, often in BROWN'S office. As a teenager, she found these interactions perplexing and asked her mother for an explanation. Her mother; however, dismissed the concerns, describing it as simply a “father/daughter relationship.”

In 2001, IW #21 Londa Parker arrived early at church and was surprised by what she saw. She observed BROWN and IS #2 Sarah sitting closely on the platform, their arms and legs touching as they laughed together while looking at photos. It appeared that IS #2 Sarah was showing BROWN the pictures, with their heads nearly touching during the interaction. IW #21 Londa Parker found their closeness concerning, raising red flags about the nature of their relationship.

In 2002, IW #13 Katherine Marialke observed a significant physical connection between Brown and IS #2 Sarah. On one occasion, she saw Sarah sitting on BROWN’S lap at his home, where they were leaning on each other and cuddling. She found it odd, as BROWN never seemed to be a touchy-feely person.

In 2002, IW #16 reported walking into BROWN'S office and discovering a massage table set up and IS #2 Sarah was stretched out on her stomach, her arms straight, lifting her upper body. IW #16 described the scene as appearing highly inappropriate, though they noted that BROWN was seated at his desk in front of her and that nothing physical was occurring.

In April 2002, IW #17 recounted observing BROWN holding hands with IS #2 Sarah during a trip to New York City with several other girls. IW #17 noted, "It seemed like they were not hiding what they were doing from those around them." When BROWN was questioned about this incident, BROWN stated, "...but I honestly have no recollection of anything like that, and we were always around other people."

Sometime in 2001/2002, IW #5 Keith Collins reported seeing BROWN and IS #2 Sarah sitting in a car at Walmart around midnight, engaged in a conversation. IW #5 Keith Collins noted his surprise at the situation, as it was unusual to see BROWN in such a private, one-on-one interaction, particularly at that time of night. The circumstances left him questioning the appropriateness of their meeting.

About two days after seeing BROWN at Walmart, IW #5 Keith Collins decided to reach out to IW #2 Kris Bennett, who had previously observed BROWN holding hands with IS #2 Sarah. Together, they confronted BROWN about what IW #5 Keith Collins had witnessed. BROWN explained that it was merely a father-daughter relationship and acknowledged using poor judgment, and he expressed gratitude for their concern, mentioning that IW #5 Keith Collins was taking care of another brother.

BROWN provided FIREFLY with relevant journal entries that mentioned IS #2 Sarah. The entries showed that he and IS #2 Sarah went to Walmart on two occasions: March 28, 2002, and April 25, 2002. During one of these visits, they encountered a BRSM

student preparing to graduate, and the three conversed. BROWN explained that when IS #2 Sarah needed to talk, they met at Walmart rather than privately at the school, as it was a public setting with other people around.

In an email<sup>13</sup> BROWN sent to IW #4 Ron Cantor on October 26, 2024, BROWN stated, “For the critics out there, why did I meet Sarah at Walmart? Think about it! I’d be at my office working late, her mom and dad would be fighting and she wanted to get out of the house and talk with me, so what should I do? She couldn’t come to the office; we would be alone. We’re not going to sit in a car in a parking lot and talk, and it’s late. So, since I needed to get some things at Walmart, I told her to meet be there. THE WHOLE POINT WAS TO BE IN PUBLIC!!”

IS #2 Sarah stated that BROWN would often contact her to see if she would go grocery shopping late at night or sit in his car to talk. According to IS #2 Sarah, these actions, if carried out by any other students while meeting alone with the opposite sex, would have resulted in immediate expulsion. "Given Brown's position as a preacher," Sarah said, "his actions were inappropriate and represented a breach of professional and ethical boundaries between a mentor and a student."

In 2020, IW #2 Kris Bennett contacted IS #2 Sarah by text<sup>14</sup> to uncover what had transpired between her and BROWN. IS #2 Sarah responded to IW #2 Kris Bennett with additional information, and she was also interviewed by FIREFLY in 2025 as part of this investigation. During the interview, IS #2 Sarah explained that the relationship initially began as a father-daughter dynamic but did not remain that way. She emphasized that while nothing sexual occurred, the relationship was still inappropriate for a married man and a single woman. Reflecting on her experiences, she stated, “It is hard to think about because I feel betrayed but also shameful. I know I was wrong. I left God after I left FIRE and, over the years, have tried to come back to Him. It is nowhere I know it needs to be.” IS #2 Sarah gave her two-week notice, left FIRE SCHOOL and moved out of town. IS #2 Sarah offered several examples of the inappropriateness of BROWN’S actions, which are described below.

During a trip to New York with BROWN, three other girls, and Nancy Brown, who was driving, IS #2 Sarah recounted that BROWN was seated in the passenger seat. IS #2 Sarah stated that while driving around Manhattan sightseeing in the evening, BROWN reached with his right hand between the seat and the door to touch her calf and then proceeded to hold her hand.

When asked about any other inappropriate contact beyond holding hands, IS #2 Sarah stated, “He would hit my butt as I walked by, but that was it.” She explained that the first time BROWN swatted her butt, she thought it was an accident; however, it continued nearly every time they were alone. BROWN, on the other hand, described the incidents differently. He noted that after Sarah greeted him with a hug, a gesture she customarily offered when she saw him at the office, she walked away from his desk and he “flicked

---

<sup>13</sup> See attached October 26, 2024, email (BROWN TO CANTOR)

<sup>14</sup> See attached text messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah

her with the back of my hand as she walked away.” He clarified, “It was not a grab or even a swat but rather a backhanded flick.” BROWN goes on to state, “I never thought a sexual thought. It’s like the most despicable thing. I’m sorry. Sorry. So, it was stupid and it was a playful, stupid thing.”

IS #2 Sarah noted how deeply inappropriate this behavior was, especially coming from BROWN, who was not only in a position of authority but also a preacher expected to uphold higher moral and ethical standards. BROWN held the students to a very high standard while attending FIRE SCHOOL. Such conduct, she felt, was a clear violation of the trust and respect inherent in his role.

IS #2 Sarah stated that BROWN initially kissed the top of her head to say goodbye, which later progressed to kisses on her cheek. She recalled one instance where BROWN sat up in his chair and gave her a quick kiss on the lips. However, BROWN denied ever kissing IS #2 Sarah on the lips. He explained, “I would sometimes give her a peck on the head after she gave me a hug, and it’s possible it was on the side of her head—but not on the cheek. To reiterate, without a doubt, never on the lips. Just to be clear, I never had inappropriate thoughts or intentions with Sarah in any way.”

According to IS #2 Sarah, the butt swatting and the quick kisses became a common event when she went into BROWN’S office to say goodbye. The behavior described is deeply inappropriate and unprofessional. It crosses boundaries of respect and decency, especially in a setting where trust and professionalism should be paramount. These actions did not just occur at the office but also while in his house with his wife, Nancy Brown, and other students. When at his house, IS #2 Sarah advised BROWN would be in his home office and engage in the same inappropriate behavior. Such actions create an uncomfortable and unsafe environment, which is unacceptable in any context.

While house-sitting for BROWN in 2002, IS #2 Sarah discovered a yellow pad of paper inside a nightstand that appeared to detail an inappropriate relationship involving BROWN and IS #1. Its contents suggested fantasies about a sexual relationship between BROWN and IS #1. BROWN stated that the document was not a journal, but a piece of paper where he had written down notes from a conversation with IS #1.

Around this same time, BROWN intervened when IS #2 Sarah developed a friendship with another male student who had graduated from FIRE SCHOOL and worked on staff at the school, cautioning her that people were talking and advising her to distance herself from him. IS #2 Sarah started hanging out with her friend again, and BROWN questioned her about why she went back to sitting with him and going to eat lunch with him.

This intervention heightened IS #2 Sarah's discomfort with BROWN'S behavior and the level of control he seemed to exert over her personal relationships. During this period, IS #2 Sarah decided to confront BROWN about the notepad she found, including the other woman's conversations and the fantasies she had seen in his nightstand, which appeared to reveal inappropriate and troubling thoughts.

