

June 11, 2020

Dear Parents and Students of Atlanta Leadership College,

It is with a heavy heart that we come to you with this update.

In the last 72 hours, we have seen disturbing reports posted on various social media platforms with egregious stories and accounts from alumni and previous staff of ALC. We are now aware of these grave concerns as well as questions from some of our own church family. We have wept and prayed for all who have been negatively affected.

On May 28, a student brought to our attention allegations of sexual misconduct involving Jordan Marcon, Director of ALC. Our findings, after a comprehensive investigation, led to the immediate termination of Mr. Marcon. We immediately reached out to the affected student with ongoing support and counseling.

Also, a prayerful decision was reached to close the school based on the following factors, which we knew at that time:

- Current and ever-changing COVID-19 restrictions on in-person gatherings
- Ongoing national financial crisis
- Reduced enrollment at ALC
- A realignment of our discipleship processes

On June 5, an email letter was sent to enrolled students informing them of our decision to close the school. We felt our obligation was to them first, as the closing of the school would require them to quickly adapt their plans. A portion of this letter was also posted on the ALC website.

After a meeting with Jeanne Mayo on June 4, she tendered her resignation. We did question her about some areas of concern following the incident with Jordan. Nothing was revealed to give us cause for greater concern at that time.

At that time, we were unaware of other serious issues or concerns of former alumni regarding the leadership and conduct of ALC. Any concerns brought to our human resource department's attention about ALC were of a less serious nature and did not indicate any of the alarming activities that are now coming out on social media.

In the last 72 hours, posts and emails revealing allegations which we find very disturbing in the treatment of students and staff have come to our attention. These have included inappropriate hazing rituals, bullying, and some spiritual abuse by the leadership team of ALC. These findings, though unknown to us previously, only serve to underscore our decision to close the school. We would never have supported such activity at any time under any circumstances.

We have also noted that numerous others have posted or emailed positively of their time at ALC.

Needless to say, we are working to make certain that the actions of Victory Church are thorough and above board. It is our intent to operate in integrity and with concern and compassion for ALC students and/or staff members who may have suffered harm. Our hearts are broken over these recent disclosures, and you must know that we are earnestly praying for healing and redemption for all involved.

We opened our doors to ALC eight years ago based on trust and respect. We now realize some of that trust was violated by the unfortunate actions of a few. We have come to the conclusion that due to these numerous allegations, we can no longer in good faith support the Cadre and Youth Leader's Coach under its current leadership.

Thank you to those who came forward to share their stories, both good and bad. We will do our part to see a redemptive process.

Thank you for your grace, your understanding, and your prayers during this time of discovery and transition.

At His feet,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis" and "Colleen Rouse" joined together.

Pastors Dennis and Colleen Rouse