

Note: This complaint has been filed with the Dickinson, ND police department, and it is in hand-written form on their document. It has been transcribed to be made publicly available and for readability.

COMPLAINT

I came to River Church in Dickinson, North Dakota, on November 14, 2017, at approximately 6:55PM (local time). I was accompanied by a friend, Kyle Small. We both wore recording devices. After the song service, Rodney Howard Browne spoke about Donald Trump, the “New World Order,” and the banking system for approximately 1.5 hours. Browne then gave the microphone to the male pastor and then the female “pastor.” I took exception with her words, because of matters related to my deeply held religious beliefs (chiefly that she said they would impact the community through the preaching of God’s Word, but that they hadn’t – in fact - preached any of God’s Word that evening). I corrected the woman and gave my religious opinion, quoting the Holy Scriptures.

Without ever being asked to leave, I was taken out of the rented space by 6-7 men. I did NOT approach the crowd or the speakers. I did not threaten the audience in any way. The men, who had taken me to the hallway of the mall-type facility drug me out, in spite of me telling them I was leaving. They swore at me. They kneed me in my ribs and jabbed me in the side. They hurt my arms and neck. They threw me purposefully on the pavement. I sustained wounds on my hand, including a cut on my finger and severe bruising of my hand. I received a large contusion on my right side of my face. The lady “pastor’s” dad was the most violent to me. My companion repeatedly told them I was leaving and to stop hurting me. When I got off the ground, I told them, “You hurt me. I am bleeding.” They said, “good” – twice. Then they repeatedly told me they were going to call the police and I said, “Good. You have assaulted me.”

To clarify, I made no threats to the congregation. I walked toward no one. I was not asked to leave before being accosted. All of this is on both video and audio. I am currently awaiting to see the doctor for further assessment of my injuries. I have also included video and audio. I have also included photos of my injuries and a video recorded with police present, recalling the assault. I have submitted all the above for evidence.

To reiterate:

- (1) In this service, it was not uncommon for people to shout out.
- (2) No one asked me to leave.
- (3) Their use of force was not commensurate with the need. I did not refuse to leave and I did not resist being thrown out.
- (4) I sustained injuries from their inappropriate and unnecessary use of violent force.