This confrontation took place in the presence of both BROWN and Nancy Brown. During the discussion, BROWN expressed remorse and asked for IS #2 Sarah's forgiveness. However, the situation left IS #2 Sarah feeling deeply betrayed and disillusioned. Adding to her distress, IS #2 Sarah was told by BROWN that she was essentially representing the entire student body when he asked for forgiveness, although she was the only student present.

After the meeting with BROWN about the notes she had found, IS #2 Sarah decided not to disclose any details of the incident to others within FIRE SCHOOL. She felt a deep sense of isolation, burdened by the fear that no one would believe her due to BROWN'S reputation as a powerful and respected preacher. His influence within the organization and community made her question whether speaking out would lead to meaningful action or simply harm her credibility. This fear of being dismissed or ostracized weighed heavily on her, compounded by feelings of guilt and shame as she wondered if she had somehow contributed to the situation. These emotions, along with the imbalance of power, left IS #2 Sarah feeling trapped and unable to seek the support she needed. As a result, she chose to remain silent, facing the fear of being kicked out of FIRE SCHOOL and bearing the emotional toll alone.

In August of 2002, IS #2 Sarah began reflecting on the pattern of inappropriate behavior displayed by BROWN, including his physical gestures, emotional dynamics, and controlling tendencies. These realizations solidified her understanding that the relationship was not only improper but damaging. By the end of that summer, Labor Day weekend, IS #2 Sarah made the choice to leave the organization. Shortly after, she moved out of town, distancing herself from FIRE SCHOOL and its environment. IS #2 Sarah stated, "Leaving was the only way out in my eyes. I did not leave for a renewed relationship; I left God and the church 100%. I was not searching for healing; I wanted to hide and never look back on this time."

According to BROWN, before IS #2 Sarah relocated to another state in August 2002, she informed him that their earlier interaction had made her uncomfortable. In response, according to BROWN, he and Nancy Brown met with her promptly, citing the principles of Matthew 18. BROWN stated, "I apologized to her from the heart, we talked things through together, after which, to our knowledge, everything was good between us." He further noted that in the years following this meeting, at least through 2015, she continued to contact him, sharing family updates and sending prayer requests.

Contrary to BROWN'S above statement, IS #2 Sarah advised BROWN and Nancy Brown never met with her concerning the "sexual harassment" that was occurring from BROWN.

In mid-August to early September 2002, IW #24 observed a heated phone conversation between IS #2 Sarah and BROWN. (On April 1, 2024, Firefly emailed BROWN to confirm or deny the phone call, but BROWN did not respond.) During the call, IS #2 Sarah confronted BROWN about his inappropriate actions, including unwanted kissing and touching her buttocks. Deeply disturbed and upset by what they had overheard, IW #24 felt compelled to act. They contacted IS #2 Sarah's parents, hoping to provide

support and ensure IS #2 Sarah's well-being. Witnessing IS #2 Sarah's emotional turmoil as she began to shut down and discuss moving to Texas, IW #24 pleaded with her to stay. Despite their efforts, within two weeks of the conversation with BROWN, IS #2 Sarah relocated to Texas.

In November 2002, IS #2 Sarah reported receiving a call from BROWN, during which BROWN warned her that IW #15 John Cava would soon contact her. According to IS #2 Sarah, BROWN advised her that IW #15 John Cava might question her about the nature of their relationship and the rumors surrounding it. IS #2 Sarah felt that BROWN was indirectly urging her to deny that anything had happened between them when speaking to IW #15 John Cava.

In 2020, IW #2 Kris Bennett exchanged Facebook messages with IS #2 Sarah to gather more details about her interactions with BROWN. When asked if BROWN had been physical with her, Sarah responded, "Yes... but only in slapping my butt, trying to kiss me on the lips, and pulling me close when I was standing near him. Meaning wrapping me around my waist area in an inappropriate manner. That was as far as anything happened. Nothing more physical. But still sexual manner of touching." IS #2 Sarah went on to say, "the relationship we had at first, I felt as a father/daughter. But that was not how it ended. Nothing sexual happened but it was not what a married man and single female should ever have. I left on my own accord and have had no contact in about 11 to 12 years. I didn't want to be there any longer and I knew I had to leave."

On April 30, 2020, IW #2 Kris Bennett and IW #5 Keith Collins confronted BROWN regarding IS #2 Sarah's allegations of inappropriate behavior, including handholding, slapping her on the butt, and kissing her on the head or cheek.

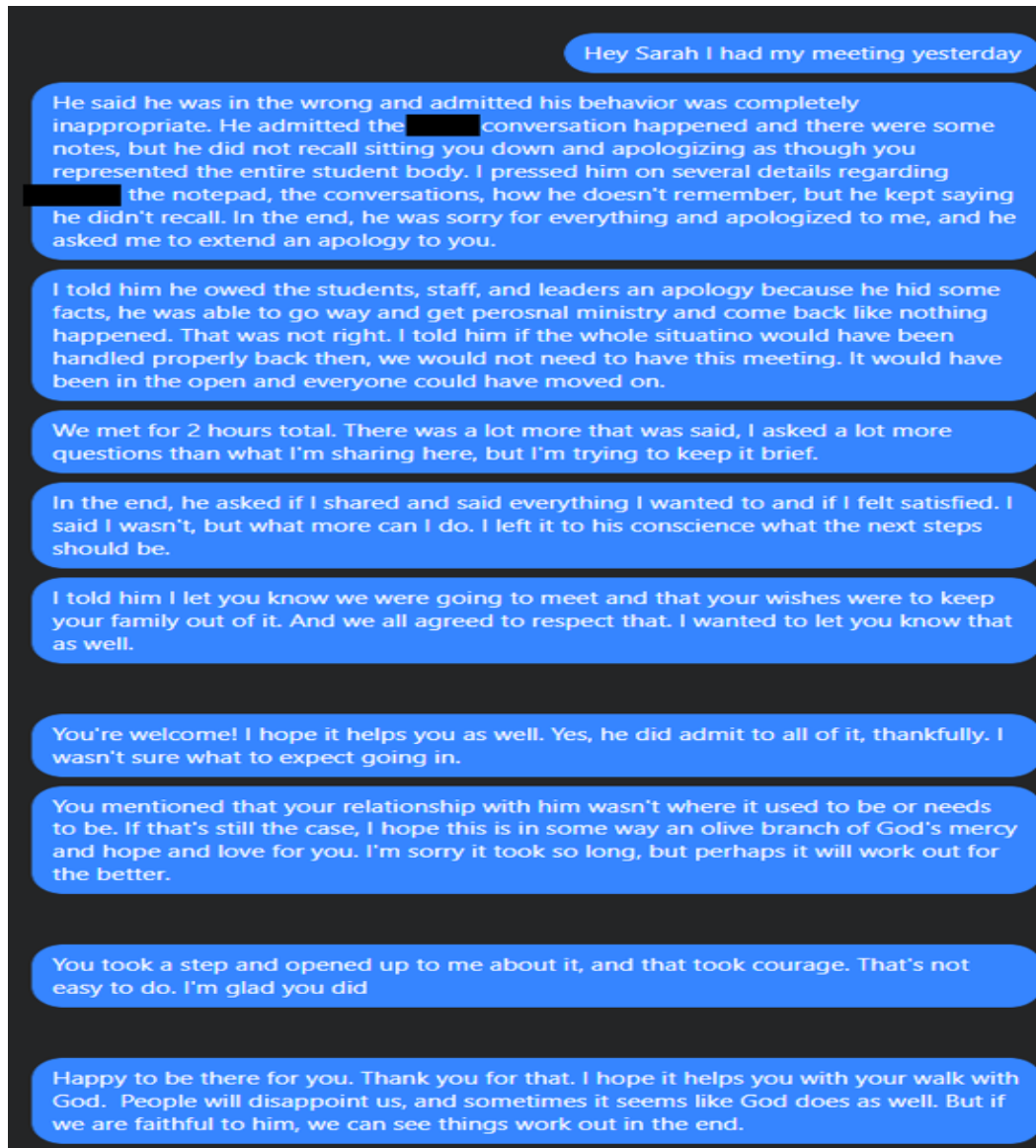
According to IW #2 Kris Bennett, BROWN admitted to crossing physical boundaries and did not deny the allegations. He acknowledged that the situation had been mishandled in 2002, and he agreed that IW #2 Kris Bennett had not been obligated to follow Matthew 18 in raising concerns about the hand-holding incident.

