

Jon Wilson

From: James Murnion <james@mss-lawfirm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 12:33 PM
To: Jessica Yuhas; Jon Wilson; Brett Jensen; Michael Sarabia; Joel Taylor (jtaylor@mmt-law.com)
Cc: Ryan Shaffer; Rob Stepans; Katy Gannon; Matthew Merrill; Barbara Bessey; Sylvia Basnett
Subject: RE: Deps of Shuster, Breaux, Smalley

Counsel,

On our call you refused to tell me if you would produce Shuster, Breaux, or Smalley for deposition unless and until you saw their deposition notices. I can assure you the notices will be substantially similar to the draft notices we sent you on September 29, 2022 and will contain the name of the deponent, their address (if known), and the time and place of the deposition—exactly what Rule 30(b)(1) requires to be in a deposition notice. Obviously, the time and place of these depositions are yet to be determined and will be updated once we all agree on dates that work for everyone involved. Please let me know if you have any questions, and if not, whether you will voluntarily produce these witnesses for deposition.

James C. Murnion
Associate Attorney



Montana Office:
430 Ryman St.
Missoula, MT 59802
Tel: 406-543-6929
Fax: 406-721-1799

Wyoming Office:
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From: Jessica Yuhas <jessica@mss-lawfirm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 10:44 AM
To: jwilson@brownfirm.com; Brett Jensen <BJensen@brownfirm.com>; Michael Sarabia <MSarabia@brownfirm.com>; Joel Taylor (jtaylor@mmt-law.com <jtaylor@mmt-law.com>
Cc: Ryan Shaffer <ryan@mss-lawfirm.com>; Rob Stepans <rob@mss-lawfirm.com>; James Murnion <james@mss-lawfirm.com>; Katy Gannon <katy@mss-lawfirm.com>; Matthew Merrill <matthew@merrillwaterlaw.com>; Barbara

Bessey <BBessey@brownfirm.com>; Sylvia Basnett <SBasnett@brownfirm.com>

Subject: FW: Deps of Shuster, Breaux, Smalley

Counsel,

Please see our attached letter of today's date. This will follow via U.S. Mail.

Thank you,

Jessica Yuhas
Paralegal



**Meyer, Shaffer
& Stepan, PLLP**

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From: Jon Wilson <jwilson@brownfirm.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2023 11:25 AM

To: Ryan Shaffer <ryan@mss-lawfirm.com>; Brett Jensen <BJensen@brownfirm.com>; Michael Sarabia <MSarabia@brownfirm.com>; Christopher Sweeney <Christopher.Sweeney@moultonbellingham.com>; Gerry Fagan <Gerry.Fagan@moultonbellingham.com>; jtaylor@mmt-law.com; Jordan.FitzGerald@moultonbellingham.com

Cc: Rob Stepan <rob@mss-lawfirm.com>; James Murnion <james@mss-lawfirm.com>; Matthew Merrill <matthew@merrillwaterlaw.com>; Katy Gannon <katy@mss-lawfirm.com>; Sylvia Basnett <SBasnett@brownfirm.com>; Barbara Bessey <BBessey@brownfirm.com>

Subject: RE: Deps of Shuster, Breaux, Smalley

Hi Ryan,

Would you be available for a call next Tuesday, April 25, at 2 p.m. mountain to discuss these issues? If that time works, we'll get a conference call set up. Thanks.

Jon A. Wilson
Brown Law Firm, P.C.
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Billings, MT 59103-0849
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From: Ryan Shaffer <ryan@mss-lawfirm.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 3:57 PM

To: Jon Wilson <jwilson@brownfirm.com>; Brett Jensen <BJensen@brownfirm.com>; Michael Sarabia <MSarabia@brownfirm.com>; Christopher Sweeney <Christopher.Sweeney@moultonbellingham.com>; Gerry.Fagan@moultonbellingham.com; jtaylor@mmt-law.com; Jordan.FitzGerald@moultonbellingham.com

Cc: Rob Stepans <rob@mss-lawfirm.com>; James Murnion <james@mss-lawfirm.com>; Matthew Merrill <matthew@merrillwaterlaw.com>; Katy Gannon <katy@mss-lawfirm.com>

Subject: Deps of Shuster, Breaux, Smalley

Gentlemen,

We would still like to depose Mr. Shuster, Mr. Breaux, and Mr. Smalley. Since your briefs on the matter emphatically state that you never refused to produce these witnesses for deposition, please let me know if you will now do so.

If not, I would like to schedule a time to confer regarding:

1. How the defendants identify and determine who qualifies as an apex witness;
2. Identification of individuals that you will produce for deposition who have substantially similar personal history and personal knowledge (for all time periods at issue in this case) of the JW Organization's corporate structure, the policies and procedures in place for handling accusations of child sex abuse, how the Service Department communicated with local congregations, and the process for the appointment and deletion of elders and ministerial servants; and
3. Any reason that Plaintiffs should not be permitted to depose Mr. Smalley.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Ryan R. Shaffer



**Meyer, Shaffer
& Stepans, PLLP**

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