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To Whom It May Concern,

Serious public allegations have emerged against Sean Feucht and the nonprofit organizations that he founded related to financial impropriety and spiritual abuse. I worked directly with Sean and was part of Burn 24-7, an organization he founded, from 2012 to 2020 in various leadership roles, including US National Director from 2017 to 2020<sup>1</sup>.

My time with Burn 24-7 was full of amazing experiences and memories. I met so many dear people and saw God move powerfully. The Lord has used Sean in many positive ways, even in my own life. However, the issue at hand is not the impact of Sean's work, but the integrity of his leadership and the organizations he founded. An impactful ministry is not indicative of good character (Matthew 7:22-23). After much prayer, tears, and advice from wise counsel, I am now commenting publicly about these matters.

I stand in solidarity with the whistleblowers who launched [truthandfreedomstories.com](https://truthandfreedomstories.com), which provides evidence and stories upon which the allegations are founded. I also stand in solidarity with those who have yet to come forward publicly, but have shared their painful stories with me privately. Based on my relational history with some of the whistleblowers<sup>2</sup>, the growing amount of evidence, and my experiences with Sean and Burn 24-7, **I believe that the overall premise of these allegations is true regarding spiritual abuse and financial impropriety.**

Please review the detailed evidence presented on the website, which provides context for my letter. I was not involved in writing the formal statement there, and I might have worded things slightly differently. I am nonetheless adding my name to the statement to draw attention to this matter with the hope of seeing positive change.

During my time with Burn 24-7, I noticed many red flags, but I did not always respond bravely. In the name of "honor", I tended to ignore bad behavior rather than speak the truth in love. I also failed to warn those in my purview about the potentially harmful and toxic culture of the Burn 24-7 movement and Sean's leadership. I thought I was honoring the leaders over me by keeping bad experiences to myself, but I failed to honor my friends who were standing beside me or those who were under my leadership. True honor in the body of Christ should flow up, down, and all around, not just towards the senior leaders. I want to apologize for my cowardice in not confronting bad behavior. I also want to apologize for any way that I directly or indirectly tolerated or promoted an unhealthy ministry environment that caused harm to people.

It has been five years since I left Burn 24-7, but my conscience is weighing on me to speak out. I grieve for those hurt by Sean's behavior. The growing amount of evidence and stories is heartbreaking. God loves the victims very much. I have also been weeping in prayer for Sean. I know God loves him very much, and I'm deeply concerned.

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<sup>1</sup> See Addendum 1

<sup>2</sup> See addendum 2

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My delay in speaking out is also due to my journey of clarifying a biblical perspective regarding confronting people's sin in this manner. After much study and reflection, I believe Scripture teaches that it is right and good to bring the persistent sin of leaders to light in a public forum. 1 Timothy 5:19-20 says, *"Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear."* Sean has persisted in lying and slander (Colossians 3:8-9), along with other potential sins, without evidence of repentance.

My attempts at private confrontation with Sean, his pastors, and/or board members in recent weeks have proved ineffective at addressing these issues<sup>3</sup>. Many others have tried private confrontations over the years. Sean's recent public responses to the whistleblowers were defensive, threatening, gaslighting, and deceptive.<sup>4</sup> This is deeply concerning and indicates an ongoing lack of repentance.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is at work to purify the Church and its leadership in recent years. This has included public exposure of spiritual abuse from popular leaders in the Church. When sin is exposed publicly, both good and bad actors get involved. Atheists, disgruntled Christians, and heresy hunters pounce on every scandalous story. I refuse to align with that crowd. But amid the mess, I do believe God is cleaning His house and purifying His bride. I want to be cooperative with what He is doing.

For those wanting evidence, please review [truthandfreedomstories.com](http://truthandfreedomstories.com). My wife and I have recorded a video with some of our story that will be linked to from that site. There is more than enough evidence on the site to warrant action. If you have your own story, you can also submit it on that website.

Please note that this is a personal statement. I do not speak on behalf of any churches or organizations with which I am associated. If you have any questions or comments for me, you can visit [matthewdlilley.com](http://matthewdlilley.com) and click "Contact" on the menu. Though my time is limited, I will do my best to reply to any inquiries.

Sincerely,  
Matthew Lilley

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<sup>3</sup> See Addendum 3

<sup>4</sup> This video breaks down the specific lies in Sean's responses:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yA40nfy-Va0>

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## **Addendum 1: My Roles with Burn 24-7**

2012-2017 - Greenville, NC director (local)  
2014-2017 - USA Southeast Regional Director  
2017-2020 - Raleigh-Durham, NC Director (local)  
2017-2020 - USA National Director (this was a paid position)

As a regional director (2014-2017) and national director (2017-2020), I reported directly to Sean Feucht.

## **Addendum 2: My Relationship to the Whistleblowers**

I know that the whistleblowers' decision to speak out was made with many months of prayer, discernment, and consideration. One of them, Christy Gafford, is a friend and former colleague at Burn 24-7. Liam Bernhard, another whistleblower, was also a colleague whom I worked with closely in Burn 24-7. During my years working with them, both Christy and Liam demonstrated humility, integrity, and honesty. I have no reason to believe that their motivations are anything but sincere. I met another whistleblower, Richie Booth, during my time with Burn 24-7, but I did not work closely with him. I do not know the other whistleblowers, Peter & Amanda Hartzell, or Jesse Westwood.

## **Addendum 3 - Attempts at Private Confrontation**

- The last time I talked to Sean was in 2020 when I told him on the phone that I wanted to step away from Burn 24-7. After he knew I was leaving, he “handed off” the process of my transition to other board members and stopped talking to me. I attempted to keep a relationship in the years after my departure, but Sean did not respond to texts and calls. It was clear that he had no desire for an ongoing relationship.
- On June 5, 2025, I contacted Sean and the other Burn 24-7 board members (Adam Miller and Jamie Dickson) about the recent allegations via email. I did not receive a response. I sent a follow-up email on July 1 that resulted in a private, off-the-record phone call with Jamie Dickson on July 2. At the time of this letter, Sean and Adam have not responded to me. Note that Sean, Adam and Jamie are the board members of Burn 24-7 and Light A Candle, two separate nonprofit organizations founded by Sean. Sean Feucht Ministries is a separate nonprofit with a different board.
- Despite my best efforts, I have not been able to determine if the Feuchts are active members of a local church. If I had this information, I would have approached their local church's leadership to try to address these matters from that angle.
- Though I don't know them personally, I have also tried to contact the last known board members of Sean Feucht Ministries (Alvin Chun and Robert Zoellner). At this point, I

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have not been able to reach either of them. I have not been able to find anyone who can confirm the current board members of Sean Feucht Ministries.

- Over the years, many others have tried to confront Sean about the spiritual abuse in private conversations, but the pattern of behavior has continued.