

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**Subject:** MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo  
**Location:** Jennie's office / 4257

**Start:** Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:00 AM  
**End:** Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:30 AM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer

**Organizer:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Required Attendees:** Laco, Kelly (OPA); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Optional Attendees:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 13, 2018 10:06 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

No worries, let me know if there is a time that works today or tomorrow and I will make it work! Thanks.

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 10, 2018 6:11 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Let's aim for early next week. Sorry couldn't fit this in today.

Jennie

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)

**Sent:** Thursday, August 9, 2018 6:10 PM

**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Yes, if you have time tomorrow, that would work for me.

Thanks!

**Kelly Laco**

Office of Public Affairs

Department of Justice

Office: 202-353-0173

Cell: (b) (6)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

**Sent:** Thursday, August 9, 2018 5:42 PM

**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Thanks, Kelly. We ended up meeting today with Beth and Jesse. I think it would be worth meeting in person (b) (5) — could we try to do that sometime soon?

Copying Rachael too for her awareness.

Jennie

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 6:56 PM

**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Jennie/Jeff,

(b) (5)

Once the planning meeting occurs tomorrow, let's circle back on Thursday or Friday (b) (5)

Thanks,

Kelly

**Kelly Laco**

Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

**From:** Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 11:26 AM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Kelly, good morning and thank you for your email. (Also hi, Devin!)

I had included the information you sent last night in the original piece. Whether Kerri was a speaker or a moderator, she spoke at the event and was on the program — moderating is arguably an even more authoritative role — so that's a matter of semantics. But I'm happy to entertain an update if you think the piece needs one.

Your reply doesn't answer my questions. So, as I continue to report on this Religious Liberty Task Force, I'm reiterating all of my earlier questions and several new ones. Please let me know as soon as possible when you are able to provide this information.

(b) (5) - Contains internal, deliberative markings



(b) (5) - Contains internal, deliberative markings



There is tremendous public interest in this task force, and I'm looking forward to reporting on all of its work to date and its proceedings as they occur. Thank you for your help.

Dom

**Dominic Holden** | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed**  
Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](#)  
111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

On Mon, Aug 6, 2018 at 7:08 PM Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

You can attribute the background information to a DOJ spokesperson.

Thanks.

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 7:04 PM  
**To:** 'Dominic Holden' <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)>

Cc: O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Subject: RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Hi Dominic,

Wanted to follow up on background on a few points you addressed in your article.

The following is for your background (not attributable):

• The Task Force does not litigate cases. It is a combined unit of leadership overseeing the Department's work on the issue of religious liberty to ensure consistency in the Department's approach.

• The Task Force has five goals:

○ Facilitate Department component compliance with the October 2017 memoranda

○ Address novel, recurring, or cross-cutting issues in the Department's work involving religious liberty;

○ Facilitate interagency coordination;

○ Engage in outreach to the public, religious communities, and religious liberty organizations to obtain feedback on compliance; and

○ Develop new strategies that involve litigation, policy, and legislation, to protect and promote religious liberty.

• The Justice Department continues to engage with stakeholder groups that were consulted prior to October's announcement. This engagement occurs via listening sessions, which occurred both in the months leading up to the task force announcement last week and in the days following.

In addition, Kerri Kupec was a panel moderator, not a speaker.

Thanks,

Kelly

**Kelly Laco**

Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

From: Dominic Holden <dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com>

Sent: Monday, July 30, 2018 4:28 PM

To: Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>

Subject: RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Great. Thank you.

Dominic Holden | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed**  
Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](#)  
111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

On Mon, Jul 30, 2018 at 4:22 PM Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Looking into some of those details for you.

Thanks.

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

**From:** Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:18 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Thank you, but this doesn't address most of my questions.

**Do you have a first meeting scheduled? If so, when and where is it?**

**If a meeting is not scheduled, do you know approximately when it will be?**

**Will the meeting be open to the public and/or press?**

**What is the agenda for the first meeting?**

**Which individuals will be on the task force to represent the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Civil Division, the Civil Rights Division, the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the Office of Legal Counsel, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, a U.S. Attorney's Office, and other components?**

**Which private groups will be invited to participate in the listening sessions?**

Thank you.

Dominic

Dominic Holden | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed**  
Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](#)  
111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

On Mon, Jul 30, 2018 at 4:11 PM Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi Dominic,

The memo language is included below. The last two paragraphs should address your questions. In addition, the AG's speech from the Summit can be found [here](#).

Thanks,

Kelly

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

July 30, 2018

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: HEADS OF DEPARTMENT COMPONENTS

FROM: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

SUBJECT: Religious Liberty Task Force

Freedom of religion has been a core American principle from the very beginning of our country—indeed, it is our “first freedom.” President Trump promised that he would make preserving and protecting our religious liberty the first priority of his administration. The Department of Justice is committed to assisting with that effort.

On October 6, 2017, I issued a *Memorandum to All Executive Departments and Agencies on Federal Law Protections for Religious Liberty* (the “Religious Liberty Memorandum”). This Religious Liberty Memorandum, which the President directed me to issue in Executive Order 13798, explained twenty key principles of religious liberty in U.S. law, and provided direction to agencies in four areas: agencies as employers, rulemaking, enforcement actions, and contracting or grant-making.

The same day, I also issued a memorandum within the Department of Justice instructing components on how to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum (the “implementation memorandum”). This implementation memorandum called on components to incorporate the Religious Liberty Memorandum in all aspects of the Department’s litigation, in advice to other agencies, in Department operations, and through its own rulemaking and its interagency rule review. The implementation memorandum required components to notify the Associate Attorney General of all issues that arise which implicate the Religious Liberty Memorandum. It assigned to the Office of Legal Policy the responsibility to review every Department rulemaking or other agency action submitted for Department review by the Office of Management and Budget to ensure its consistency with the Religious Liberty Memorandum, and it designated the Office of Legal Policy as the point of contact for any questions about either document.

Since the issuance of the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum

the Associate Attorney General's office and the Office of Legal Policy have together coordinated the Department's compliance with both memoranda. The Associate Attorney General's office and the Office of Legal Policy also have worked collaboratively with staff from several other components, drawing on their expertise in this area to ensure compliance with the memoranda and to identify additional opportunities to protect and promote religious liberty.

In order to institutionalize this process, and to leverage the expertise and experience of diverse components within the Department to identify new opportunities for the Department to engage with the issue of religious liberty, today I have established a Religious Liberty Task Force (the Task Force). I will serve as Chair of the Task Force, with the Associate Attorney General serving as Vice Chair for Litigation and the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy serving as Vice Chair for Policy. The Task Force will be further composed of representatives from the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Civil Division, the Civil Rights Division, the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the Office of Legal Counsel, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, a U.S. Attorney's Office that I will designate, and other components that I may designate from time to time to aid in the Task Force's work.

The Religious Liberty Task Force will continue the Department's ongoing work to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum. The Task Force will also consider new initiatives that will further the Department's work to protect and promote religious liberty. To that end, the Task Force will: 1) facilitate Department component compliance with the memoranda; 2) address novel, recurring, or cross-cutting issues in the Department's work implicating the memoranda; 3) facilitate interagency coordination regarding the Religious Liberty Memorandum; 4) engage in outreach to the public, religious communities, and religious liberty organizations to obtain feedback on compliance with the Religious Liberty Memorandum; and 5) develop new strategies, involving litigation, policy, and legislation, to protect and promote religious liberty.

Please direct any questions about the Religious Liberty Task Force to Jeffrey Hall in the Office of the Associate Attorney General, [Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-0124; or to Jennie Bradley Lichter in the Office of Legal Policy, [Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-4606.

**From:** Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 3:47 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Hi, Jeffrey and Jennifer (copy Kelly).

I have a few questions about the Religious Liberty Task Force.

**Is there a memo establishing the Task Force?**

**When is the first meeting of the Task Force?**

**Who are the members of the Task Force?**

**What sort of activities will the Task Force undertake?**

**Does the Task Force have any agenda for its first meetings or is there any other information about what the Task Force will do in its first meetings?**

Thank you.

Dominic

Dominic Holden | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed**

Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](mailto:@dominicholden)

111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

**Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)**

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 5:00 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Didn't press send, sorry:

I've got to run to another quick meeting, but can prob be available 4:45 or later.

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 4:21 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

I can come up at 4:30, if that works!

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 3:56 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

I do. If Jennie is free, I can talk whenever works for her.

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 3:47 PM  
**To:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Yes, thanks Devin.

Jennie/Jeff—let me know if you have a few minutes to chat about this today so I can get back to Dominic from BuzzFeed.

Thanks!

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

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**From:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 3:38 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Also, Kelly- you should work with Jeff and Jennie (b) (5)



Thanks

Devin

**Devin M. O'Malley**  
Department of Justice  
Office of Public Affairs  
Office: (202) 353-8763  
Cell: (b) (6)

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**From:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 3:23 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Thanks, Kelly.

Hi Jennie and Jeff- This is the article that resulted from this inquiry. (b) (5)



Thanks

Devin

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/dominicholden/the-justice-department-is-keeping-secrets-about-its-new>

Devin M. O'Malley

DEVIN M. O'MALLEY  
Department of Justice  
Office of Public Affairs  
Office: (202) 353-8763  
Cell: (b) (6)

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 2:55 PM  
**To:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

**From:** Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:28 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Duplicative Material



**Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)**

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 4:44 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** Re: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Headed there now

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 6, 2018, at 4:35 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hey, Kelly is in my office – are you coming down?

