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Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2007 9:44 AM

To: bwshank@stthomas.edu

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Subject: Peter Freeman and Nexus

Dear Dean Shank,

Thank you for addressing Peter Freeman about my email to you (concerning his role in the devastation of our residential neighborhood by erecting a large, private commercial mega-compound to house convicted sex offenders). I do apologize if I've come off sounding too strong. Its been a difficult time for us all up here over these past six months of hell. The fact is, not only am I trying to save my farm and protect my 84 year old mother (her peace of mind is forever shattered), I'm also kind of fighting for my life right now. For me personally, the stress of fighting against Freeman's sex offender facility seems to have knocked me out of the ten year remission I'd been quietly enjoying prior to Peter's corporate "home invasion". Last week, *while I was hospitalized*, I received word from Nexus' litigation attorneys that besides everything else Nexus has done, now they intend to sue me.

I thought you should be aware that this was their reaction to whatever you said to Peter.

Sorry to trouble you with this. Its hard to put into words the frustration that Nexus has imposed on all of us. They refuse to acknowledge any of the citizens whose lives they are affecting. I wish that Peter had left me with a little dignity instead of hanging up on me when I tried to talk to him. What would you do to save your home? I don't know what else to do but to holler loudly and often and to all - until perhaps one day someone will listen.

J.J.

<http://millelacsnews.com>

Dear Dean Shank,

Until a health crisis abruptly ended my career, I taught music at the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University. As a faculty member, I acted not only as a teacher, but also as a representative of the college and its mission. Assuming that similar protocol exists at the College of St. Catherine and St. Thomas University, I am writing to you concerning one of your faculty members who is engaging in unethical, immoral, and possibly even illegal behavior - which reflects directly upon your social work department at St. Thomas University.

Peter D. Freeman sits on the Board of Directors for NEXUS, a large corporation which owns and operates Mille Lacs Academy, a facility for juvenile sex offenders. For the past six months, my neighborhood has been fighting to keep NEXUS from building a huge new facility in our rural residential (R1) neighborhood. Although the proposed location is absolutely inappropriate, the NEXUS board is determined to bully its way into our neighborhood regardless of our objections.

The proposed compound will house 94 inmates (with room for expansion). Each inmate has been adjudicated through the courts, and convicted of sexual crimes which have caused harm. This is not a locked facility. NEXUS has admitted that these sexual offenders are dangerous. Yet, they insist on building this multi-building complex next door to a little girl and her family. Right next door to an elderly single woman. This sex offender institution will be built next to three day care centers. There is a disabled woman down the street, plus a frail little old lady who lives alone, families with children, and other vulnerable citizens. Peter Freeman is forcing these sex offenders into our neighborhood, into our lives.

Not only is this the wrong location for the sex offender facility, the methods of acquiring this property are suspect, with NEXUS in league with our corrupt small town government. Our research has shown that NEXUS itself is a questionable organization. It is quite complex and I'll spare you all the details here, but please visit our website for more information. <http://www.millelacsnews.com>

Recently I telephoned board member Peter Freeman hoping to discuss our neighborhood's concerns. I'd hoped that if he became aware of our objections, he would be sympathetic to the families whose lives are being ruined by this aggressive NEXUS takeover. As soon as I told him I was calling about NEXUS, he hung up on me. Click. Extremely unprofessional. Exceptionally rude. This bad behavior earned him a place in **Hannabelle's Hall of Shame** on the Internet. Publicity may be the only way we have of fighting back against the oppression of NEXUS.

I realize that we are not part of the immediate St. Thomas community. We hope that the values stated in your mission statement would apply to our community as well. Your faculty member - Peter Freeman - is making decisions down in St. Paul which are greatly impacting on the lives of many people in Bradbury Township. He will not even honor us by listening to us. His actions are responsible for so much suffering, yet he will not take responsibility for the harm he is causing. He is like the fellow who - in between sips of coffee - pushes the button that launches the missile which destroys the village, then holds up his hands, saying, "See? No blood on MY hands."

What he and NEXUS are doing is wrong. I know that the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University would not condone such activities by their faculty representatives. Such behavior would not be allowed or tolerated. There are other, *appropriate* places for the sex offender facility which won't jeopardize people. A residential neighborhood is no place for this type of institution. I hope that you will talk to Peter Freeman about finding a different location, and about respecting the citizens he is abusing; local residents who are being stripped of our rights to self-determination. This situation is terrible. Peter Freeman needs to know how badly he is hurting us. And he needs to stop. Can you help us? Can you tell him? Maybe Peter Freeman won't hang up on you.

Please let me know what happens. We are fighting for our homes; for our chosen way of life. This is an important and urgent matter.

Thank you,
J.J.

J.J. Swift
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