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July 5, 2016

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
Joseph P. Carson, PE
10953 Twin Harbor Drive
Knoxville, TN 37934

**RE: Complaint of Joseph Carson against Pastor Larry Trotter, Concord United
Methodist Church**

Dear Mr. Carson:

I am writing you in my capacity as the attorney for the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church with the direction and approval of Bishop Mary Virginia Taylor, to address your concerns with the Reverend Larry Trotter at Concord United Methodist Church.

Of late, Reverend Trotter has been becoming more and more concerned about your behavior, to the point that he is becoming afraid for the Church staff and the congregation. Your repeated overtures to force Reverend Trotter to join into your personal concerns at work must cease. I have seen your threats to "engage in holy disobedience." I have read your threats as expressed to the Church Leadership Council to force the Church to bring charges against you so that you can have a public forum and to have Reverend Trotter removed as Senior Pastor of Concord United Methodist Church. That is not going to happen.

Your bullying has gone on for too long, and it is time for it to stop. If you do not cease and desist from trying to force Reverend Trotter and/or the Concord United Methodist Church congregation to give you what you want on your personal work issue, I am authorized to use the Courts to stop you. Cease and desist means that you drop this issue; no more letters, emails, threats or discussion of this issue with anyone at Concord United Methodist Church.

Further, the avenue to stop you will not be an ecclesiastical court, but a civil court to ban you from the premises of Concord United Methodist Church.

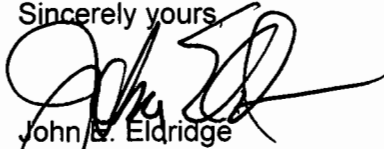
* Certified as a Criminal Trial Specialist by the Tennessee Commission on CLE and Specialization and the National Board of Trial Advocacy

† Rule 31 Listed General Civil and Family Mediator

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On the other hand, if you will cease and desist your current actions, you are welcome to remain at Concord United Methodist Church. It is simply that your have gone far enough and this must now stop.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John E. Eldridge". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John E. Eldridge

JEE/sc

cc: Mary Virginia Taylor, Bishop
The Reverend Larry Trotter