---

**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 3:56 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Duplicative Material



**Laco, Kelly (OPA)**

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 4:30 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Yes, heading up in a few.

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 4:26 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Can you guys come to my office? I'll only have a few minutes but would like to be a part of the conversation. Thanks.

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 4:21 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Duplicative Material



**Laco, Kelly (OPA)**

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:05 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Yes, thanks!

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 3:58 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) <kkupec@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Kelly are you on this one too?

**From:** Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 3:47 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Duplicative Material



## **Dominic Holden**

---

**From:** Dominic Holden  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 11:26 AM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Cc:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Kelly, good morning and thank you for your email. (Also hi, Devin!)

I had included the information you sent last night in the original piece. Whether Kerri was a speaker or a moderator, she spoke at the event and was on the program — moderating is arguably an even more authoritative role — so that's a matter of semantics. But I'm happy to entertain an update if you think the piece needs one.

Your reply doesn't answer my questions. So, as I continue to report on this Religious Liberty Task Force, I'm reiterating all of my earlier questions and several new ones. Please let me know as soon as possible when you are able to provide this information.

**Who was invited to participate in the listening sessions/meetings thus far?**

**What are the dates of all the meetings/listening sessions held thus far?**

**Who attended those meetings/listening sessions?**

**Can you provide the invitations, agendas, and minutes from those meetings — in addition to any other documentation/records of what was to be discussed and actually discussed?**

**Were any White House representatives invited to or present at any of the meetings/listening sessions thus far? If so, who were they?**

**Were any congressional representatives invited to or present at any of the meetings/listening sessions thus far? If so, who were they?**

**Will future the meetings/listening sessions be open to the public? And if so, how will they be announced?**

**Will future the meetings/listening sessions be open to the press? And if so, how will they be informed?**

**Will/does the task force include any members who are not government employees or who represent other federal agencies?**

**Will/has the task force's meetings/listening sessions include any non-government employees who attend more than once? If so, who are those people?**

**Which individuals will be on the task force to represent the Office of the Deputy Attorney**

General, the Civil Division, the Civil Rights Division, the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the Office of Legal Counsel, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, a U.S. Attorney's Office, and other components?

Are any members of the task force not Christian?

Will the task force accept complaints directly, as Williams indicated in a WILK radio interview? How will those complaints be handled?

What sort of complaints will the task force deal with? For example, will the task force consider complaints involving private disputes, such as employment or business transactions, or will it only consider complaints involving government entities (including contractors)?

How will the task force handle and dispose of complaints?

Do you have a next meeting scheduled? If so, when and where is it? Who has been invited? What is the agenda for that meeting?

When was the task force — or any body like it — first conceived to exist within the Executive branch and when is it expected to terminate?

If the Justice Department believes it is not obligated to disclose any, part, or all of this information, can you please explain why?

There is tremendous public interest in this task force, and I'm looking forward to reporting on all of its work to date and its proceedings as they occur. Thank you for your help.

Dom

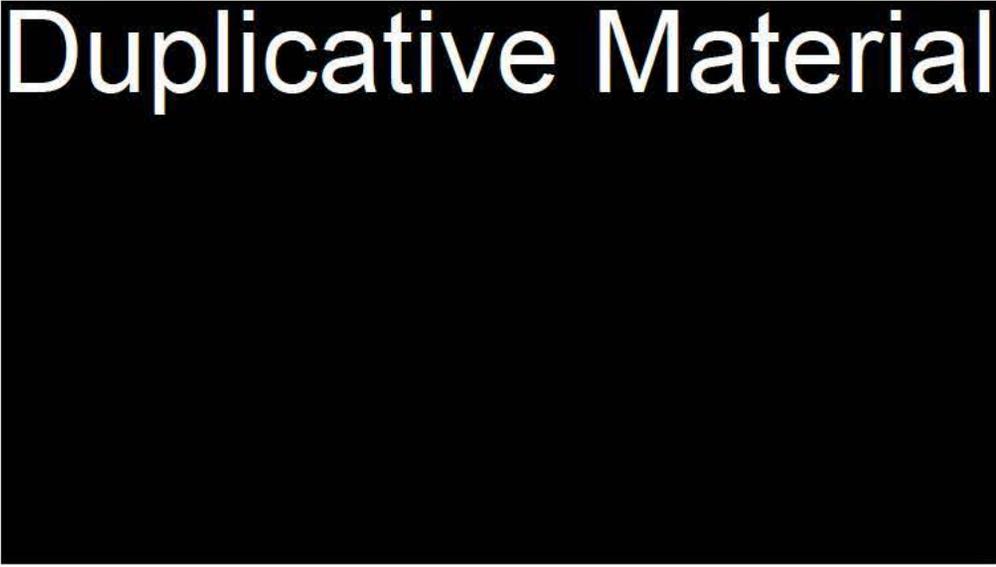
Dominic Holden | Political Reporter | **BuzzFeed**

Desk: (646) 668-3199 | Mobile: (b) (6) | [@dominicholden](https://twitter.com/dominicholden)

111 East 18th St, New York, NY 10003

On Mon, Aug 6, 2018 at 7:08 PM Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)> wrote:

# Duplicative Material



**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 9:41 AM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** FW: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Wanted to loop you in on OPA's ongoing conversations with this reporter from BuzzFeed re the task force. I  
(b) (5)

But wanted to touch base with you first. Do you have time for a quick chat?

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 6:56 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: MEDIA — task force schedule, agenda, membership, and memo

Jennie/Jeff,

I want to bring your attention to this follow-up email from the BuzzFeed reporter. (b) (5)

Once the planning meeting occurs tomorrow, let's circle back on Thursday or Friday to put together a productive and informative schedule or list of information so that I can update reporters on more details about the Task Force.

Thanks,

Kelly

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

**From:** Dominic Holden <[dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com](mailto:dominic.holden@buzzfeed.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 11:26 AM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Duplicative Material**

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 12, 2018 8:31 AM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP)  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** Re: Thanks and follow up

Oh good idea - thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 11, 2018, at 10:41 PM, Williams, Beth A (OLP) (b) (6) wrote:

(b) (6) Thanks Jennie!

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 11, 2018, at 9:58 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Beth (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I'll aim to set a short meeting with him for later in the week and will let you know when it is scheduled in hopes that you can stop by.

Jennie

---

**From:** Williams, Beth A (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 10, 2018 2:45 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Thanks and follow up

Duplicative Material - See September 16, 2020 Production, Bates Stamp Page 20200218-0002713

[REDACTED]

Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 10:07 PM  
**To:** Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: ATTORNEY GENERAL JEFF SESSIONS DELIVERS REMARKS AT THE ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM'S SUMMIT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

I've been completely shocked by how much ppl care about this – on both the right and the left. But it's very gratifying! (b) (5)

---

**From:** Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 8:18 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: ATTORNEY GENERAL JEFF SESSIONS DELIVERS REMARKS AT THE ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM'S SUMMIT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

I think you mean 100,000 tweets about YOUR task force

On Aug 8, 2018, at 8:01 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

100,000 tweets about the task force?!?!?!?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs <[USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com)>  
**Date:** August 8, 2018 at 7:37:00 PM EDT  
**To:** <jennifer.lichter@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** ATTORNEY GENERAL JEFF SESSIONS DELIVERS REMARKS AT THE ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM'S SUMMIT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY  
**Reply-To:** <[USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com)>

 The United States Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2018

**ATTORNEY GENERAL JEFF SESSIONS DELIVERS  
REMARKS AT THE ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM'S**

## SUMMIT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

### *Remarks as prepared for delivery*

Thank you all for being here.

On behalf of the President of the United States, Donald Trump, I want to thank all of you for your work for and commitment to religious freedom at such a time as this.

As President Trump said to the National Prayer Breakfast last year, “freedom of religion is a sacred right, but it is also...under threat all around us...I’ve never seen it so openly [threatened].”

This is a problem around the world.

In the Middle East, some religious minorities like the Yazidis and Christians, after centuries of coexistence with religious majorities, are facing the possibility of extinction.

In Russia, it is illegal to be a Jehovah’s Witness or to publish their translation of the Bible.

In the Philippines, three Catholic priests have been assassinated so far this year. In June, a priest was shot to death at the altar right in front of the congregation.

According to Pew Research, 82 countries have “high” or “very high” restrictions on religion.

These facts reflect a rise in religious persecution in areas of the world where religious groups have been able to live peacefully together.

To avoid such results, our Founders made a commitment to religious freedom that was truly historic—and it remains exceptional today.

The Founders understood the evil of religious persecution and violence. They intended this country to be a safe haven where law-abiding people could live quietly, justly, and devoutly.

The clearest expression of this idea perhaps came from James Madison and shaped the American consensus.

Americans moved from the Locke view of tolerating people’s religious views to respecting and acknowledging one’s right to freely exercise their religious faith.

As Madison expressed it: “Religion; or the duty one owes to our Creator,” cannot be directed by government power, and that duty “... is precedent in order of time and degree of obligation to the claims of civil society.” He declared that right, “Unalienable.”

The final product—the First Amendment—actually gives religious expression a double protection in the supreme law of the land. Not only do we possess freedom to exercise our beliefs but we also enjoy the freedom of speech.

Twenty years later, in 1812, former President John Adams remarked that “nothing is more dreaded than the National Government meddling with Religion.”