BROWN apologized, but IW #2 Kris Bennett stopped him, saying he believed the students needed to witness the conversation. IW #2 Kris Bennett stated that students would be shocked to learn that BROWN had crossed physical boundaries and that some might never have joined the FIRE SCHOOL had they known the truth.

On May 1, 2020, the day after meeting with BROWN, IW #2 Kris Bennett sent a detailed message to IS #2 Sarah summarizing the discussion. In the message, IW #2 Kris Bennett stated that BROWN admitted his behavior was inappropriate, acknowledged past conversations with IS #1 (though he claimed not to recall specific details), and apologized. IW #2 Kris Bennett emphasized that the lack of accountability and transparency at the time caused harm and warranted a broader apology to the students, staff, and leadership.

IW #2 Kris Bennett further noted to IS #2 Sarah that while the conversation with BROWN lasted over two hours and involved many questions, because of BROWN'S inability to recall details, they left the decision on the next steps to BROWN'S conscience.

This screenshot, timestamped May 1, 2020, at 10:41 AM, corroborates IW #2 Kris Bennett's written notes and testimony. It has not been previously shared with any outside parties, including The Roys Report.



IW #2 Kris Bennett asked BROWN about his relationship with IS #1. In response, BROWN recalled a phone call with IS #1 while planning an outing involving BROWN, Nancy Brown, IS #1, and IW #1. During the call, he claimed IS #1 made an inappropriate comment that left him "taken aback." He said he documented the comment, and that this

documentation was later discovered by IS #2 Sarah. However, when IW #2 Kris Bennett pressed for details—what exactly was said, how many calls had occurred, and whether leadership had been informed—BROWN repeatedly said, “I don’t recall.”

IW #2 Kris Bennett then asked what had happened to BROWN’S friendship with IS #1 and why it ended. Again, BROWN claimed he could not remember. IW #2 Kris Bennett turned to IW #5 Keith Collins and said, “If Keith and I had a falling out, I could tell you the reasons why. But you can’t remember anything?” BROWN affirmed his lack of recollection.

At one point during the meeting, BROWN pushed back, questioning why IW #2 Kris Bennett was asking these things, insisting that the matters had already been resolved years earlier. IW #2 Kris Bennett replied, “There are major questions because Sarah divulged new information.”

IW #2 Kris Bennett grew increasingly frustrated by BROWN’S vague, evasive answers. Toward the end of the meeting, BROWN asked if IW #2 Kris Bennett was “satisfied.” IW #2 Kris Bennett responded, “No, because you don’t remember anything.”

IW #2 Kris Bennett asked IW #5 Keith Collins whether the leadership team had been aware of the butt-slapping and kissing on the cheek when they initially confronted BROWN in 2002. IW #5 Keith Collins confirmed they had not. IW #2 Kris Bennett told BROWN that, had leadership known the full extent of his actions at the time, the confrontation and outcome would have been very different. He emphasized that BROWN had denied leadership the chance to respond appropriately by willfully withholding key information.

Notably, during this 2020 meeting, BROWN never disclosed that he had kissed IS #2 Sarah on the lips, an allegation IS #2 Sarah later made. It was only when IW #2 Kris Bennett read about this in The Roys Report that he realized BROWN still had not fully disclosed the physical nature of his relationship with IS #2 Sarah. IW #2 Kris Bennett came to believe that BROWN apologized only for what he was directly confronted with, not for the full extent of what had occurred. IW #2 Kris Bennett stated, “There was no complete confession, only selective acknowledgment.”

In June or July of 2023, IW #20 Michael Lubanovic, who had known BROWN for twenty-six years as a student at FIRE SCHOOL and later as a staff member at FIRE SCHOOL and Church, heard rumors concerning BROWN. Deciding to address the matter directly, IW #20 Michael Lubanovic met with BROWN to discuss six specific questions regarding IS #2 Sarah and IS #1. Each question IW #20 Michael Lubanovic wrote is followed by BROWN'S response according to IW #20 Michael Lubanovic’s records. The questions and BROWN’S responses are from IW #20 Michael Lubanovic unless redacted or additional information is added in parentheses.

**Question #1:** Did you hold her hand in front of students?

**BROWN'S Response:**

BROWN responded that one time he grabbed her hand while on a school trip, to make a point about something they were discussing, but it was not in a sensual way at all.

**Question #2:** Did you swat her on the rear end?

**BROWN'S Response:**

BROWN responded that he used the back of his hand to swat her lower back when she walked by, kind of in a joking way, again as if he were kidding around with her as like a daughter.

**Question #3:** Were you alone at a grocery store with her?

**BROWN'S Response:**

BROWN stated that he did, and it was a horrible lapse in judgment, but that he and Nancy treated her like a daughter, and he assured me that nothing sensual or sexual happened that time that they were alone.

**Question #4:** Did you kiss Sarah?

**BROWN'S Response:**

Brown STATED THAT HE HAD kissed her on the head but that it was in no way sensual or sexual, but rather, like a father to a daughter.

**Question #5:** Please explain the notes that Sarah found in your house concerning [REDACTED]. (IS #1)

**BROWN'S Response:**

BROWN stated that he and Nancy were close with the [REDACTED] (IS #1 and IW #1) for a season. He explained that IS #1 would email him from time to time. But, at a certain point, she crossed the line with some things that were said via email, and it became obvious to him and Nancy Brown that these things were inappropriate. So, he took notes of those things on a note pad because he and Nancy Brown planned to meet with her and her husband to address her misconduct. So, essentially, he used the notes to confront her. He then told me that the two couples stopped hanging out after that and that nothing else happened. BROWN also mentioned during our meeting that he couldn't believe that [REDACTED] would turn on him like he did and tell me about these situations. According to BROWN, when he and [REDACTED] met, [REDACTED] told him he would not tell anyone else. He

also mentioned that there were several graduates from the school who were offended with him, and they were spreading rumors about him, and he connected [REDACTED] with them.

**Question #6:** IW #20 Michael Lubanovic asked BROWN if he had confessed his "poor judgement" to any leaders back when all of this took place.

**BROWN'S Response:**

BROWN responded that he confessed to local and trans-local leaders and that he and Nancy Brown went through Restoring the Foundations to receive ministry due to the intensity of the season and his lapse in judgment with IS #2 Sarah. He also mentioned several times that he spent days weeping before the Lord in repentance, which struck me as a bit odd in light of the way he was downplaying the situation as a misunderstanding and a lapse in judgment concerning a girl that he and Nancy Brown treated like a daughter.

Before leaving, BROWN asked IW #20 Michael Lubanovic for forgiveness for his poor judgment and the bad example he had set, which IW #20 Michael Lubanovic granted.

- **Delayed Disclosure**

Delayed disclosure in sexual abuse cases is a complex and gradual process influenced by various psychological, social, and institutional barriers. Research indicates that survivors often wait years, sometimes decades, before revealing their experiences, with delays ranging from 3 to 18 years on average.<sup>15</sup> Factors such as trauma, fear of not being believed, societal stigma, and a lack of understanding about the abuse contribute to this hesitation.<sup>16</sup> Additionally, underreporting remains a significant issue, with only a small percentage of cases—around 10-15%—formally reported to authorities.<sup>17</sup> Survivors may also recall additional details over time, especially after their initial disclosure, as they process their experiences and feel more comfortable sharing. These findings highlight the challenges survivors face in coming forward and the importance of creating supportive environments for disclosure.

