

# The DAF Report

*A fair report of domestic affairs*

## Spring Hill Church Betrays Father of Three

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Personal Opinion Column

Spring Hill – In 2008 my wife and I started attending Faith Evangelical Free Church in Spring Hill, Florida. We immediately became very involved with services as well as other church activities. I have been a musician all my life so needless to say I was more than honored when they asked me to join and lead the church band. They basically became our second family, and we always paid our share of tithes and donations to support our church.



Pastor Slayden MacGregor

As in a lot of marriages we were starting to experience our share of problems but nothing too out of the ordinary. We were a blended family, I had 3 children and she had one son. After several futile attempts with secular therapists we asked our church if they would assign someone to give us marital counseling. They were happy to help us with this need. Pastor Slayden MacGregor scheduled a few meetings with us together and then assigned Ed Murray, who also coached my wife's son's baseball team. Pastor MacGregor also offered a pair of tickets to the movie *Fireproof* and said that it this would help bring a new perspective to our relationship. It was a good start and it seemed to help for a short period of time.

Julie (fictitious name to prevent arrest) and I began having more and more problems. At one point she physically attacked me for looking at her cell phone. Sadly this occurred in front of two of our children. Don't get me wrong, our fights were mutual and at times I raised my voice, but NEVER did I hit my wife.

I was on my way to Washington D.C. for a meeting when I noticed our bank account was showing a substantial withdrawal. This was the beginning of the end of our marriage and I would never see her again outside of the occasional court hearing. She had moved out while I was gone and sent a message telling me she was going to get an order of protection against me and not to contact her; I was utterly shocked and in disbelief.

When I returned from D.C., I immediately asked Ed Murray to meet me at my house to ask for his help in saving our marriage. He agreed and said that he would have his wife work with Julie and he would work with me. He and Hannah, his wife, continued counseling us for 3 months until one fateful day in June.



Ed Murray, third from right

Although I was under a temporary injunction through civil court not to have contact with Julie, I did send her flowers. I didn't see the harm since I was under the impression we were "working on our marriage". I was never approached by the sheriff's department so I assumed that it was okay. Well it wasn't okay. On June 19<sup>th</sup> 2009, 3 months after the injunction was temporarily placed, I was arrested for Aggravated Stalking, a felony that carries a 5 year min, mandatory in Florida.

After my release on bond, I found out that my church counselor, Ed Murray, had provided the Hernando County Sheriff's Department with written testimony of our private conversations. This was someone I trusted my life with. Someone I gained spiritual and marital counseling from, someone who stood by Christian values, and professed the sanctity of marriage. I even told him that everything we discussed was to be kept confidential. Mr. Murray chose to believe on side over another in a troubled marriage and betrayed my trust in him and the church. (I can't disclose the contents of his testimony at this time because of my pending case, but I will once the trial is complete.) This was not only the premeditated work of Ed Murray in an attempt to hurt me and my family; this was fully monitored and approved by the Elder board of Faith Evangelical Free Church. During the time I could not attend the church they would send me CD's of weekly sermons and of course I continued to pay my weekly tithes.

His written testimony lead to the total destruction of my family. I lost my job, my home, and my children suffered immensely. I am now and will always be labeled as an abuser even though I was never arrested for abuse. There was never even a police report, witness, photograph, or anything prior to her accusation, just her verbal allegations. This is a prime example of what happens to people's perspective when exposed to fraudulent statistics and rhetoric regarding men being 95% of all abusers. Once Julie used the words "I was abused" the church immediately chose sides and began their "hidden war" against me, without even asking me if it was remotely true.

I have always believed in God, and for most of my life I have attended a church. I am not perfect and I would never claim to be, but I have morals and set of beliefs. Faith Evangelical Free Church ruined my view of "church" I'm not sure if I will ever trust another Pastor or spiritual counselor again. I drive by a church and I can even look at it; If I hear a preacher on the radio I immediately turn the channel.

These are scars that I will carry with me forever. I just hope that someday I can learn to trust again.

I have decided to file a lawsuit against FEFC for violating Clergy-Penitent Privilege, and if I do prevail I will use the majority of that award to build a facility in Hernando County to help men who have been abused or falsely accused. Recently Judge Tombrink, a Circuit Judge here in Hernando County, denied their motion for judgment on the pleadings. This basically means that we are one step closer to trial or a settlement.

**UPDATE:** October 13, 2011

Today my Attorney Scott Orsini announced that he will also be seeking damages from Ed Murray for a violation of Fiduciary Duty. Depositions begin November 3 and will continue throughout the remainder of the year.

For more details visit [www.falsedvireports.com](http://www.falsedvireports.com)

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