Adams and Jefferson were political opponents—but they agreed on the human right of religious freedom. But that consensus seems to be eroding. We've seen nuns ordered to pay for contraceptives. We've seen U.S. Senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about their dogma—a clear reference to their religious beliefs—even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office.

Here in Georgia, there was a religious liberty bill proposed in the legislature. Those moral enforcers, Bob and Harvey Weinstein, were so offended that they threatened to stop filming their movies here. The people of Georgia don't measure up to the Weinstein standard.

And, of course, we've seen the ordeal faced bravely by Jack Phillips. He simply refused to yield his beliefs. And perhaps most tragically, I hear that his ordeal is far from over. But that's why ADF and other groups are right to give serious thought to and to take action on these matters.

The people of this nation are still the most religious nation in the developed world.

Yet people of faith are facing a new hostility. Really, a bigoted ideology which is founded on animus towards people of faith.

You'll notice that they don't rely on the facts. They don't make better arguments. They don't propose higher ideals.

No, they just call people names—like “hate group.”

Does that sound familiar?

You know I'm from Alabama—the home of the Southern Poverty Law Center, an organization that did important work in the South, vital work at a pivotal time. As you know well, the law is only words on paper until there are people brave enough to stand up for their rights.

There were hate groups in the South I grew up in. They attacked the life, liberty, and the very worth of minority citizens. You may not know this, but I helped prosecute and secure the death penalty for a klansman who murdered a black teenager in my state. The resulting wrongful death suit led to a \$7 million verdict and the bankruptcy of the Klu Klux Klan in the South. That case was brought by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

But when I spoke to ADF last year, I learned that the Southern Poverty Law Center had classified ADF as a “hate group.” Many in the media simply parroted it as fact. Amazon relied solely on the SPLC designation and removed ADF from its Smile program, which allows customers to donate to charities.

They have used this designation as a weapon and they have wielded it against conservative organizations that refuse to accept their orthodoxy and choose instead to speak their conscience. They use it to bully and intimidate groups like yours which fight for the religious freedom, the civil rights, and the constitutional rights of others.

You and I may not agree on everything—but I wanted to come back here tonight partly because I wanted to say this: you are not a hate group.

You have a 9-0 record at the Supreme Court over the past seven years—and that

includes two of the most important cases of the last term. Two of those nine cases were 7-2, one was per curiam, and one was 9-0. In the lower courts, you've won hundreds of free speech cases.

That's an impressive record. These are not fringe beliefs that you're defending.

You endeavor to affirm the Constitution and American values.

As for me, I am not going to apologize for the United States of America or our First Amendment. I am not ashamed of this country or our people. This is the greatest, most generous country in the history of the world.

Let me say this loud and clear: at the Department of Justice, we will not partner with hate groups. Not on my watch.

I have ordered a review at the Department of Justice to make sure that we do not partner with any groups that discriminate. We will not partner with groups that unfairly defame Americans for standing up for the Constitution or their faith.

The American people care about this issue. Many people are deeply concerned about it.

Americans from a wide variety of faiths are asking themselves, how much longer until I am in Jack Phillips' position? How much longer until the state, the media, the academy, the tech companies, or the global corporations come down on me because of my beliefs?

Fortunately, President Donald Trump has heard these concerns. Unlike some, he is not afraid of the name-calling and the fake news. He has endured relentless media attacks in order to speak up for the forgotten people of this country. He made a promise—and from day one of this administration he has delivered. He is defending religious freedom at home and abroad.

Just last week, the Treasury Department sanctioned Turkey's Minister of Justice and Minister of the Interior, both of whom played leading roles in the arrest of American pastor Andrew Brunson.

Turkey was kind enough to return the favor—and sanction me. Yes, I was informed that they have frozen all of my Turkish assets.

President Trump has appointed 24 circuit court judges, more than any other president at this point in his presidency. One out of every seven circuit court judges is a Trump judge.

These are judges who will honor their oath to serve under the Constitution and laws of the United States. They are not above them.

Shortly after he took office, President Trump directed me to issue legal guidance to ensure that all executive agencies would faithfully apply the religious liberty protections in federal law.

Our team embraced that challenge. I spoke about it at the ADF conference in Dana Point last July.

I issued that guidance in October, and it lays out 20 fundamental principles for the Executive Branch to follow.

Under this guidance, the federal government is not just reacting—we are actively seeking, carefully, thoughtfully and lawfully, to accommodate people of faith.

And under President Donald Trump, this Department of Justice is going to court across America to defend the rights of people of faith.

We are aggressively enforcing our civil rights laws, our hate crimes laws, and laws protecting churches and faith groups.

Since January 2017, we have obtained 11 indictments and eight convictions in cases involving arson or other attacks or threats against houses of worship. Our Civil Rights Division has also obtained 13 indictments in other attacks or threats against people because of their religion. And we are not slowing down.

Three weeks ago, we obtained a jury verdict against a man who set fire to a mosque in Texas and a man from Missouri for threatening to kill members of a mosque.

Yesterday, we obtained a life sentence for a man who murdered an Indian-American man—a Sikh as it turned out—because he thought he was Muslim.

And in addition to protecting the safety of people of faith, we are also protecting them against unjust discrimination.

The Department of Justice has settled 24 civil cases with 90 plaintiffs regarding the previous administration's wrong application of the contraception mandate to objecting religious employers.

Earlier this year, a district court in Colorado issued a permanent injunction protecting the Little Sisters of the Poor from a government mandate that unnecessarily and unlawfully restricted their right to exercise their faith. In this case, the Department took the unusual step of formally switching sides in the case from the previous administration to successfully support the result that they sought.

In January, we filed a brief in a Montana court to defend parents who claim that the state barred their children from a private school scholarship program because they attend a religious school.

We also filed an amicus brief on behalf of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., which was refused advertising space for having a religious message.

And we filed supporting briefs in two ADF wins you may have been celebrating this week—Masterpiece Cake Shop and NIFLA.

We got involved in a lawsuit filed by ADF against Georgia Gwinnett College, a taxpayer-funded school that punished a student for sharing his faith outside of a designated “free speech zone.”

How big was that free speech zone? Just 0.0015 percent of campus — and even inside the free speech zone, you need permission. Give me a break. It is exercise of religion and free speech.

There has been a lot to be proud of in the past year. But at the Department of Justice, we are taking steps to become even more effective for the years ahead.

In June, I announced the “Place to Worship” Initiative. Under this initiative, the Department of Justice is holding public events across America and improving training for federal prosecutors about legal protections for houses of worship.

That same day, we filed suit against a town in New Jersey for using zoning regulations to allegedly discriminate against an Orthodox Jewish congregation that tried for eight years without success to buy land for a synagogue.

In July, we filed a brief in federal court supporting the case of a Hindu temple in Maryland that claimed to have suffered discrimination in its attempts to purchase land.

Last Monday we held a religious liberty summit at the Department of Justice and I announced our next steps. I announced our new Religious Liberty Task Force.

More than 100,000 people tweeted about it. It was the third most tweeted-about topic on Earth at one point that day. Late-night comedians joked about it—although ‘joke’ is a generous term for their doings.

Contrary to the elites and their “resistance,” this task force is simply going to help us fully protect our religious freedoms that are preexisting, unalienable.

It will make sure that we practice what we preach by holding federal agencies accountable to federal law.

It will help us identify more cases that are right and just and deserve to be brought.

We intend to keep winning.

We will not be intimidated, of that you can be sure.

Under President Donald Trump, we are going to continue to uphold the Founders’ tradition of religious liberty—and we will keep defending the rights of the American people.

###

AG

18 - 1032

Do not reply to this message. If you have questions, please use the contacts in the message or call the Office of Public Affairs at 202-514-2007.

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**Treene, Eric (CRT)**

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 5:11 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** Task Force  
**Attachments:** Task Force Structure.docx; Ideas Coming Out of the Listening Sessions.docx

Jeff,

Attached is an outline for the structure and goals of the task force. Also attached is a list of all the ideas coming out of the listening session, (b) (5)

I will send you some CRT stats separately.

None of this has gone through John yet, so this is just to aid you.

Eric

Goeglein, Tim

---

**From:** Goeglein, Tim  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 11:07 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Freedom Task Force / DOJ / timely query

(b) (6)

Cheers

Tsg  
+

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2018 11:06 AM  
**To:** Goeglein, Tim  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Freedom Task Force / DOJ / timely query

Hi Tim - what's your number?

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 7, 2018, at 11:00 AM, Goeglein, Tim <[Tim.Goeglein@fotf.org](mailto:Tim.Goeglein@fotf.org)> wrote:

My friend Kerri –

We were so honored and pleased to be included in all the events surrounding the task force.

A very key question please: I have heard from lots of folks who are asking a single question: who will comprise the task force?

Will welcome hearing from you.

