

Members for Church Accountability

Newsletter—Fall 2014

This newsletter is to provide the MCA membership with a link to the video presentation at the San Diego Adventist Forum by David Dennis in May 2010. The presentation is entitled "Transparency and Accountability in the Seventh-day Adventist Church"

As you know David Dennis, CPA was the former Director of the SDA General Conference (GC) Auditing Service. He served the church in that capacity for the final 19 years of his 35-year career.

At the 1988 GC Spring Meeting, President Neal Wilson supported the union presidents and hospital administrators by urging removal of salary caps for Adventist Health executives.

After the motion eventually passed, Dennis sent an open letter to Wilson, dated April 17, 1989, which reads in part, " It did seem strange that after admitting to serious financial failures and mounting debt far beyond accepted norms in the United States, these leaders should now ask for higher pay. Few businessmen could ever accept the assumption that if a manager is ineffective while earning an annual salary of \$75,000 he will somehow be successful if his salary is raised to \$140,000."

After the letter circulated, President Wilson demanded the letter be retracted. Dennis' response was that he would be happy to do so if any inaccuracies could be identified in the letter.

Further, subsequently while working under a later president, Dennis uncovered financial corruption related to the Church's president and one of his vice presidents.

It was easy to predict that the GC administration would find a way to terminate their Director of the Auditing Service. In deed, he was summarily terminated in 1994.

In David Dennis' video presentation he refers to Members for Church Accountability (MCA) and to the book *Who Watches? Who Cares?* published by MCA in 2008.

The video is available for your viewing pleasure at <http://vimeo.com/21960349>

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