



Former board member sues Collin County gay group over his removal

Nunn's lawsuit seeks no monetary damages; Garcia says board acted in best interests of alliance

By David Webb
Staff Writer

A member of the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance's board of directors who was removed from his position on Nov. 20 has filed suit against the group and its officers.

James David Nunn, of Frisco, claims in his lawsuit that by removing him from the position the group's officers failed to represent the best interests of the group, failed to adhere to the group's bylaws and falsely accused him of undertaking "inimical activity towards the membership and the organization."

The lawsuit seeks no monetary damages, but "only to correct the injustice that has occurred," according to a written statement issued by Nunn.

In his lawsuit, Nunn claimed that the group's officers failed to provide adequate notice of charges against him before they held the hearing on Nov. 20 to remove him.

"I was not able to review the charges against me so I was unable to provide the appropriate defense," Nunn said in an interview.

The charges listed against Nunn on a special meeting notice dated Nov. 19 claims he failed to uphold the interests of the organization and failed to perform his duties, obligations and fiduciary responsibilities to the group.

The charges leveled by other board members claimed that Nunn undertook actions to dismantle the group's organizational structure, and that he exercised poor conduct and judgment.

The charges criticize Nunn for contacting a No Nonsense in November campaign representative and asking her to speak at an event sponsored by the group in September without consulting other members of the board of directors and for sending copies of e-mails about the resulting internal conflict to other organizations.

Morris Garcia, president of the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance, defended the group's removal of Nunn in a statement.



James David Nunn says the board of the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance's lacks professional courtesy.

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“The board of CCGLA has made all decisions with the entire organization’s interests in mind, rather than individual preferences, and in a manner that we believe ensures that our organizational mission and objectives are met,” Garcia said.

Nunn said the group’s officers apparently decided to remove him from the board on Nov. 16 when he, as president of the Collin Equality Foundation, led the foundation’s other trustees in a vote to take the authority for appointing their membership away from the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance.

Garcia asked him to resign from the board of directors during that meeting, he said.

The Collin Equality Foundation is the charitable arm of the Collin County Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Nunn said the trustees of the Collin Equality Foundation decided to remove the authority for appointing their membership from the group’s officers because it would be better for the charitable arm to be more independent. The founding group’s lobbying activities influenced that decision, he said.

Nunn, who helped draft the group’s initial bylaws, said he believes other members of the board of directors had become hostile to him and uninterested in his input. Although the start of meetings had been held for some other board members, he was not given the same courtesy, he said.

“There seemed to be a lack of professional courtesy,” Nunn said. “My ideas didn’t receive as much enthusiasm because it was coming from me.”

Garcia said in his statement that Nunn’s removal was unrelated to his opinions.

“Mr. Nunn’s removal as a director of CCGLA was not about the lack of valuing diverse opinions, but about acting in the best interest of the organization,” Garcia said.

Nunn said that he tried to settle the matter without filing a lawsuit, but his efforts were rebuffed.

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