Warm regards

Tsg  
+

**Jeremy Dys**

---

**From:** Jeremy Dys  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 11:24 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** DOJ Religious Liberty Task Force Continues American Tradition of Prioritizing Religious Liberty

<https://townhall.com/columnists/jeremydys/2018/08/06/doj-religious-liberty-task-force-continues-american-tradition-of-prioritizing-religious-liberty-n2507237>

**Jeremy Dys**  
Deputy General Counsel  
[jdys@firstliberty.org](mailto:jdys@firstliberty.org)

 First Liberty Logo

**First Liberty Institute**  
*Religious Liberty for All Americans*

o. (b) (6)  
f. 972-423-6162

[2001 W Plano Pkwy](#)  
[Suite 1600](#)  
[Plano, TX 75075](#)  
[FirstLiberty.org](#)

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**Hudson, Andrew (OLP)**

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**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 6, 2018 1:43 AM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP)  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Subject:** NPR Interview this morning  
**Attachments:** (b) (5) TPs--Aug 7 interview DRAFT.docx  
**Importance:** High

Good evening/morning,

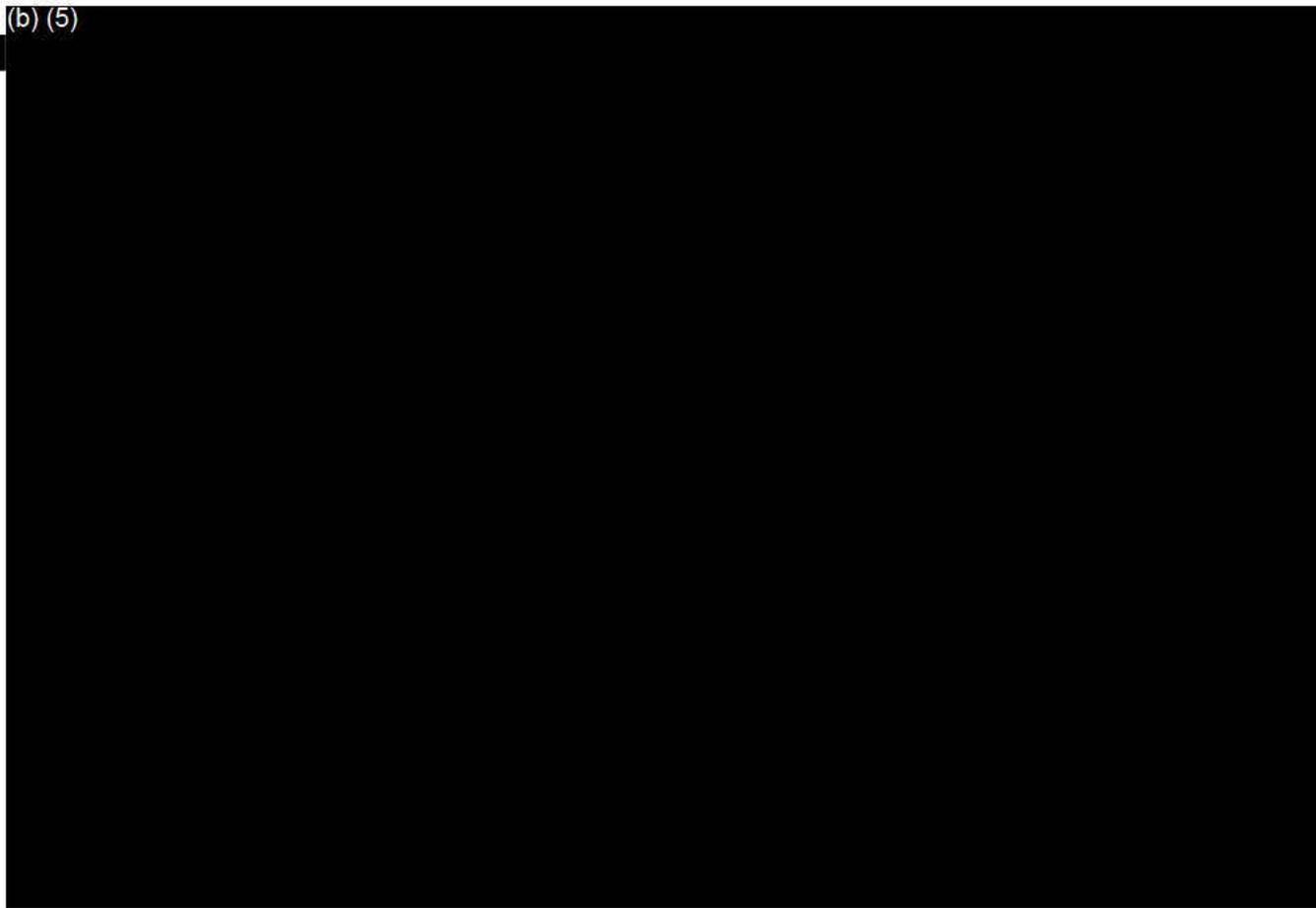
Attached to this email are draft talking points for your **10:30am interview** this morning. (b) (5)

[Redacted]

(b) (5)

[Redacted]

(b) (5)



-Drew Hudson  
202.305.9136

(b) (6)

**Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)**

---

**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 5, 2018 10:46 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Thanks, Jennie.

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 5, 2018 9:18 PM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

We just talked for awhile. I'll review the TPs when he sends them around but he should have all the info he needs now.

---

**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 4:57 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

You may want to proactively reach out to him.

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 4:47 PM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Thanks. yes, please do. (b) (5)

---

**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 4:41 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

We landed on a 10:30 interview. I'll send out an invite to remind everyone. (b) (5)  
When I get it this weekend, I will loop you in.

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 4, 2018 4:39 PM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Katie, where did this interview land on the calendar for Monday? Do you think we should build in a little more prep time or is Beth pretty comfortable at this point?

Thanks!  
J.

---

**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 3, 2018 9:20 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Jennie,

Do any of the below morning radio interview times work for you? (b) (5)  
Thanks!

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 3, 2018 6:56 AM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Actually, if at all possible, can we make it one of the morning times? My afternoon on Monday is filling up quickly and the 1:30 time would not work for me.

On Aug 2, 2018, at 7:30 PM, Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Thanks, Drew. I'll get back with you.

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 2:49 PM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

The most relevant email chain is below if you want more context, but here are the important details:

What: "The Takeaway" (NPR affiliate program based in NY)

Interviewer: Tanzina Vega (host of The Takeaway)

When: Monday, Aug 6, at either 10:00, 10:30, 1:00, or 1:30

Anticipated discussion topics:

- Establishment of Religious Task Force,
- What Powers Does it Have, How will it implement them
- What areas of interest will it focus on and how will it determine them?
- Why create such a task force, what's the need?

If you can confirm for me which time is best for Beth's schedule, I'll work with Kelly and the producer to set it up.

Thanks!

-Drew

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 11:48 AM  
**To:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <[ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

"The Takeaway" NPR (NY based) – they can interview Beth on Monday @ 10, 10:30 am, 1:00 or 1:30 pm.

Talked to them on the phone (as well as receiving their anticipated Qs below), and (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 11:44 AM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Hey Kelly,

Like we talked about on the phone we're looking to discuss the Religious Liberty Task Force

- Establishment of Religious Task Force,
- What Powers Does it Have, How will it implement them
- What areas of interest will it focus on and how will it determine them?
- Why create such a task force, what's the need?

Happy to do a pre-interview with whomever you selected to get an idea of what the conversation will be like. I'm a producer and I prepare materials for our host -- so the questions will be similar, but I don't control exactly what the host says and can't promise you she will or won't ask any particular question.

Does this help?

Gwynne

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 02, 2018 11:18 AM  
**To:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Thanks, will circle back soon.

Could you let me know host name and topics to cover, that would be great!

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 10:01 AM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Hi Kelly,  
Circling back, our host is actually out tomorrow, sorry about that. How about Monday. We have openings at 10, 10:30 am, 1 and 1:30 pm.  
Gwynne

---

**From:** Gwynne Hogan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 1:25 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

No specific time, obviously the sooner the better, would love to get it on the calendar for Friday or early next week if you are open to it.  
Gwynne

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 1:24 PM  
**To:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Gwynne, the DOJ official I have in mind is traveling today, so I'll circle back tomorrow. Is there a particular time frame you are looking to work within for the hit?

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 1, 2018 10:01 AM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Good morning! Following up on this.  
Gwynne

---

**From:** Gwynne Hogan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:54 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Ok great! Thanks so much for the quick reply.  
Gwynne

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:36 PM  
**To:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>

**to:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>

**Cc:** Sutton, Sarah E. (OPA) <[Sarah.E.Sutton@usdoj.gov](mailto:Sarah.E.Sutton@usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Gwynne,

Thanks so much for reaching out about the Religious Liberty Task Force! I will check availability for our principals this week and circle back.

Thanks,

Kelly

**Kelly Laco**

Office of Public Affairs

Department of Justice

Office: 202-353-0173

Cell: (b) (6)

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**From:** Press

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 5:15 PM

**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Cc:** Sutton, Sarah E. (OPA) <[sesutton@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:sesutton@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Press <[Press@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Thanks,

**Catherine Leonard**

Office of Public Affairs

U.S. Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530

202.514.2007 | Office

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**From:** Gwynne Hogan <[ghogan@nypublicradio.org](mailto:ghogan@nypublicradio.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:58 PM

**To:** Press <[Press@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:Press@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Hi all,

I hope this note finds you well. I'm a producer for "The Takeaway," the U.S. public radio show broadcast with Public Radio International and WNYC, in partnership with WGBH Boston. Our program reaches nearly 2.8 million listeners across 280 stations nationwide.

I'm reaching out to see if someone at the DOJ would be open to coming on our show to talk about the newly established religious task force and talk about what its goals and its powers and how it will identify areas of interest. Would either Associate AG Jesse Panuccio or Assistant AG for DOJ's Legal Policy Beth Williams be able to speak?

