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December 11, 2001

**By Facsimile and
Certified Mail/Return Receipt Requested**

Leonard D. DuBoff, Esq.
DuBoff Dorband Cushing & King, PLLC
Hampton Oaks, Second Floor
6665 S.W. Hampton Street
Portland, Oregon 97223-8359

Re: Harvest House Publishers and Its President Bob Hawkins, Jr.

Dear Mr. DuBoff:

This office represents Living Stream Ministry and numerous congregations of Local Church. For the past 11 months, our clients have attempted to engage in a dialogue with Harvest House Publishers concerning the contents of its publication *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CULTS AND NEW RELIGIONS*. That publication, as you surely know, is devoted to the debunking and condemnation of religious groups that the authors deem "cults." Its introduction is rife with disparaging factual accusations against these "cults," and with expressions of intolerance toward them. As you must also know, The Local Church is one of the groups described in the *ENCYCLOPEDIA*. Its inclusion therein is simply wrong. The Local Church is not a "cult" and possesses none of the purported attributes of culthood described in the *ENCYCLOPEDIA*.

On three occasions, The Local Church asked to meet with the *ENCYCLOPEDIA*'s publishers to explain the Church's true beliefs and practices and to disabuse them of any false assumptions that they may harbor. In this connection, The Local Church provided the publishers with voluminous written and electronically accessible information that demonstrates beyond doubt that the Church is free of the characteristics of culthood identified by the authors. All of these efforts were met with indifference and delay. Harvest House continued -- indeed accelerated -- the publication and distribution of the *ENCYCLOPEDIA* without ever giving our clients an opportunity to show them the truth. Every day that the *ENCYCLOPEDIA* is distributed, our clients suffer further harm.

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In its last letter to The Local Church leaders, Harvest House President Bob Hawkins asked for additional time to respond to our clients' plea for discussion and correction. In our view, the time for reasoned discourse has long passed. However, our clients have, in a final attempt to resolve these issues, decided to afford Mr. Hawkins even more time to respond to their refutation of the falsehoods set forth in the *ENCYCLOPEDIA*.

Conditioned upon Harvest House's and the Authors' execution and return (receipt by us) of the tolling agreement enclosed herein by Tuesday, December 18, 2001, Mr. Hawkins will be afforded up to and including Wednesday, January 15, 2002 in which to respond to our clients. If he fails to provide an adequate response within that time, The Local Church will have exhausted its efforts to settle this matter without recourse to the courts and will proceed accordingly.

Very truly yours,


Barry B. Langberg

BBL:ds

Enclosure

c: Deborah Drooz, Esq. (W/ENCL)