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Pastor Barry E Philbeck
2032 Bethlehem Rd
Kings Mountain NC 28086-8289

December 8, 2022



“The First Amendment was written not to protect the people and their laws from religious values, but to protect those values from government tyranny.” — RONALD REAGAN

Dear Pastor Philbeck,

Two years ago, the NCLL adopted the theme “Times Are Changing in America.” This year, with the relentless assault on religious freedom in our country, we’ve realized just how prescient that theme has become.

It’s been 50 years since President Reagan’s campaign speech on religious liberty. When I began practicing law a generation later, I saw firsthand how government seeks to silence Christian voices. **But under Biden’s rule, we’re witnessing an unprecedented war against churches and ministries on multiple fronts, every single day!**

And the NCLL desperately needs your help to continue this frontline battle!

Would you consider giving a year-end Partner donation to help the NCLL continue to fight against the now daily assaults on religious freedom?

On January 16, 2022, in Biden’s Religious Freedom Day proclamation, he managed to say the quiet part out loud, emphasizing “diversity, equity, inclusion” in the guise of religious liberty. But those who champion God’s Word as the basis of liberty are savvy enough to hear this as a “dog whistle”—a call for oppression and division designed to marginalize the very foundations of a nation that needs Christ once again at its core.

Consider just these few threats to religious freedom from the most radical administration in my lifetime:

- Biden’s Build Back Better Act keeps schools, churches, and other religious organizations from accessing critical infrastructure funds to make much-needed improvements.
- Biden supports the Equality Act, which essentially rescinds the Religious Freedom Restoration Act that provides churches and ministries exemptions for employment and housing.
- Biden’s Department of Health and Human Services added sexual orientation, gender identity, and pregnancy termination to its nondiscrimination requirements, which would impede on doctors’ conscience rights, forcing them to perform procedures to which they object.

As I wrote in my last letter, *the NCLL is experiencing its busiest year since our organization was founded over a decade ago!*

We’re on pace to receive 10,000 incoming calls, representing over 5,000 churches in need of legal assistance. This is **DOUBLE** the number of calls we received during the COVID-affected 2020-2021 time period.

And litigation against the churches and ministries we serve has increased over 300%!

With an unprecedented demand on our legal services, would you consider making a special year-end Partner donation to help us continue providing legal assistance to the many who call our office daily for help?

This drastic increase in our workload has kept our team extremely busy and necessitated an “all-hands-on-deck” mentality. As greater threats to our ability to live freely as Christians are codified into law, the NCLL must be poised to respond swiftly and decisively to defend our beliefs.

Your continued support will help us serve each and every church that calls with a legal problem.

**Will you prayerfully consider a generous Partner gift before December 31?
We can't continue this critical mission without your faithful, ongoing support.**

I'm so humbled and grateful for your prayers and devotion to protecting our religious freedoms.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry. God Bless.

Sincerely,



David C. Gibbs III
President and General Counsel

P.S. On a final note, I want to say how thankful I am for the victories God has given us despite these challenges. In the ever-changing legal landscape, and with the increase in litigation, human nature tempts us to focus on the negative. Thankfully, we have countless stories of God working to bring victory and healing. I wish I had the space to share all the stories of cases that God resolved in a way that truly brought glory and honor to His name.