With the above being noted, the recent information and allegations against BROWN came to light starting in 2019. During this time, BROWN became actively involved in addressing sexual abuse allegations against Todd Bentley. In doing so, BROWN led a panel of ministers tasked with investigating the charges and determining Bentley's

---

<sup>15</sup> Understanding Delayed Disclosure of Child Sexual Abuse - Elizabeth L. Jeglic Ph.D. - Posted June 21, 2023 - <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/protecting-children-from-sexual-abuse/202306/understanding-delayed-disclosure-of-child-sexual>

<sup>16</sup> Child Sexual Abuse Disclosure: What Practitioners Need to Know February 2016- <https://www.d2l.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Child-Sexual-Abuse-Disclosure-Statistics-and-Literature-Review.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> Delayed Disclosure: A Comprehensive Report on Delayed in Cases of Child Sexual Abuse. INSIGHTS, IMPLICATIONS, AND PATHWAYS FORWARD. - <https://childusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Delayed-Disclosure-2024.pdf>

suitability for ministry. This significant event drew attention within the wider faith community, sparking conversations about leadership accountability. During this time, many former students of FIRE SCHOOL began reflecting on prior concerns regarding BROWN'S own actions. Specifically, they recalled instances of what appeared to be inappropriate behavior involving BROWN and IS #2 Sarah, such as holding hands, which raised questions about boundaries and judgment. These reflections reignited discussions about past incidents and the expectations placed on leaders in positions of spiritual authority.

Because of this, IW #2 Kris Bennett decided to contact IS #2 Sarah directly to uncover what had transpired between her and BROWN, which has been documented under the SARAH MONK section of this report. This renewed interest in BROWN'S actions and the information uncovered by IW #2 Kris Bennet was paramount to LOF's decision to retain FIREFLY to conduct a thorough and independent investigation.

- **Potential Coverups**

It is believed that over the past 25 years, BROWN has deliberately deflected questions about allegations of sexual misconduct involving IS #1 and IS #2 Sarah. This pattern of deflection appears to be a calculated effort to evade accountability, suppress the allegations, and protect his ministry's reputation. By maintaining silence and avoiding direct answers, BROWN has seemingly sought to shield himself from scrutiny, potentially enabling these stories to remain hidden and preserving his position within the ministry.

In 2002, IW #34 Steven Alt, a leadership team member, recalled being called into BROWN'S office to address concerns about IS #2 Sarah's sudden departure from the school. BROWN explained that her exit had been abrupt and lacked the usual communication about her plans, raising questions among some staff members. He mentioned that one staff member had resigned, suspecting that a sexual relationship was being concealed. BROWN assured IW #34 Steven Alt that this was not the case and emphasized that nothing sexual had occurred. IW #34 Steven Alt expressed surprise that someone would resign based on mere speculation without evidence. BROWN reiterated that there was no evidence to support such claims and reassured him that nothing inappropriate had happened. IW #34 Steven Alt later stated, "I trusted him implicitly," adding that BROWN'S decision to invite him to the meeting demonstrated a desire to be forthright and transparent.

Having served on the Leadership Team for two decades, IW #34 Steven Alt was unaware of the allegations against BROWN until BROWN contacted him in late 2024. This occurred shortly before the Roys report was released, in which BROWN confessed to some of the allegations against him.

In 2003, IW #21 Londa Parker was summoned to meet with BROWN and Nancy Brown regarding allegations of physical contact, including handholding and back-rubbing, between BROWN and IS #2 Sarah. She invited her mother, IW #31 Fonda McLain, to

accompany her to the meeting. IW #21 Londa Parker recalled the BROWNS reacting angrily, with BROWN demanding, "What have you been told?" He then insisted, "No matter what you've heard, I have not done anything." When IW #21 Londa Parker directly questioned BROWN, asking, "Did you hold her hand?" he firmly denied it, stating, "It never happened." When BROWN asked IW #21 Londa Parker if she believed him, she admitted she did not. In response, BROWN accused her of lacking the "fruit of the spirit," asserting that "love believes all things," and therefore, she did not possess love.

In 2001, IW #9 Robert Gladstone served as one of the main leaders of FIRE SCHOOL during these incidents. He claimed that the matters in question were kept completely secret from him, as well as, he assumed, from other FIRE SCHOOL leaders. According to IW #9 Robert Gladstone, a student later informed him about one allegation concerning BROWN, which was his holding IS #2 Sarah's hand in a car. Additionally, IW #5 Keith Collins added a second allegation that BROWN was seen shopping alone with her. At the time, BROWN strongly defended his actions, asserting that he regarded IS #2 Sarah as a daughter and that his minimal physical affection was entirely innocent. IW #9 Robert Gladstone first learned of the more serious allegations on September 3, 2024. Subsequently, on September 9, 2024, he confronted BROWN via email, seeking clarification on the matter.

---

**From:** Robert Gladstone <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 4:14:07 PM  
**To:** Michael Brown [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Question

Mike,

I pray you're doing well. I'm sorry to ask this but feel I must.

Is it true, per [REDACTED] per Sarah Monk, that there were times years ago when you kissed Sarah's head and cheek and swatted her rear end?

Thank you,

Bob

Shortly after, BROWN responds, "But since you choose not to talk, what I can tell you is that NOTHING sexual or romantic or adulterous ever took place between Sarah and me (Sarah stated this explicitly in writing to [REDACTED] four years ago), and that some of what you wrote is not accurate. What is true is that I looked at Sarah like one of our daughters and treated her in that way, normally in full sight of others. However, she was not my daughter and it was foolish and idiotic for me to do so, because of which I wept for the bad example I set when I met with [REDACTED] in 2020. (By the way, I'm a little surprised that [REDACTED] would contact you about this, since he told me when we met back in 2020 that he was absolutely done with the issue.)

On Sep 9, 2024, at 5:55 PM, Dr. Michael L. Brown [REDACTED] wrote:

Bob,

I'm struggling deeply with your refusal to talk with me these many weeks now, and I'm baffled by it, as brother to brother in the Lord.

But since you choose not to talk, what I can tell you is that NOTHING sexual or romantic or adulterous ever took place between Sarah and me (Sarah stated this explicitly in writing to [REDACTED] four years ago), and that some of what you wrote is not accurate. What is true is that I looked at Sarah like one of our daughters and treated her in that way, normally in full sight of others. However, she was not my daughter and it was foolish and idiotic for me to do so, because of which I wept for the bad example I set when I met with [REDACTED] in 2020. (By the way, I'm a little surprised that [REDACTED] would contact you about this, since he told me when we met back in 2020 that he was absolutely done with the issue.)

The time in question with Sarah would have been in 2001 when I was at one of the worst and lowest times of my life due to the split and its aftermath. [REDACTED] and Sarah and I all talked together and she continued to be close to our family for some years after that.

Again, it was horrific judgment for me to be that friendly with her, but that was the extent of it, and we never exchanged a sinful or inappropriate word or text or email between us on any occasion. As for my terrible lack of judgment, I repented deeply of this before the Lord back then, over 23 years ago.

Mike

On December 19, 2024, IW #19 recalled when BROWN met with the missionaries to discuss the allegations against him via a video conference call. According to IW #19, BROWN'S first statement was, "Please understand that this is just for you, alright? This is not for anybody else. It's just for you." BROWN started out appearing to cry, but when it came to his instructions to not talk about it immediately following, the tears disappeared quickly. BROWN instructed them not to share any information about the meeting publicly, stating that doing so would be, in his words, "a betrayal of confidence before God." According to IW #19, BROWN expressed a desire to halt the news cycle, although, apart from his own admission, everything discussed was merely a repetition of publicly available information.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Conclusion:**

It is believed that any sexual misconduct within ministerial relationships represents a profound violation of sacred trust, undermining the moral and ethical foundations upon which such relationships are built. Such behavior, in any form, is entirely unacceptable in any setting, but particularly within church and ministry settings. These actions not only betray the confidence placed in these roles but also inflict significant harm on individuals and communities, eroding the trust essential for fostering spiritual guidance and support.

Based on gathered information and consistent accounts from multiple witnesses, it is evident that BROWN engaged in an inappropriate relationship with IS #1, as well as an inappropriate relationship involving sexually abusive misconduct with IS #2, Sarah. IS #2 Sarah was nineteen years old when BROWN first took notice of her, leading her to believe God was placing her in a place of favor under BROWN. Within a year, at the age of twenty, these interactions escalated to physical touch.