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Gwynne

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 3, 2018 9:56 AM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Yes, no kidding! (b) (5)

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**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 3, 2018 9:43 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

This is an NPR affiliate with 8 million listeners – big time!

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, August 3, 2018 9:29 AM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Interview with DOJ on the Newly Established Religious Task Force

Yes, Monday at 10 or 10.30 is fine. Thanks.

My sister told me yesterday she'd heard local NPR covering the summit / task force and I couldn't believe it. The continuing press coverage is so incredible!

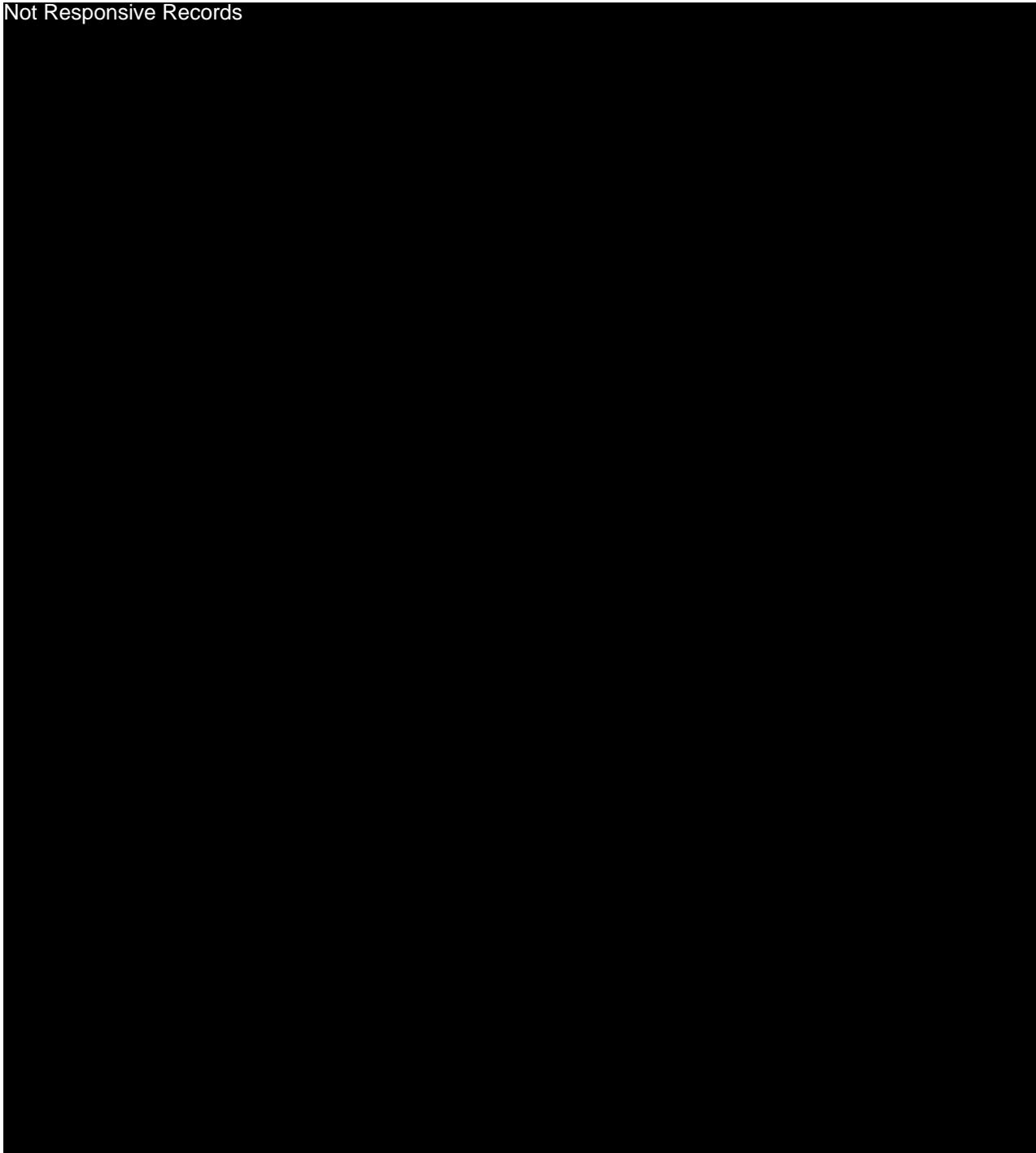
Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 3, 2018, at 9:20 AM, Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

**Duplicative Material**

**OPA Weekly Planning Meeting**  
**August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

Not Responsive Records



Not Responsive Records

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the majority of the page content.

Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

Not Responsive Records

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OLP

- AAG Beth Williams will be interviewed by NPR's "The Takeaway" regarding the new religious liberty task force (time TBD).

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 1, 2018 7:52 AM  
**To:** Jeremy Dys  
**Subject:** Re: ICYMI: Media Hits on DOJ Religious Liberty Summit and Task Force

You can send to me - thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2018, at 7:05 PM, Jeremy Dys <[jdys@firstliberty.org](mailto:jdys@firstliberty.org)> wrote:

Kerri,

We do we direct interview requests to on this? We know some folks at Point of View (300+ stations) that would like to have someone on the show.

**Jeremy Dys**  
Deputy General Counsel  
[jdys@firstliberty.org](mailto:jdys@firstliberty.org)

 First Liberty Logo

**First Liberty Institute**  
*Religious Liberty for All Americans*

o. (b) (6)  
f. 972-423-6162

[2001 W Plano Pkwy](#)  
[Suite 1600](#)  
[Plano, TX 75075](#)  
[FirsLiberty.org](http://FirsLiberty.org)

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**From:** Kelly Shackelford <[kshackelford@firstliberty.org](mailto:kshackelford@firstliberty.org)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at 5:48 PM

To: Hiram Sasser <[hsasser@firstliberty.org](mailto:hsasser@firstliberty.org)>, Jeremy Dys <[jdys@firstliberty.org](mailto:jdys@firstliberty.org)>

Subject: Fwd: ICYMI: Media Hits on DOJ Religious Liberty Summit and Task Force

From: USDOJ-Office of Public Affairs <[USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com)>

Date: July 31, 2018 at 5:42:09 PM CDT

To: <[ks.hackelford@firstliberty.org](mailto:ks.hackelford@firstliberty.org)>

Subject: ICYMI: Media Hits on DOJ Religious Liberty Summit and Task Force

Reply-To: <[USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:USDOJ-OfficeofPublicAffairs@public.govdelivery.com)>



The Attorney General's Memo can be found [here](#), and remarks [here](#).

### **ICYMI: Media Hits on DOJ Religious Liberty Summit and Task Force**

#### **Attorney General Jeff Sessions on Tony Perkins Show**

"Well it's been part of what we are planning to do with the President as part of his commitment to protect religious liberty, which I believe, he's honored. He directed me and the Department of Justice to develop a religious liberty memorandum that goes to all the government agencies, that directs them that they are not to discriminate against people improperly if that set forth legal principles about how and what the government can do as it impacts the free exercise of religion in America and we're real pleased with it. We got a really good comments and support from people, students of religious liberty, that have supported it and we're excited about that. So this task force will really be designed to make sure that we're following through, not to lose momentum, and

to ensure that every agency, even down into the sub-agencies that issue guidance and rules and regulations, are doing so consistent with religious liberty."

- AG Sessions

#### **Fox News - [Special Report With Bret Baier](#)**

"A dangerous movement undetected by many, but real is now challenging and eroding a great tradition, our religious freedom. There can be no doubt it's no little matter."

- AG Sessions

#### **Assistant Attorney General Beth Williams on [Frank Andrews Show](#)**

"What I can say is I think that religious liberty is really—it's our first freedom, the very first right that's in the Bill of Rights. And what the Department of Justice is saying is that this is not a policy preference; it's a fundamental right. It's not about just practicing personal religious beliefs or just worshipping at a sacred place; religious liberty is also about encompassing religious observance and practice, and that except in the narrowest circumstances, no one should be forced to choose between living out his or her faith and complying with the law."

- AAG Beth Williams

#### **Assistant Attorney General Beth Williams on [Daniel Horowitz](#)**

"The Attorney General is really the the passion and driving force behind this task force. He believes very strongly that we need to be defending religious liberty because religious liberty is not a policy preference, it is a fundamental right."

-AAG Beth Williams

#### **Archbishop Joseph Kurtz on [EWTN News Nightly](#)**

##### **Print Media Coverage**

The Hill: [Sessions announces 'religious liberty task force'](#) (Lydia Wheeler)

Fox News/TIME: [Sessions: US culture 'less hospitable to people of faith'](#) (Eric Tucker AP)

Washington Examiner: [Trump and Jeff Sessions prioritize religious liberty with new Justice Department task force](#) (Jenna Ellis)

The Washington Times: [DOJ forms Religious Liberty Task Force to protect freedom of religion](#) (Jeff Mordock)

Conservative Review: [Trump launches religious freedom task force to undo another Obama legacy](#) (Chris Pandolfo)

The Independent: [Jeff Sessions announces new 'Religious Liberty Task Force' at Department of Justice](#) (Emily Shugerman)

CNN: [Sessions announces new 'religious liberty task force'](#) (Sarah Hallam)

Breitbart: [Jeff Sessions: 'Dangerous Movement' Eroding Americans' Religious Liberty](#) (Penny Starr)

The Washington Free Beacon: [Sessions Announces New Religious Liberty Task](#)

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[Force](#) (Jeffrey Cimmino)

Do not reply to this message. If you have questions, please use the contacts in the message or call the Office of Public Affairs at 202-514-2007.

