



# TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

Academic Affairs and Research

P.O. Box 12788 Austin, Texas 78711 • 1200 East Anderson Lane 78752

MacGregor M. Stephenson, J.D.,  
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November 18, 2011

Kevin Lemoine, Ph.D.  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
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Robert E. Johnson  
Dean  
Central Baptist Theological Seminary  
6601 Monticello Road  
Shawnee, KS 66226-3513

Stacey Silverman, Ph.D.  
Senior Director of Academic Research  
and Grant Programs  
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512/ 427-6200  
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Dear Mr. Johnson:

Web site:  
<http://www.thehb.state.tx.us>

You inform us that the Central Baptist Theological Seminary, located in Shawnee, Kansas is a religious postsecondary educational institution. You further inform us that the only programs the Central Baptist Theological Seminary intends to offer are in religious studies.

In *H.E.B. Ministries v. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board*, 235 S.W.3d 627 (2007), the Texas Supreme Court held that sections 61.304 and 61.313(a) of the Texas Education Code, which regulate the activities of degree-granting institutions, may not constitutionally be "applied to a religious institution's program of religious instruction." Provided that the Central Baptist Theological Seminary's activities are, as you have informed us, entirely religious in nature, they are outside the purview of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

As a reminder, it is also necessary that the Central Baptist Theological Seminary apply for and receive an exemption from Chapter 132 of the Texas Education Code through the Texas Workforce Commission.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Mr. Fred White, Program Director, Career Technical Programs, by telephone at 512.427.6238 or via email at [Fred.White@thehb.state.tx.us](mailto:Fred.White@thehb.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin Lemoine".

Kevin Lemoine

AAR/fw