With IS #2 Sarah, BROWN was observed holding her hand on multiple occasions, and both BROWN and IS #2 Sarah acknowledged and admitted to BROWN kissing IS #2 Sarah and making contact with the back midsection of her body. The meaning and exact locations of the kissing and contact to the rear are in question between the two accounts but must be looked at through the external viewpoint of an adult male having physical contact with an adult female.

While it is impossible to definitively prove deviant intent behind these actions, as the only person who sent and/or received sexually related communication with BROWN is deceased, the patterns of BROWN'S actions suggest that BROWN knowingly contributed to the situation and created an environment where, according to IS #2 Sarah, she felt uncomfortable and, even if years later, acknowledges that their relationship was inappropriate. Although the lack of direct proof of intent leaves room for speculation, the numerous interviews and, in many cases, corroborating documentation, point to a deliberate involvement of sexual misconduct within BRSM or FIRE SCHOOL, which could also be viewed as sexual harassment and/or a hostile work environment, especially with BROWN holding a position of power within the school generally and more specifically, with IS #2 Sarah.

Based on the provided information, it is notable that no credible evidence has emerged between 2002 and 2025 to suggest further inappropriate sexual behavior by BROWN. This strongly supports the belief that these were isolated incidents, confined to 2001 and 2002, as corroborated by consistent witness accounts and a comprehensive review of the available evidence.

- **Recommendations:**

It is a primary and firm recommendation that all volunteers, staff members, board members, and executive directors consistently uphold the guidelines outlined in the student policy manual. These guidelines are designed to create and sustain a culture of accountability, respect, and integrity throughout the organization, ensuring that they are universally applied, regardless of an individual's role or position.

By adhering to these standards, individuals embody excellence and aspire toward moral, ethical, and spiritual purity as outlined in God's Word. This commitment reinforces the organization's values and principles, providing a positive example for students and the broader community. Any failure to comply with these established guidelines should result in consequences equivalent to those outlined for students, as detailed in the manual. This approach underscores fairness, preserves trust, and fosters unity within the organization.

It is further recommended that LOF establish a clear, comprehensive, and proactive policy to address sexual abuse and harassment. The policy should prioritize prevention, detailing measures to foster a safe and respectful environment for all members of the organization, including staff, volunteers, and participants. Preventative measures may include mandatory training sessions on recognizing and preventing sexual harassment, promoting awareness of appropriate conduct, and creating an open-door culture where concerns can be safely voiced.

The policy should also outline specific, actionable steps to be taken in instances where sexual abuse or harassment is observed or reported. These steps should include clear guidelines on documentation, reporting procedures, and protocols for protecting the confidentiality and safety of the individuals involved. It should emphasize a zero-tolerance stance, ensuring that misconduct will not be excused or overlooked under any circumstances, regardless of the position or authority of the individual involved. The consequences for such behavior should be clearly defined and uniformly enforced.

To ensure its effectiveness, the policy should be reviewed with all staff and volunteers during onboarding and annually thereafter. This approach reinforces the organization's commitment to maintaining a safe and ethical environment while ensuring that everyone is fully informed and accountable.

By implementing such a policy, LOF demonstrates its dedication to upholding the highest standards of integrity and care for all those associated with the organization.

We also recommend implementation of the following policies/practices.

- **Two-Adult Rule:** Always ensure that at least two adults are present during interactions with students or staff, whether in classrooms, meetings, or activities.

- **Encourage Open-Door Policies:** Ensure that one-on-one meetings occur in rooms with open doors, or if privacy is necessary, in spaces with windows or glass panels for visibility.
- **Designate Common Areas for Conversations:** Promote the use of communal spaces for discussions or consultations, reducing the need for secluded one-on-one interactions.
- **Use Virtual Communication Tools:** For necessary individual conversations, leverage emails or recorded virtual platforms to maintain a transparent record.
- **Boundaries and Policies Training:** Provide regular training to staff and students on appropriate boundaries, communication, and the organization's policies regarding one-on-one interactions.
- **Establish Reporting Mechanisms:** Create a clear and confidential process for reporting any concerns related to inappropriate one-on-one interactions.
- **Create Clear Meeting Guidelines:** Develop and distribute guidelines for one-on-one meetings, emphasizing transparency and safety protocols.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

## Firefly – Independent Sexual Abuse Investigations

(717)752-4219

### INVESTIGATOR SERVICES AGREEMENT

This Agreement is entered into on and dated January 23rd, 2025, by and between Firefly Independent Sexual Abuse Investigations, [REDACTED] herein referred to as (FIREFLY), and Line of Fire - Dr. Michael Brown, INC., PO Box 5546 Concord, NC 28027 herein referred to as (CLIENT).

#### A. SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

Scope of Investigation: the CLIENT retains FIREFLY to conduct an independent investigation into allegations of sexually abusive misconduct<sup>1</sup> By Dr. Michael Brown in his association with FIRE School of Ministry 2001 - 2002 (which is defunct as a campus school), The Line of Fire – Dr. Michael Brown ministries. (hereinafter referred to as LOF), (or any other ministry where Michael Brown held a leadership position). While the scope of the investigation is focused on the period of time that the initial allegations were made (2001-2002), all allegations of sexual abuse before or after these dates will be fully investigated. (added 1/27/25 by the board) FIREFLY shall also investigate the cover-up of any allegation of sexual abuse/misconduct connected with FIRE School of Ministry 2001 - 2002 (which is defunct as a campus school), The Line of Fire – Dr. Michael Brown ministries. (added 2/5/25 by the board)

FIREFLY will post a public online survey that will be made available to the broader FSM community (former and active) to assist the investigation team in collecting relevant information within the scope of this investigation.

This engagement is limited to the above-referenced scope that the parties have agreed to in this engagement agreement. Understanding that investigations can evolve as facts come to light, the parties agree that any material changes to the scope of this engagement will be conveyed in writing and signed by the parties.

#### B. FEES AND BILLING

CLIENT shall place [REDACTED] in the possession of FIREFLY to serve as an initial retainer to specifically commence investigation services on/or about

<sup>1</sup> FIREFLY will take a wider view of sexual abuse and sexually abusive misconduct to include not only abuse within the historically narrow understanding of those terms (sexual assault and battery without consent) but also to include physical and nonphysical conduct that a person suffers, submits to, participates in, or performs due to the deception, manipulation, coercion, grooming (children and adults) and/or intimidation by another.

## Reference # 5 – 2 of 4

February 1, 2025, after the retainer has been received. Upon signing this contract, FIREFLY will send the CLIENT an invoice for the retainer fee.

The parties agree that the actual fees for services charged by FIREFLY are as follows:

- a. **INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES:** Hourly rate of [REDACTED] total per hour (not per person). This hourly rate will include Telephone and/or Personal Interviews, Inquiries, Background, On-Line Investigations, Internet, Travel Time, Computer Database Research, Business/Corporate Record Searches, report writing, and CLIENT conferences.
- b. **BILLING INCREMENTS:** Firefly records and bills its time in one-tenth hour (six-minute) increments.
- c. **TRAVEL RATE:** A daily flat rate of \$ [REDACTED] per travel day
- d. **OTHER EXPENSES PAID BY THE CLIENT ARE:**
  - Drive Mileage - (\$0.67.0 mile)
  - Rental Car
  - Tolls
  - Airfare (Utilizing Delta Airlines with Delta Comfort Seating)
  - Hotel Fees
  - Court Appearances (Hourly Rate)
  - Administrative (Hourly Rate)
  - Database Fees
- e. **BILLING**

After the initial retainer is exhausted, the CLIENT will be invoiced every two (2) weeks for the services rendered, and the invoice is due within two (2) weeks of receiving it.

### C. VERBAL UPDATES:

Due to the unexpected nature of this type of Investigation, it is impossible to determine the amount of time it will take to complete. Therefore, after each 30 hours of billed time, FIREFLY will provide the CLIENT with a general status update on the investigation and request authorization before continuing the investigation. Should such approval not be provided, this shall be deemed a Notice of Termination as defined in Section E.

CLIENT agrees to pay all fees and costs incurred due to any investigation. As such, the CLIENT agrees that the FIREFLY is empowered to perform said services for and on behalf of CLIENT and to do all things necessary, appropriate, or advisable in performing said services for and in CLIENT's best interests. The parties hereby agree that CLIENT has requested the following investigative services under this Agreement and will be provided by FIREFLY.