**Rebecca Sears**

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**From:** Rebecca Sears  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 10:46 AM  
**To:** Brianna Herlihy; Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

Fantastic event! Thank you.

---



Rebecca Sears  
Media & Marketing Strategist  
+1 202 393 8690 (Office)  
[RSears@ADFlegal.org](mailto:RSears@ADFlegal.org)  
[ADFlegal.org](http://ADFlegal.org)

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**From:** Brianna Herlihy  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 5:37 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Rebecca Sears <[rsears@adflegal.org](mailto:rsears@adflegal.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

Wow amazing!!! And this is so great – thanks so much for sending.

---



Brianna Herlihy  
Media Relations Specialist  
+1 202 393 8690 (Office)  
+1 202 888 7623 (Direct Dial)  
+1 (b) (6) (Mobile)  
202-347-3622 (Fax)  
[bherlihy@adflegal.org](mailto:bherlihy@adflegal.org)  
[ADFlegal.org](http://ADFlegal.org)

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:46 PM  
**To:** Brianna Herlihy <[bherlihy@adflegal.org](mailto:bherlihy@adflegal.org)>; Rebecca Sears <[rsears@adflegal.org](mailto:rsears@adflegal.org)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Lara Kelly (OPA)" <[klara@imd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klara@imd.usdoj.gov)>

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>

Date: July 30, 2018 at 4:33:08 PM EDT

To: "Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)" <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)" <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)" <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Tucker, Rachael (OAG)" <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Rose, Rebecca (OJP)" <[Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Huntoon, Alissa (OJP)" <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Mahoney, Kristen (OJP)" <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>, "Treene, Eric (CRT)" <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
Cc: "Kupec, Kerri (OPA)" (b) (6) "Hudson, Andrew (OLP)" <[ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

Subject: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

## Religious Liberty Summit

*Clips as of July 30, 2018 at 4:30pm*

CSPAN streamed the entire event LIVE <https://www.c-span.org/video/?449127-1/departement-justice-hosts-religious-liberty-summit>

The Hill: [Sessions announces 'religious liberty task force'](#) (Lydia Wheeler)

Fox News: [Sessions: US culture 'less hospitable to people of faith'](#) (Eric Tucker AP)

Slate: [Jeff Sessions Announces Religious Liberty Task Force at DOJ in Response to "Dangerous Movement"](#) (Molly Olmstead)

Daily Beast: [Jeff Sessions' 'Religious Liberty Task Force' Declares Holy War on LGBT People](#) (Tim Teeman)

Washington Examiner: [Trump and Jeff Sessions prioritize religious liberty with new Justice Department task force](#) (Jenna Ellis)

Daily Mail: [DOJ cake squad: Jeff Sessions launches 'religious liberty task force' to defend Christian bakers, let preachers talk politics and reinforce Trump's 'Merry Christmas' promise](#) (David Martosko)

The Washington Times: [DOJ forms Religious Liberty Task Force to protect freedom of religion](#) (Jeff Mordock)

Newser: [Justice Department Creates 'Religious Liberty Task Force'](#) (Evann Gastaldo)

AL: [AG Sessions announces religious liberty task force](#) (Leada Gore)

New Now Next: [Jeff Sessions Announces New Religious Liberty Task Force](#) (Jeff Taylor)

Alter Net: [Sessions Announces Religious Liberty Task Force to Protect the Christian Right to Discriminate](#) (Kerry Eleveld)

Bustle: [A Religious Liberty Task Force Has Been Created — Here's What We Know](#) (Lauren Holter)

Think Progress: [Jeff Sessions announces religious liberty task force](#) (Casey Quinlan)

Townhall: [Attorney General Jeff Sessions Announces New 'Religious Liberty Task Force' at DOJ](#) (Lauretta Brown)

PJ Media: [Jack Phillips Opens Up About Being Compared to a Nazi, Though His Dad Liberated a Concentration Camp](#) (Tyler O'Neil)

The Hill: [Sessions announces 'religious liberty task force'](#) (Lydia Wheeler)

Attorney General [Jeff Sessions](#) announced Monday that the Department of Justice is creating a "religious liberty task force."

Sessions said the task force, co-chaired by Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and

the assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy, Beth Williams, will help the department fully implement the religious liberty guidance it issued last year.

The guidance was a byproduct of [President Trump's](#) executive order directing agencies to respect and protect religious liberty and political speech.

Sessions said on Monday that the task force will "ensure all Justice Department components are upholding that guidance in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations."

The announcement came during the department's religious liberty summit.

Sessions said the cultural climate in this country — and in the West more generally — has become less hospitable to people of faith in recent years, and as a result many Americans have felt their freedom to practice their faith has been under attack.

"We've seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives. We've seen U.S. senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma—even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office. We've all seen the ordeal faced so bravely by Jack Phillips," he said, referring to the Colorado baker who took his case to the Supreme Court after he was found to have violated the state's anti-discrimination laws for refusing to make a cake for a same-sex wedding.

Sessions said the guidance he issued in October lays out 20 fundamental principles for the executive branch to follow, including the principles that free exercise means a right to act — or to abstain from action — and that government shouldn't impugn people's motives or beliefs.

"In short, we have not only the freedom to worship—but the right to exercise our faith. The Constitution's protections don't end at the parish parking lot nor can our freedoms be confined to our basements," he said, according to his prepared remarks.

Sessions said the federal government under the Trump administration is not just reacting but is actively seeking to accommodate people of faith.

"Religious Americans are no longer an afterthought," he said.

**Fox News:** [Sessions: US culture 'less hospitable to people of faith'](#) (Eric Tucker AP)

American culture has become "less hospitable to people of faith," Attorney General Jeff Sessions said Monday in vowing that the Justice Department would protect people's religious freedom and convictions.

Sessions spoke at a Justice Department summit on religious tolerance at a time when courts across the country have been asked how to balance anti-discrimination laws against the First Amendment's religious freedom guarantees.

Conservative groups immediately praised Sessions for promising to protect deeply held religious convictions, though Trump administration critics have repeatedly voiced concerns that the attorney general's stance undercuts LGBT rights and favors the rights of Christians over those of other faiths.

Sessions, the country's chief law enforcement officer, warned of a "dangerous movement" that he said was eroding protections for religious Americans.

He asserted that "nuns were being forced to buy contraceptives" — an apparent, though not fully accurate, reference to an Obama administration health care policy meant to ensure women covered by faith-based groups' health plans have access to cost-free contraceptives. Religious groups that challenged the policy argued it violated their religious beliefs.

Sessions also said it was inappropriate that judicial and executive branch nominees were being asked about their religious dogma. And he praised a Colorado baker who refused to make a cake for a same-sex couple in a case that reached the Supreme Court and ended in his favor. That baker, Jack Phillips, was part of a panel discussion at the Justice Department

summit.

"A dangerous movement, undetected by many, is now challenging and eroding our great tradition of religious freedom. There can be no doubt. This is no little matter. It must be confronted and defeated," Sessions said. "This election, and much that has flowed from it, gives us a rare opportunity to arrest these trends. Such a reversal will not just be done with electoral victories, but by intellectual victories."

Sessions, a Methodist and former Republican senator from Alabama, has made protecting religious liberty a cornerstone agenda item of his Justice Department — along with defending freedom of speech on college campuses.

In his speech, the attorney general noted that he had issued guidance last year advising executive branch employees on how to apply religious liberty protections in federal law.

**Slate: [Jeff Sessions Announces Religious Liberty Task Force at DOJ in Response to "Dangerous Movement"](#)** (Molly Olmstead)

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the creation of a Religious Liberty Task Force on Monday that will ensure that the Justice Department is prioritizing the rights of religious people and groups in its policies and legal battles by enforcing his "religious liberty" memo issued last fall.

Sessions told a crowd attending the Religious Liberty Summit at the Department of Justice headquarters that there was "a [dangerous movement](#)" eroding religious liberties and that "we have gotten to the point where courts have held that morality cannot be a basis for law; where ministers are fearful to affirm, as they understand it, holy writ from the pulpit; and where one group can actively target religious groups by labeling them a 'hate group' on the basis of their sincerely held religious beliefs."

He cited the legal challenge by [the Little Sisters of the Poor](#) over its religious objections as a Catholic organization to paying for health insurance that covers contraception and the [Masterpiece Cakeshop Supreme Court case](#) dealing with a baker who refused to make a wedding cake for a gay couple.

Sessions mentioned the Muslim, Jewish, and Hindu religions and proclaimed that the DOJ would protect all adherents from discrimination. But in arguing that it was an "unease" over a "changing cultural climate" that motivated Trump voters and the administration's religious-liberty policies, Sessions seemed to refer more to the complaints of the Christian right. "[Trump] said he respected people of faith and he promised to protect them in the free exercise of their faith," Sessions said. "He declared we would say 'Merry Christmas' again."

In October 2017, Sessions released a [vague memo](#) that instructed federal agencies to observe 20 "principles of religious liberty." Activists for LGBTQ and women's rights worried at the time that the proclamation gave broad permission for religious groups to ignore federal civil rights laws. But in reality, as Slate's Mark Joseph Stern [wrote months later](#), Sessions did not seem to have the authority to undermine anti-discrimination laws, and the memo seemed to have no legal force behind it.

