

The following is an email from Paula Barone in response to a request for comment—Barone inserted her answers after the questions. Email addresses have been redacted.—nothing else has been altered.

From: Paula Barone <*****>
To: Samuel Stickle <*****>
Date: Monday - November 9, 2009 10:35 PM
Subject: Re: MVNU political endorsement

On 11/9/09 9:19 PM, "Samuel Stickle" <*****> wrote:

> Paula Barone,
>
> I'm working on an article for accountabilityinthemedia.com regarding
> MVNU Dean Sonja Smith's endorsement of you for Mount Vernon school
> board.
>
> Did Smith review, before publication, the ad that was run in the Mount
> Vernon News on 11/02/09? (The print ad had the following headline: "MVNU
> Dean Sonja Smith recommends Paula Barone.")

Actually, she wrote it.

>
> Did Smith provide her recommendation of your candidacy on Mount Vernon
> Nazarene University letterhead? (The print ad includes it as being on
> MVNU letterhead.)

The ad layout used Sonja's name and title, as provided by her.

>
> I had the impression that you had a strong stance on avoiding mingling
> of church and state. Do you see any problem with running an ad that
> portrays someone who works for a religious organization as endorsing
> your candidacy in their official capacity?

No.

>
> Please reply as soon as possible.

>
> Sincerely,
>
> Sam Stickle
>