## Reference # 5 – 3 of 4

However, the actual time and way the following investigative services are conducted shall be left to the **AGENCY's** sole discretion.

**D. TIMELINE:**

**FIREFLY** will begin this Independent Investigation within four (4) weeks of executing this Agreement. **FIREFLY** will make every effort to complete it promptly and will make every effort to complete and deliver the Report within thirty days of completing the Investigation.

**E. WRITTEN NOTICE OF TERMINATION:**

Either party may terminate this agreement at any time for any reason by giving the other fifteen (15) days' written notice of termination. If the **CLIENT** terminates the contract, **FIREFLY** shall have fifteen (15) days to submit a final invoice for all services rendered and costs incurred up to receiving the termination notice. The **CLIENT** shall pay the final invoice within fifteen (15) days of receipt.

**F. DISCLAIMER:**

**CLIENT** expressly acknowledges that the fees for services are NOT contingent on the outcome or results of the above-referenced investigation. **FIREFLY MAKES NO WARRANTIES OR GUARANTEES OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AS TO THE RESULTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION.** No illegal or unethical services will be knowingly provided by **FIREFLY**, and **CLIENT** certifies that he/she/it is not knowingly requesting any illegal services. **AGENCY** reserves the right to decline or terminate without advance notice any assignment it deems to be illegal or unethical or, in **FIREFLY'S** sole opinion, detrimental to **FIREFLY**.

**G. REPORTS:**

**FIREFLY** will generate a written report of the investigation promptly after the investigation, given the **CLIENT'S** account is not in arrears. Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure that the quality of the information is accurate; however, **FIREFLY** will not be responsible for the information contained within database reports, which **FIREFLY** has no control over the content.

After the investigation, **FIREFLY** will meet with the **CLIENT** and his or her designated group to discuss the findings. At that time, a final written report will be prepared and submitted.

Original notes or documents considered "work product" will not be released and will remain the property of **FIREFLY**. Only the written final report is released to the **CLIENT**. **FIREFLY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHHOLD ANY AND ALL REPORTS AND/OR EVIDENCE PENDING PAYMENT IN FULL AND BANK CLEARANCE THEREOF.**

H. ACCURACY OF INFORMATION SOURCES:

Database search reports are performed strictly on the information provided on the SUBJECT and VICTIM by FIREFLY. Any spelling, format, or sequence error of letters, words, or numbers can result in wrong information on the subject. Data is supplied from different private sources, computer systems, public information facilities, and government open record institutions and might also contain confidential source information. All attempts are made to maintain the integrity of this data. FIREFLY cannot be held liable for inaccuracies in public record information or accessed databases. Furthermore, information has been gathered from sources and individuals deemed reliable by FIREFLY; however, no guarantee, warranty, or other representation is made regarding the accuracy of information received from third parties or its suitability for any particular purpose. If the information reported is not "Original Source" information, it is strongly recommended that any information gathered be cross-referenced with "Original Source" information.

I. CLIENT MISREPRESENTATION:

CLIENT attests that he/she has not misrepresented itself, its company, organization, or purpose for requesting FIREFLY's services. The CLIENT understands that misrepresentation in this agreement, in FIREFLY'S sole opinion, may result in civil and criminal action against the CLIENT and/or his organization and all monies paid to be forfeited. FIREFLY reserves the right to refuse service to the CLIENT for any issue of security, safety, unlawful, unethical, or immoral reasons. CLIENT further represents that the information provided by the FIREFLY shall be used in a lawful and ecclesiastical manner and that said information will not be used to purposely cause any physical or emotional harm to the subject of the investigation.

J. CONFIDENTIALITY

All investigative findings furnished to CLIENT are exclusively for CLIENTS own use. CLIENT agrees to restrict the dissemination of said findings ONLY to third parties who have a legitimate need to know and/or are authorized by law and in connection with ecclesiastical procedures. FIREFLY will keep findings strictly confidential and will not disseminate or release any findings to third parties unless authorized IN WRITING by the CLIENT or court-ordered.

K. GOVERNING LAW:

This being the entire Agreement of both parties is expressed in this document, and no verbal understandings, agreements, or other documents shall alter, modify, or change the terms of this contract. This agreement is binding for the benefit of and upon the parties, their heirs, executors, assigns, legal representatives, and successors. As to the context of the terminology in this agreement, singular shall mean plural and vice versa. CLIENT has had the opportunity to read this Agreement in full and the option to have it reviewed by an attorney. Having no unanswered questions, CLIENT authorizes this investigation and agrees to all the terms and conditions listed herein. By signing this Agreement, I, as CLIENT, certify and affirm that the information supplied above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further represent and affirm that I am authorized to order this investigation and financially contract for this assignment. I also understand that my knowingly supplying false or misleading information may result in my case being rejected and/or terminated.

4

AGREED BY THE PARTIES HERETO:

Jim Hbler.  Date: 1/23/25  
Signature

Line of Fire, Inc.  Date: 1/23/25  
Signature

Jonathan A. Bernig  
Print Name

Reference #10 – Page 1 of 3

From: "Dr. Michael L. Brown" [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: follow up  
Date: 26 October 2024 at 5:19:33 AM GMT+2  
To: Ron Cantor <[REDACTED]>  
[REDACTED]

Ron,

I'm responding to you in writing here, and THANK YOU for the love and support. I'm not minimizing what could happen; I'm simply sure that God has my back and whatever Satan means for evil God will use for good.

I have shared everything with the board and with a consulting attorney. To a person they believe they are standing with me and some share my faith for the future. GOD KNOWS MY HEART AND HE IS WITH ME. I know that for a fact. But let me respond to each point, below:

Everything I write here is in the strictest confidence, but once more, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU. Let's face every worst-case scenario.

Here are the factual responses:

1. You held hands for roughly 30 minutes with her while in a van. – While sitting in a van with some grads coming back from a meeting where I preached, I said to them, "Sarah is like a daughter to me," and I took her hand in front of all them. It might have been a few minutes. Again, INTENTIONALLY in front of everyone and the only time I ever held her hand. Idiotic, yes. Innocent. Totally.
2. You were seen at Walmart late one night together in an area of town where neither of you lived. – It was the Walmart nearest to our offices; sometimes if she had a rough time at home she would want to talk with me, so I intentionally told her I'd talk with her at a public place. I put my arm around her like I would a daughter – idiotically, but intentionally, in public.
3. She was seen sitting on your lap. Someone very hostile to me who has spread lies about me (I know this for a fact; some of the info [REDACTED] heard was from her and totally false) claims to have seen this – again, not hidden, according to her, but I have no recollection of that.
4. She was seen giving you a massage or vice versa? Never happened.
5. On a few occasions, you patted her on her butt. Yes, a backhanded swipe when she walked away, few times.
6. She referred to you as "Dad." Pops, not Dad – but this was totally common with students and faculty, to this day, decades later.
7. You kissed her on the neck or the cheek. On the top of the head, for sure. I don't recall ever kissing her on the cheek.

## Reference #10 – Page 2 of 3

Re: [REDACTED], I did not have an affair, but we developed a very unhealthy and sinful soul tie. I was not caught. Instead, I repented in agony of heart to Nancy, she then followed suit, because of my repentance, with her husband. And because there had been no physical relationship, both spouses said that nothing more should be said. I, for my part, wanted to tell the whole world – the FIRE leaders; the students; everyone! I was asked to say nothing, and I said nothing. God is my witness as to the depth and thoroughness of my repentance. It was during this time – totally burnt out; emotionally wrecked with the split; under hellish financial pressure – that I allowed this to happen and exercised such idiotic judgment with Sarah.

As for getting counsel – yes!!! It changed my life totally and deeply, to this day. Yes!!! I should have taken a sabbatical, for sure, but under the crazy circumstances with the weight of the whole ministry on my shoulders and my unhealthy, false sense of responsibility, I did not.

As for Sarah, there was NOTHING of any kind romantic or sexual between us. Zero! She wrote that to Kris Bennett in 2020 while detailing the other things.

