



October 26, 2020

Dr. Russell Moore, President
Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the SBC
901 Commerce Street, Suite 550
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Dear Dr. Moore,

I, along with countless others, was sorry to hear about your dad passing away. I prayed for you and your family, with particular attention to praying for you as you preached his funeral.

We appreciate your stand on the sanctity of human life and marriage. Thank you. We also understand that, as a leader, you must lead according to your understanding of Scripture, its application, and your conscience before God. Please know we must do the same. After thirty-six years of pastoring SBC churches that enthusiastically contributed to our Cooperative Program, which, of course, includes all our entities, we at Trinity Baptist Church feel that we can no longer contribute to the ERLC.

This decision is the result of your leadership over several years. Your leadership and positions on a variety of issues over many years have led us to this time. We recognize that we will not agree on everything, nor do we even expect such. However, the cumulative effect has become more than we can justify according to Scripture.

The following is a list of the some of the areas we find disturbing: Your stand on illegal immigration and border control, elections, minimizing abortion by too closely associating it with other issues that can be generally called pro-life, being too accommodating of homosexuality, employing a policy director who can easily transition to the Biden campaign, arguing in disparaging ways against your fellow SBC brethren who disagree with you while employing straw-man caricatures, your V.P seeking to dissuade Tom Ascol from producing and promoting the Statement on Social Justice, interfering with a local church's decision about whom they

invite to speak (such as Dr. Patterson and your silence regarding his treatment at SWBTS, when you could have spoken without stepping into their area), apparent unguarded support of Beth Moore's weakening stand on homosexuality and advancement of egalitarianism, your take on racial issues (for the record our church has 10 different ethnicities in it and I have biracial family members), your silence on SBC churches and Grace Community Church undergoing serious church state conflicts in California when you were able to produce a video praising Justice Ginsberg immediately after her death; this coupled with your quick and certain previous support for building a mosque, your undermining of conservative professors, and we have yet to hear your voice any concerns about critical race theory and intersectionality, although I could have missed your comments on them.

These are but a few things about which we seriously disagree with the direction you have led the ERLC. We have been diligent in reading and listening to your positions, generous in spirit on our disagreements, and forbearing. But the time has come where we deem it unconscionable to support the ERLC financially. In some respects, the ERLC reflects pre-conservative resurgent days. Please do not interpret this change in funding as a lack of support and loyalty to the SBC because we are not decreasing our SBC funding, only diverting money away from the ERLC.

We are well aware that you disagree with the items we mentioned and can argue your side. We have read or listened to you present your positions, and we know about them from original sources. We simply view these and other issues in an irreconcilably different way. While we may have missed a statement from the ERLC with which we might agree regarding any of our concerns, it would not be sufficient to erase our other concerns.

We believe you and some other leaders are leading our convention away from the very principles for which we fought in the conservative resurgence. We are unwilling to sit by silently and watch that happen.

With deep regret,

Ronnie W. Rogers and the Elders of Trinity Baptist Church

cc: ERLC Trustees, Ronnie Floyd, President of the SBC Executive Committee, Pastor Mike Stone