In Monday's announcement, Sessions said that the DOJ would work to ensure its employees "know their duties to accommodate people of faith" and put the 2017 memo into action. "Under this administration, the federal government is not just reacting—we are actively seeking, carefully, thoughtfully and lawfully, to accommodate people of faith," he said. "Religious Americans are no longer an afterthought."

**Daily Beast: [Jeff Sessions' 'Religious Liberty Task Force' Declares Holy War on LGBT People](#)** (Tim Teeman)

Sadly it is no exaggeration, no hyperbole, to say that Attorney General [Jeff Sessions](#) declared a holy war on [LGBT](#) people, LGBT equality, and LGBT rights on Monday.

He declared war pretty much on anything that could be perceived to trespass on the 'religious freedom' or 'religious liberty' of Christians — which is a loosely defined

enough to be construed as trespassing on pretty much anything.

Sessions said this was because there was a “dangerous movement” to erode the Christian right to worship.

There isn’t of course; it’s an invented bogeyman for a ravenously-pursued ideological crusade. Women, religious minorities, LGBT people: prepare to fight for your bodies, your rights to worship, your wedding cakes.

Sessions’ announcement of a “Religious Liberty Task Force” at a “Religious Liberty Summit” follows [President Trump’s religious liberty executive order](#) of May. It also follows the Department of Health and Human Services’ announcement in January of a new “Conscience and Religious Freedom Division” to be housed within the agency’s Office for Civil Rights.

The “Religious Liberty Task Force” – which summons up images of a pirate ship filled with the staffs of the ADL, Liberty Counsel, and Family Research Council, sallying forth and liberating prejudiced bakers everywhere – will apparently ensure that everything Sessions laid out in his “religious liberty” memo of last October is pursued to the letter. That memo outlined how multiple government agencies should seek to uphold “religious liberty” even if it conflicts with existing anti-discrimination policies.

The “task force” will be co-chaired by Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and the assistant attorney general for the Justice Department’s Office of Legal Policy, Beth Williams.

But it is clearly Sessions who is behind it. And he appears intent to use the Department of Justice to advance this holy war, and wants to wage it against trespassers of ‘religious liberty’ across government departments.

The Trump administration is already winning in its battle to erode the few civil rights that LGBT people have. The Supreme Court, if the Trump administration has its way, will be replete with justices to rubberstamp whatever kind of discrimination it chooses to pursue. Loading the dice in this fundamental way apparently isn’t enough for Jeff Sessions.

Today, at the “Religious Affairs Summit” held at the Department of Justice, he was not really talking about ‘religious freedom’ or ‘religious liberty,’ or any of the other soft-sounding codewords he and his ilk use. Sessions was talking about how the Government will support you as a Christian if you choose to discriminate against someone based on your religious beliefs.

If you are opposed to marriage equality or just dislike or disapprove of LGBT people generally, the Trump administration just gave you the green light to go ahead and refuse to serve them in your businesses, or help them with their medical care. If an LGBT person wants or needs to use your service, no problem – tell them to shove off. The Attorney General is right behind you.

Sessions, who made this announcement at an event attended by a host of groups whose business it is to foster discrimination against LGBT people, said openly on Monday how he and the administration supported the baker who refused to bake a wedding cake for a gay couple, and whose case went to the Supreme Court.

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

Let that sink in: the Attorney General of the United States just celebrated discrimination. Not only that, he said he wants to use his office – an office which is allegedly about ensuring justice for all – as a formal mechanism to allow this discrimination to happen more. He is being absolutely open about this.

“We’ve seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives. We’ve seen U.S. senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma—even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office. We’ve all seen the ordeal faced so bravely by Jack Phillips,” he said. (The right to discriminate against LGBT people is now “brave.”)

The dogma jab was in reference perhaps to Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) who, at a Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing for 7th Circuit Court of Appeals nominee Amy Coney Barrett last September, said the "dogma lives loudly within you," to the Catholic candidate. Or perhaps Sessions was referring to Senator Cory Booker (D-N.J.), who not only skewered Sessions' appalling record on LGBT rights at his confirmation hearing, but also grilled Mike Pompeo at his Secretary of State hearing about whether he considered homosexuality to be "a perversion" as his previous comments had suggested.

Booker's question was not just well-asked, it was vitally relevant; as Secretary of State, part of Pompeo's job is focused around LGBT rights on a global stage, and America's part (or not) in helping to uphold them.

The real shame is that the Department of Justice has been co-opted to fight Sessions' faith wars against groups he so clearly despises.

Jeff Sessions was not speaking up for Christians, who have total freedom to worship whatever it is they want to. Instead, he framed himself and other Christians as the victims, which is ludicrous and shows just how weak their position is.

"Let's be frank," Sessions said. "A dangerous movement undetected by many is challenging and eroding our great tradition of religious freedom. There can be no doubt, it's no little matter, it must be confronted intellectually and politically and be defeated. This past election gives us a rare opportunity to arrest these trends and to confront them.

"We've gotten to the point where courts have held that morality cannot be a basis for law, where ministers are fearful to affirm holy writ from the pulpit, and where one group can actively target religious groups by labelling them hate groups," he added. "This President and Department of Justice are determined to protect and advance our heritage of freedom of religion."

Stripped back of its dime-store sermonizing, Sessions is talking about empowering the law to foster fear and loathing of – and discrimination against – LGBTQ people and other minorities.

"We have your back," he was telling future bakers who fear that their discrimination may, one day, land them in court. But he was also talking about the freedom to use religion to restrict a woman's right to choose; about using religion and faith as an instrument and weapon of the Department of Justice, when – surely – keeping both separate is vital to ensure equality for all citizens.

That is the most shocking gaslighting of Sessions' creepy speech and event. He is giving yet more power to abuse to the already powerful, while doing nothing to protect the already-imperiled rights of LGBT people, women, and religious minorities—which should be a cornerstone of his job as a public servant.

Sessions said the new task force would help "implement religious liberty guidance by ensuring all justice department components are upholding that guidance in cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations. That includes making sure our employees know their duties to accommodate people of faith."

Translated: the license to discriminate goes deep, and we will ensure it is followed to the letter.

Addressing his LGBT-hating compadres he continued, "As people in this room know, you have to practice what you preach, so we are going to remain in contact with religious groups across America to ensure their rights are being protected. This administration is animated by that same American view that has led us for 242 years, that every American has a right to believe and worship and exercise their faith in the public square."

But this isn't in question; of course people already have the right to worship. What 'religious freedom' and 'religious liberty' mean are totally different. It means seeking to restrict the freedoms and equality of those whose lives you, as a Christian person, disapprove of. That is not an exercise of faith. It is an exercise in discrimination.

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“This approach has served this country well,” Sessions said. “We are perhaps the most religiously developed nation in the world, and can take pride in respecting all people as they fully exercise their beliefs.”

But if that was the case, Sessions and the DOJ would be supporting equality for all LGBT people when it came to accessing services and justice in the courts. But the “religious liberty task force” isn’t in service for all; it’s for entirely for one, already powerful group.

What is motivating Sessions in his crusade is fear; and it is not simply a fear of LGBT people and equality. It is a fear of how he and other Christians’ feel their faith has been diminished, rejected, and impinged upon. Like much of the Trump agenda it feeds on those feeling aggrieved and embattled by a changing world.

LGBT people, and those damn feminists wanting control of their bodies, are convenient scapegoats when it comes to blame for why fewer people want to follow Christian teaching to the letter; and why ‘holy writ’ authority from the pulpit just isn’t what it was.

“We must not let it depart from this noble tradition,” Sessions said of our nation.

That’s where this animus comes from, the ‘task force’ that will go out unto the land to insist on religious ‘liberty’ and ‘freedom.’ Sessions and his ilk feel ‘their’ nation – such an arrogant sense of ownership – is receding from them; becoming too varied and multiple, and so the bully losing the attention of the mob enlists a new, bespoke mob—a “Task Force” no less, to impose an old world order.

It’s a frightening move, for sure, and one streaked with prejudice. It is a charter for discrimination, now sanctioned by the president, the legislative branch, and – if Trump and Sessions have their way – the courts. We can take a very small comfort that it also smacks of pathetic desperation.

**Washington Examiner: [Trump and Jeff Sessions prioritize religious liberty with new Justice Department task force](#)** (Jenna Ellis)

The Trump administration has continued to prioritize religious freedom and emphasize its importance globally. Last week, Vice President Mike Pence made remarks to the contingent of foreign ministers at the State Department’s ministerial on religious freedom, saying that America must continue to be the world’s leader on this issue by ensuring domestic religious liberty first. “No one follows a hypocrite,” he said.

Continuing this promise to protect our central freedom enshrined in the First Amendment, the Department of Justice on Monday held a Religious Liberty Summit, and Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced a new religious liberty task force.

“Freedom of religion has been a core American principle from the very beginning of our country — indeed, it is our ‘first freedom.’ President Trump promised that he would make preserving and protecting our religious liberty the first priority of his administration. The Department of Justice is committed to assisting with that effort,” Sessions said. He remarked that in order to “institutionalize this process” and identify new opportunities to engage this important issue of religious freedom, the DOJ has established a religious liberty task force.