Nancy and I had dinner with her for me to address my stupidity, Nancy then spent time ministering with her privately, then life went on as normal. She continued to take trips with Nancy and the grads and was like a daughter to us. About 8 months later, she started talking about moving to Texas (where there was an unsaved guy that she knew) and she wasn't doing well spiritually. That's when she told me that it was connected to the contact we had and I sought to minister to her. With her mom and dad, who didn't want her to move, we all strongly discouraged her, but she did move, and as far as I knew, until 2020, everything was fine. She would email me pictures of her kids and ask for prayer when one of them was sick and she stayed in occasional contact with me through 2015. (That's the last email I could find.) In short, we did not have a relationship; there was idiotic but innocent physical contact between us (initiated by her totally innocent hugging, etc.) and she moved to Texas about 8 months after I got things right.

Re: Neils and Keith, when she left, there were rumors that we had had an affair, and Keith said he had seen me with her at Walmart. I told them the affair accusation was nonsense but I was defensive (who ever said I made them get on their knees and repent; seriously???). So they appointed [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to call her and investigate. She burst out laughing on the phone and was flabbergasted, repeating the same thing to me (I have this in my journal by date). As for [REDACTED], 90% of her questions were about [REDACTED] **she was aware that someone ([REDACTED]) had said some inappropriate things to me which I had documented in case I was ever accused of starting something with her; Sarah found that in a drawer in our bedroom while housesitting for us and watching our dog and she asked me about it.**

She mentioned it to Kris, and that's how [REDACTED] knew about it, I think. I told her what I told you here but said no more other than she is dead and buried and I'm not saying anything to defame her. Then she proceeded to ask me about other, crazy questions involving other situations I might have known about – I know the source of two of the lies, for sure – and sent her detailed email refutations of the lies, which she appreciated. I gave her Keith's number as well to follow up, since he had confronted me and was part of the follow up investigation and was in the meeting with Kris in 2020. He knows Sarah said in writing to Kris that there was nothing sexual or romantic between us. Her words.

## Reference #10 – Page 3 of 3

As for you being involved, I would never in a TRILLION YEARS think that you had a hand in bringing this to Roys. Of course not!!!! As for Roys, [REDACTED] told me they did investigations many times without publishing anything. I said to her, "The purpose of a whistleblower is when the system fails, so if you conclude that everything is as I told you, why on earth would you think this is something to bring to the public eye, since it was dealt with before God and the people involved?" She said that it would only be if there was a cover up (although who appointed them to do decide what should be public?) or if there had been a history of not dealing rightly with sin (which was why she asked me the other, unrelated questions) or there had been some kind of abuse. That may be the claim, and certainly, we must be prepared for it, it would be a boldfaced lie.

As for IHOPKC, I apologized publicly months ago for comments about social media, but I can't find the link/s. That being said, please say more to me. You have my ear.

But if you listen to my message, I start off talking about walking with a limp and say that everything must come to light and only asked for time for the investigation to take place – who knew we'd be here today still waiting! – and asked people to stop the online gossip until then, not recognizing what I was quenching in doing to. That's what I apologized for, also taking a call from one of the former IHOP people one day who led an online group anti-IHOP group, apologizing to him as well.

I deeply understand today's climate and what we're up against, every leader I've spoken to about this – including an attorney with massive background in scandals, etc. – have said, "Mike, you repented 24 years and dealt with things properly. There is nothing to report publicly. This is the accuser of the brethren. We love you and are standing with you" – with others assuring me that our work and ministry and legacy will not be tarnished.

With that in mind, the board's job is to expect the worst and prepare for it. You, as a true, lifelong friend, just want to help. So again, THANK YOU for pushing on all these issues. From the heart!

Last point. There's another massive side to this and that is that the Body needs to hear a message that you can repent, be forgiven, and be blessed. That God forgives and covers. I know it. And they hate the accuser of the brethren on the loose.

So, before God, since every word I wrote you here is true, since I was not caught in any sin but repented on my own and none of those involved felt I needed to "go public" – Ron, God has my witness, I never a physical relationship with another woman; there was nothing sexual or romantic between Sarah and me – why on earth should be dragged before the public? Is that God's heart?

People might still do it; but it is the work of the accuser, not the Spirit, and what Satan means for evil, God will use for good.

I love you Ron!

Mike

## Reference #11

**From:** Ron Cantor <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: follow up  
**Date:** 27 October 2024 at 2:42:38 AM GMT+2  
**To:** Dr Michael L Brown <[REDACTED]>  
[REDACTED]

Hi Mike, it took me until now to finally *slowly* read everything below. Thank you for your detailed responses. And thank you for your invitation to continue asking questions, because I need to in order to fully understand things. If at any point, you are uncomfortable, just tell me to stop, and I will. I just have two questions.

1. You wrote below that [REDACTED] “had said some inappropriate things to me which I had documented in case I was ever accused of starting something with her; Sarah found that in a drawer in our bedroom while housesitting for us and watching our dog and she asked me about it.”

Do you still have that? If that exonerates you, are you able to share it with us? I am just following the logic—you documented it for exactly a day like today.

2. How did Sarah process this information? Were you concerned that she would share it with others? I know you said that the four of you decided it was best not to share it—you wanted to, but you honored their feelings—but how did Sarah deal with this knowledge? Was she asked not to talk about it? That is a massive secret for a young lady to carry around for 20-plus years.

Thanks!

Ron

## Reference #12

From: "Dr. Michael L. Brown" <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: follow up  
Date: 27 October 2024 at 2:35:22 AM GMT+1  
To: Ron Cantor <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Hi Ron,

Needless to say, this is all 100% in confidence with you, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] although they're quite familiar with everything I'm saying). Not a word can be shared outside (although I told Rebecca everything I've told you).

1. No, I didn't think of saving that at all, plus it would just be my word. In any case, she's deceased, we didn't commit adultery – to repeat, I have never had a physical relationship of any kind with any woman other than my wife from the day I got saved until today – and there's nothing more to say about it. The fact we had a wrong soul tie, that I repented, that all parties met, there was forgiveness, I made major lifestyle changes and got intensive counseling, and nothing even remotely repeated like that in my life – so, one misstep, not adultery, in 53 years – is nothing the rest of the world needs to know, unless repentance and forgiveness and righteous dealing with sin has no more meaning in God's kingdom.
2. Sarah asked me about it, she felt bad for me, we talked things through (it's all journaled), and I was careful to see how she was doing in the days that followed. As for asking her not to say anything, I don't think it dawned on me to do so. She really was like a daughter to us and very much on our side. And the only thing the note would have done was make the other woman look bad, not me.

That being said, I'm hoping you feel the need to know this because you want to be sure I'm ready for any question or accusation that will arise, since you're obviously not a witness from that time. In that case, again, I appreciate the love and concern. Truly.

What I'm sure of – and every leader I've spoken to confirms this, including some very mature, "streetwise" leaders – is that it's the devil who wants to broadcast any of this to the world (in which case, the Roys Report would defeat its whole purpose by becoming a tool of Satan rather than God), and unless they had evidence of some kind of grooming or abuse (which is a lie from the pit without a trillionth-percent of truth; that could be demonstrated on many levels, even with other testimonies), they would have zero reason to touch this. [REDACTED] confirmed this to me when we talked, and unless they decided to air a speculation of potential abuse that first arises 24 years after the fact and contradicts all previous documented testimony, which would be a tragic ethical violation in God's sight, airing unfounded speculation about an international leader, there's nothing to report.

I'm also sure of this, and with an absolutely clean conscience and assurance from God, I will see Isaiah 54:17 lived out. God really has my back. I know it.

(I realized upon re-reading things that I never replied the accusation about a third woman. I haven't the slightest clue who this could be, since I've never made a sexual advance at any woman in my life as a believer. I'd be laughing if it wasn't so sick.)

One last note (then I'll be leaving for YWAM in Kona tomorrow at 6:45 AM and so will just leave things here): I listened again to my message at IHOPKC, and what I asked for repeatedly was for BOTH SIDES – those defending Mike and those accusing Mike – to stop posting online and let the process unfold, which actually could have worked fine if the AG agreed to the law firm. It was BOTH SIDES I was addressing, not just those with concerns and allegations. Again, what I didn't know, and what I subsequently apologized for twice on the air, was how many wounded people there were out there and the internet was their place to meet and vent.

