

Statement of Matthew L Dilello

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A Rood Awakening Ministries

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I became involved with Michael Rood and the A Rood Awakening ministry as a volunteer member of "The Rood Crew" in early 2003. I lived and worked as a volunteer alongside Michael Rood (MJR), Judith Rood, Roberto Umaña, Chaim Goldman and others in Israel for approximately 2 ½ years. My initial round trip flight out to Israel as a volunteer was paid for by me. While in Israel working as a volunteer, my compensation was room and board and one round trip flight to the States and back, usually in the fall of each year. While a volunteer in Israel I was not paid a salary. I continued as a full time volunteer up until the point I moved to Costa Rica in late 2005. After moving to Costa Rica I continued in various capacities to assist the A Rood Awakening Ministries with remote video and graphic editing and web design for the Spanish outreach of ARA.

While visiting family in the states I was notified by Bill and Angie Bishop that Michael Rood had arrived in Costa Rica. Neither the Bishops nor I had received any advance notice from Michael or from anyone on his new team of his coming to, or intention of coming to Costa Rica. While Michael Rood was in Costa Rica I was informed that he had attempted to gain access to the data and hardware belonging to A Rood Awakening Ministries (Un Roodo Despertar) from the Heredia, Costa Rica office. Again, this was without notifying those that actually run the Costa Rica office (the Bishops). Michael was not successful at that time. I was also informed through email correspondence that Michael had attempted to persuade Roberto Umaña into removing materials from my home, without notifying me or requesting permission. Roberto Umaña refused Michael Rood's request of him to contact my mother-in-law, who also lives in Heredia, Costa Rica, in order to gain entry to my place of residence and take what Michael desired without my prior consent.

Michael Rood and I have not personally spoken or corresponded since we last spoke in Costa Rica in 2005, nearly two years ago. Communication to and from ARA was through the ARA ministry not specifically through MJR.

Evidence of Wrongdoing by MJR?

The following is a quote from Michael Rood's "reallyrood" website referring to an A Rood Awakening private board meeting audio tape that was unintentionally sent to Don Harris:

“I ask you to click on and listen to their conspiracy to destroy all you have invested in and to stop the work of the ALMIGHTY with which HE has entrusted us. “

I have carefully listened to the entire 2 hour, unedited board meeting that Michael Rood altered into a much shorter 32 minute, 54 second clip, and which he posted to his website. The above quote by MJR is referring to this edited audio clip.

I obtained the MJR mp3 edit through his recently created website (reallyrood.com). I opened the mp3 file with SoundForge and took a look at the audio wave form. Seventy-one visible markers were left by Michael Rood's editor or by Michael himself - Michael is familiar with Soundforge and sound editing. These markers indicate where most of the cuts/edits were made. A marker left on the wave form may just be for a note but can also be the place for an edit (cut, move, addition, etc). A marker is not required to make an edit.

I have made a detailed comparison of the original un-cut version alongside the version posted by Michael Rood ([see screen shots](#)). These screen shots show exactly where all edits were made from the analysis of the markers and audible comparison of both wave forms. It is very apparent to me that Michael Rood's alterations show a clear attempt to falsify the actual intent of spoken statements.

I personally have no evidence of a conspiracy being carried out by anyone other than MJR. The only attempts that I am aware of, to destroy and slander, are coming from Michael Rood as this audio comparison demonstrates.

Michael states again on his website that he,

“will continue on the path the Almighty has laid out for this ministry with the handful of honest and dedicated staff that are committed to living the Torah and not just spouting the words.”

Who is being honest? If the man, Michael Rood, says he teaches Torah but evidence show contrary to the teacher walking Torah, can you trust him?

From my perspective, Michael Rood seems to be under a grand delusion that somehow he is the victim and is above reproach. By evidence of his recent actions, specifically the audio manipulation, I don't see how he can spin that into Torah compliance.

Addendum:

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

I received a phone call at around 5pm central time from a man who identified himself as Charles Barrett. He was calling on behalf of Michael Rood whom he said was, at the time of the phone call, in Oslo, and soon on his way to Iceland. I asked Mr. Barrett how I could help him, and he explained that he had been in touch with IMS in Colorado who handles part of the production of A Rood Awakening Ministries broadcast materials. Mr. Barrett explained to me that he spoke to someone at IMS by the name of Robbie, about the status of The Jonah Code programs. Mr. Barrett stated that this person at IMS had directed him to me because I was currently editing the shows together and had about 11 more to complete. I confirmed to Mr. Barrett that there was more to do on The Jonah Code broadcast series, and that I was awaiting further instructions from A Rood Awakening Ministries on how to proceed.

Mr. Barrett promoted the idea that I was being paid, or could be paid for my service by Michael Rood for the program completion. In other words not through ARA. I clearly indicated that my work on The Jonah Code was contracted to A Rood Awakening Ministries and not solely to Michael Rood.

Mr. Barrett attempted to engage in a hypothetical business analogy to get into some like minded context with me. Mr. Barrett wanted to engage in legal issues about the use of Michael Rood's image and name.

At one point during the phone call I expressed to Mr. Barrett that I was surprised that Michael Rood had not attempted to contact me himself with an explanation for his recent actions and conduct on his new website. I told Mr. Barrett that I viewed Michael's internet posts as slanderous. Mr. Barrett then went on to say he supposed there were things from both Michael Rood and Jamie Louis that were probably inappropriately done, or mishandled, but that Michael was the victim and that if there was legal action by Michael it was Mr. Barrett's opinion that the law would find Michael as such. As Mr. Barrett and I were not in agreement the call eventually ended without any resolution.

I sill have had no communication from MJR other than this call on his behalf.

- Matthew L Dilello