

Southwest Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Attn: Executive Committee Members

RE: Appeal of Revocation of Ministerial Ordination Credentials – James Milam

29 May 2025

Dear Members of the Executive Committee,

Greetings, brothers and sisters. My name is James Milam. With God as my witness, I have served honestly, faithfully, and with integrity as a pastor in three conferences of the Southwest Union over the past 13 years.

Very recently, my ordination credentials were revoked—quickly and without any prior warning or notice—except for a basic email from the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference Executive Secretary the night before the action, informing me that the matter would be discussed by your committee. The following day, my ordination credentials were officially revoked.

I am writing to formally appeal what I believe to be a wrongful and improperly handled action. I am especially concerned about the procedural deficiencies and lack of due process in the handling of this matter.

To date, I have received no written notice outlining any allegations against me, nor was I ever given the opportunity to discuss, respond to, or defend myself against any accusations—prior to or during the Executive Committee’s meeting. I was not informed of the nature of any accusations, presented with any evidence, nor made aware of, let alone allowed to face, any accuser. The only explanation I received came in a phone call after the fact from the Union President, who shared some reasons for the decision—all of which, I can unequivocally say, are without foundation in truth.

This lack of transparency and due process is inconsistent with fundamental principles of justice and fairness, as recognized in American jurisprudence, and it violates biblical principles of church discipline, which emphasize impartiality, accountability, and the right to be heard before judgment is passed (cf. Deuteronomy 1:17; Matthew 18:15–17; John 7:51).

Accordingly, I formally request that the Union and if needed, the Arkansas- Louisiana conference provide a written copy of any and all accusations and accusers that were used in coming to the decision to revoke my ordination. Furthermore, I request all working policies, bylaws, or procedural guidelines that authorize or govern the revocation of ordination credentials. I prefer for this request to be fulfilled voluntarily rather than through formal discovery channels. Please email and standard mail the requested documents and policies within seven (7) days of the date of this letter to

302 Diamondhead Dr. Hot Springs, AR 71913

I have faithfully served the Seventh-day Adventist Church with dignity and commitment for 13 years. At a minimum, I was entitled to the courtesy of knowing the accusations made against me and being allowed to respond before judgment was rendered. The process used in this matter reflects neither the justice of heaven nor the fairness expected in any Christian or constitutional system. 1 Timothy 5:19 was not followed at any stage.

I urge the Executive Committee to reconsider the process by which this decision was made and to engage in an appeal process that reflects both transparency and the spirit of Christ.

It is also my desire and right that a copy of this appeal letter be distributed to each and every member of the Southwest Adventist Union Executive Committee within seven (7) days of its submission. Furthermore, I again request that a copy of the Southwestern Union's working policy be emailed/mailed to me within that same timeline. I ask for confirmation of receipt of this appeal letter upon delivery.

Finally, I ask that you prayerfully consider this more-than-fair request, and I remind each of you that we all will stand before the great judgment seat and give an account for all we have done—especially in the execution of our duties in the name of Christ.

In Christ,

James Milam



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