And you know I took time to preach against exalting people in the message too! 😊

Again, love you deeply, and we'll leave things here for now.

Blessings,

Mike

Reference #13

**From:** "Dr. Michael L. Brown" <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: One more note -- personally  
**Date:** 26 October 2024 at 5:04:45 PM GMT+2  
**To:** "ron" <[REDACTED]>

Ok, last note, then you can go back to concentrating on easy things like the Mike Bickle investigation (I feel for you!). No need to respond, and please, please, please be at peace. ALL IS WELL.

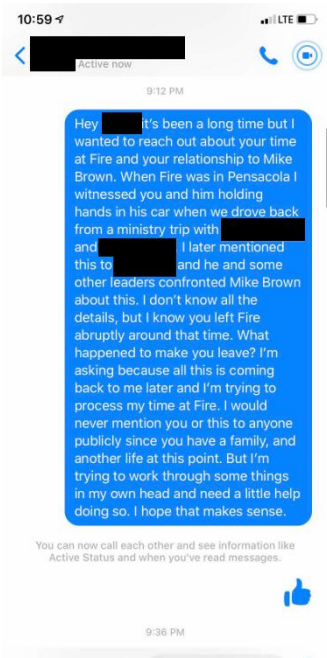
For the critics out there, why did I meet Sarah at Walmart? Think about it! I'd be at my office working late, her mom and dad would be fighting and she wanted to get out of the house and talk with me, so what should I do? She couldn't come to the office; we would be alone. We're not going to sit in a car in a parking lot and talk, and it's late. So, since I needed to get some things at Walmart, I told her to meet be there. THE WHOLE POINT WAS TO BE IN PUBLIC!!

Anyway, watch and see. Isaiah 54:17. I am not in denial. Watch and see! This is the way, way bigger than me.

I love you faithful friend!

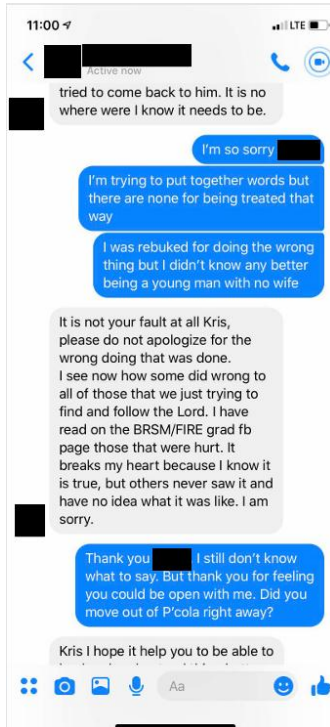
Reference #14

Text Messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah – Page 1 of 7



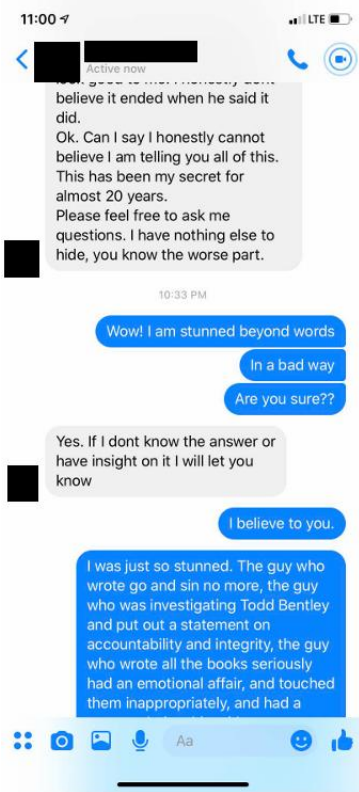
Reference #14

Text Messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah – Page 2 of 7



Reference #14

Text Messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah – Page 3 of 7



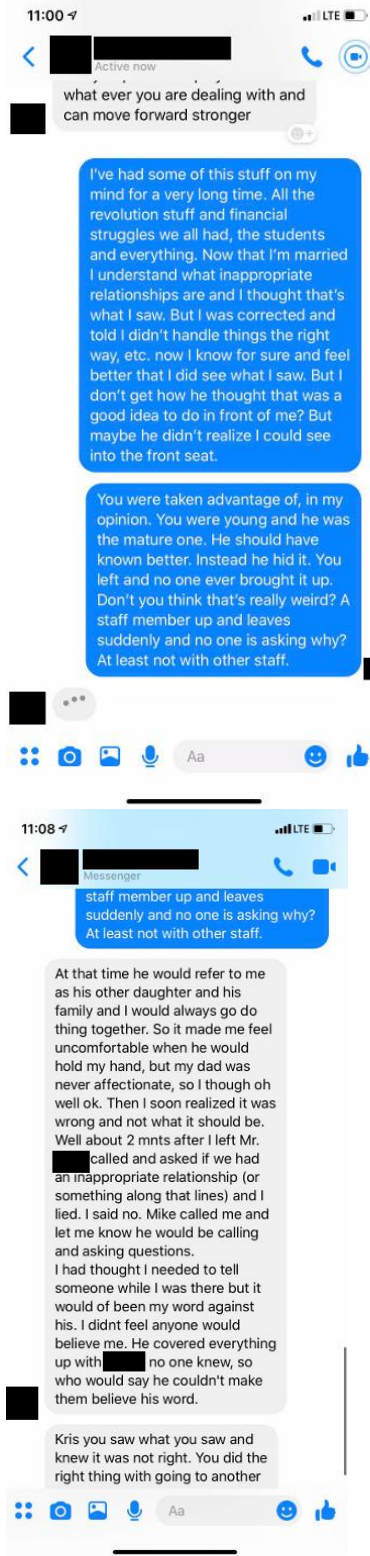
Reference #14

Text Messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah – Page 4 of 7



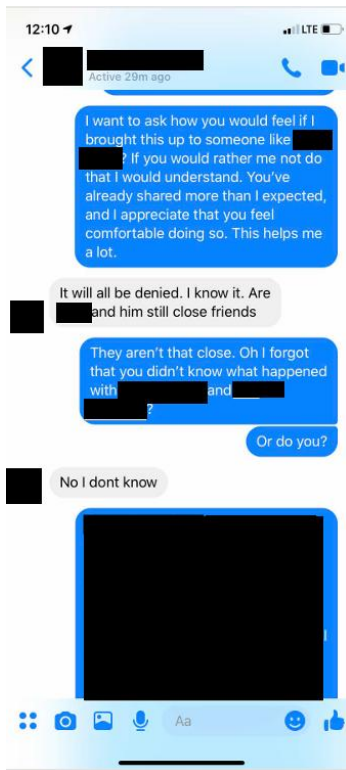
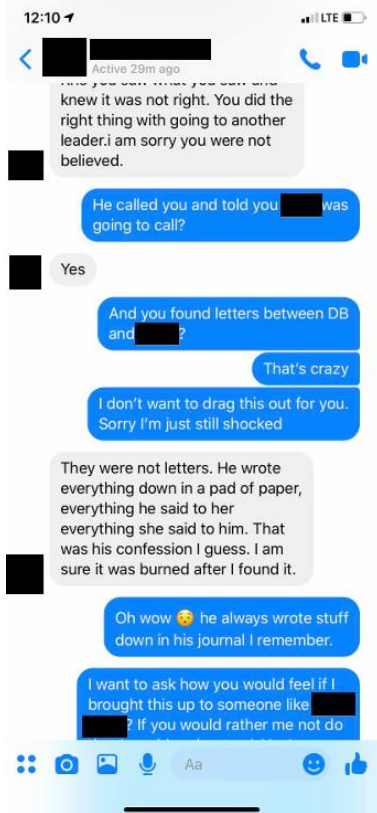
Reference #14

Text Messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah – Page 5 of 7



Reference #14

Text Messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah – Page 6 of 7



Reference #14

Text Messages between IW #2 Kris Bennett and IS #2 Sarah – Page 7 of 7

