YMCA Welcomes Former Employee Larry Lee Back, After Firing Him For Sharing The Gospel.

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It's time to praise the Lord!

On Friday, July 23, 2004, I met with the Executive Director of the Cobb County YMCA, Tom McCleskey.

I am thrilled to report that Mr. McCleskey has welcomed me back to the East Cobb YMCA as a member in good standing.

Mr. McCleskey (<u>tomm@ymcacobb.org</u>) will be issuing a statement sometime during the day on Monday, July 26, 2004, to appear on the YMCA website (<u>www.ymcacobb.org</u>).

Terminated Member Reinstated (http://www.ymcacobb.org/news.asp)

The situation involving the terminated member of the East Cobb YMCA has been resolved to the satisfaction of both the YMCA and the member. As both parties took the opportunity to sit down and communicate reasonably, it became clear that this member was not and is not a threat to the safety or security of children. Therefore, the member has been reinstated as a member in good standing. Both the YMCA and the member agree that the safety of our children deserves the highest priority, and both are committed to upholding this important standard. The Cobb YMCA will move forward to create age-specific opportunities for individuals to share their faith, with complete confidence that the YMCA will remain a safe and healthy place for all children and adults. We look ahead to the future with great anticipation.

Tom McCleskey, Executive Director YMCA of Cobb County

The purpose of the statement will be to announce that this situation has been resolved, and that at no time did I pose a threat to the safety or security of anyone at the YMCA, which of course includes the two high school seniors with whom I shared the gospel of Jesus Christ on July 2, 2004.

I want to take this opportunity to first of all thank God for His incredible work in bringing this situation to a wonderful resolution. I also want to say that I thank God for all of you as my friends, many of whom I've never even

met, for your prayers and active involvement in this very important matter. This has been a very difficult 3 weeks for my family, as a false portrayal of "Dad" was being circulated on the World Wide Web. With the full restoration of my membership, the YMCA has cleared the air of any false accusations, and for that I am grateful. Both the YMCA and I agree that the safety of all people at the YMCA deserves top priority, and we agree that sharing the gospel respectfully and appropriately is certainly a worthy activity at a Christian organization.

My prayer is that this situation would serve to ignite fires all over this country to share the good news of Jesus Christ courageously, humbly and unashamedly.

And if you contact the YMCA regarding the resolution of this matter, please do so with every effort to be Christ-like in your manner.

God bless you all.



Larry Lee