According to the memo obtained by *Washington Examiner*, the task force will “continue the department’s ongoing work to protect and promote religious liberty.” It will also consider new initiatives, including engaging in outreach to the public, religious liberty communities, and religious liberty organizations, and developing new strategies involving litigation, policy, and legislation, all with the goal of ensuring protection of this key, fundamental right.

Sessions will serve as chair of the task force. The summit at the DOJ on Monday includes a panel of legal and policy experts and a discussion titled “The Promise and Challenge of Religious Liberty.” Jack Phillips of Masterpiece Cakeshop, who was involved in an important religious freedom case just decided by the Supreme Court last month, is scheduled for the panel.

In contrast to the previous administration, which did not value religious liberty either at home or abroad, the Trump administration's action should encourage all people of faith and belief systems. This particular emphasis and open commitment shows that religious freedom is a priority to the president. Everyone should appreciate that Trump and key Cabinet leaders are taking action to protect religious freedom.

As Secretary of State Mike Pompeo [said](#) at the religious freedom ministerial last week, "The United States advances religious freedom in our foreign policy because it is not exclusively an American right. It is a God-given universal right bestowed on all of mankind."

**Daily Mail: [DOJ cake squad: Jeff Sessions launches 'religious liberty task force' to defend Christian bakers, let preachers talk politics and reinforce Trump's 'Merry Christmas' promise](#)**  
(David Martosko)

Attorney General Jeff Sessions launched a 'religious liberty task force' on Monday, suggesting the Justice Department wants more outcomes like the case of a Colorado baker who won a Supreme Court case after refusing to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple.

Sessions said there is a 'dangerous' movement eroding a long history of resistance against political persecution that dates back to the Pilgrims in Massachusetts, Catholics in Maryland and Quakers in Pennsylvania, making America's dominant culture 'less hospitable to people of faith.'

In the process of announcing the move, he highlighted President [Donald Trump](#)'s frequent campaign promise to inspire a rebooted mainstreaming of the phrase 'Merry [Christmas](#)' in American life.

'We're going to say Merry Christmas again!' Trump said during several 2015 and 2016 rallies, always to wild applause from a largely Christian following.

Sessions said Monday that the president 'respected people of faith and he promised to protect them in the free exercise of their faith.'

'He declared we would say "Merry Christmas" again!' the attorney general insisted.

He was following up on Trump's 2017 executive order telling all federal agencies to protect religious liberty and other decisions of conscience in everything from commerce to political messaging.

The Masterpiece Cakeshop episode was top of mind, but not the only bee in the Justice Department's bonnet.

Sessions praised the Little Sisters of the Poor for resisting when bureaucrats overseeing the implementation of Obamacare refused to back down from requiring them to add coverage for birth control, forbidden by Catholic teaching, to their medical insurance plans.

He also railed against senators, largely Democrats, who have grilled Republican appointees about their beliefs.

'We've seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives. We've seen U.S. senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma, even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office,' he said.

'We've all seen the ordeal faced so bravely by Jack Phillips,' sessions said, referring to the Colorado baker.

The state's civil rights commission initially found Phillips guilty of violating anti-discrimination laws, but the Supreme Court ultimately ruled in his favor on procedural grounds.

Sessions also throw a subtle elbow at the Southern Poverty Law Center, a liberal watchdog group that has publicly classified some Christian advocacy groups as purveyors of hate speech.

In 2013 a gunman entered the lobby of the Family Research Council, one such group, and opened fire. David Collier later said he chose his target because the FRC had headed it

opened fire. Floyd Collins later said he chose his target because the SPLC had branded it a hate-mongering anti-gay organization.

'We have gotten to the point ... where one group can actively target religious groups by labeling them a "hate group" on the basis of their sincerely held religious beliefs,' he complained.

The Human Rights Campaign, a nationwide advocacy group for gays and lesbians, loudly condemned Sessions' move.

'This taxpayer funded task force is yet another example of the Trump-Pence White House and Jeff Sessions sanctioning discrimination against LGBTQ people,' said the group's legal director, Sarah Warbelow.

'Over the last 18 months, Donald Trump, Mike Pence and Jeff Sessions have engaged in a brazen campaign to erode and limit the rights of LGBTQ people in the name of religion.'

**The Washington Times:** [DOJ forms Religious Liberty Task Force to protect freedom of religion](#) (Jeff Mordock)

The [Justice Department](#) on Monday announced the formation of a Religious Liberty Task Force aimed at ensuring religious groups' protections when their beliefs conflict with government regulations.

In October, Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued a directive outlining a broad interpretation of religious freedom protections. It provided support for employers making hiring decisions based on their faith or objecting to providing health insurance for birth control.

The task force will follow up on that directive, Mr. Sessions said Monday. It will facilitate [Justice Department](#) compliance with the memo; facilitate coordination with it across government agencies; and reach out to religious organizations for feedback and develop new policies and strategies to protect religious freedoms.

If necessary, the task force will also review new lawsuits to protect religious freedoms, Mr. Sessions said.

"A dangerous movement, undetected by many, but real, is not challenging and eroding a great tradition of religious freedom," Mr. Sessions said announcing the task force. "There can be no doubt it's no little matter. It must be confronted intellectually and politically and defeated."

Mr. Sessions will chair the task force. Representatives from multiple [Justice Department](#) components including the Civil Rights Division, Civil Division, Office of Legal Counsel and Office of Legal Policy will also participate.

**Newsier:** [Justice Department Creates 'Religious Liberty Task Force'](#) (Evan Gastaldo)

Last year, President Trump signed an [executive order on religious freedom](#), and now the Department of Justice is creating a "religious liberty task force" to implement the guidance that was issued as a result of that order. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the task force Monday during the DoJ's religious liberty summit, the [Hill](#) reports. Among other things, the guidance, issued in October, "staked out religious protections for hiring decisions that could threaten those whose sexual orientation conflicts with employers' faith," [USA Today](#) reported at the time, and the Human Rights Campaign responded to the task force news [with concern](#) that it will lead to anti-LGBTQ discrimination. Sessions, however, said that many Americans and others in the West feel their religious freedom is under attack.

"We've seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives," he said. "We've seen US senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma, even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office." He also cited the case of [a baker who refused](#) to make a same-sex wedding cake. Sessions said the Constitution's protections for free exercise of religion mean that "we have not only the freedom to worship—but the right to exercise our faith." by taking action or abstaining from action. The task force will

ensure the government protects those freedoms and that the DoJ employees "know their duties to accommodate people of faith," per [Bustle](#). The ACLU [tweeted](#), "Reminder: Religious freedom protects our right to our beliefs, not a right to harm others."

**AL: [AG Sessions announces religious liberty task force](#)** (Leada Gore)

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the Department of Justice is forming a religious liberty task force in response to a [2017 executive order by President Donald Trump](#).

The task force is charged with ensuring the Justice Department is upholding the administration's guidance "in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations. That includes making sure that our employees know their duties to accommodate people of faith," Sessions said while speaking at a religious liberty summit.

"We are also going to remain in contact with religious groups across America to ensure that their rights are being protected," Sessions said. "This administration is animated by that same American view that has led us for 242 years: that every American has a right to believe, worship, and exercise their faith in the public square.

"This approach has served this country well. We are perhaps the most religiously developed nation in the world and can take pride in respecting all people as they fully exercise their faiths," he added.

Sessions said the move comes in response to what the Trump administration sees as attacks on people's freedom to practice their faith, something the AG described as a "dangerous movement."

"We have gotten to the point where courts have held that morality cannot be a basis for law; where ministers are fearful to affirm, as they understand it, holy writ from the pulpit; and where one group can actively target religious groups by labeling them a "hate group" on the basis of their sincerely held religious beliefs.

"Under this administration, the federal government is not just reacting--we are actively seeking, carefully, thoughtfully and lawfully, to accommodate people of faith. Religious Americans are no longer an afterthought," the AG added.

The task force will be co-chaired by Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy Beth Williams.

**New Now Next: [Jeff Sessions Announces New Religious Liberty Task Force](#)** (Jeff Taylor)

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced today the formation of a "religious liberty task force" to implement and enforce the guidelines [issued last year through executive order](#).

Earlier this year, Trump signed another [executive order setting up a faith-based office, the White House Faith and Opportunity Initiative](#).

The task force will be co-chaired by Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and the assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy, Beth Williams.

Sessions said the task force will "ensure all Justice Department components are upholding that guidance in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations," [reports The Hill](#).

The Attorney General bemoaned the current political culture around the separation of church and state, including a mention of Colorado baker Jack Phillips, with whom the administration sided in his case before the U.S. Supreme Court, where he argued his right to free speech was infringed upon by being made to provide a wedding cake to a same-sex couple.

Phillips won his case with a narrow ruling, stating his religious objections were not seriously and fairly considered by the Colorado Civil Rights Commission.

"We've seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives. We've seen U.S. senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma—even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a

religious test for public office. We've all seen the ordeal faced so bravely by Jack Phillips," Sessions said during today's announcement.

In [a statement](#), HRC Legal Director Sarah Warbelow called out the Trump administration for "sanctioning discrimination against LGBTQ people":

Over the last 18 months, Donald Trump, Mike Pence and Jeff Sessions have engaged in a brazen campaign to erode and limit the rights of LGBTQ people in the name of religion. The Attorney General standing shoulder-to-shoulder this morning with anti-LGBTQ extremists tells you everything you need to know about what today's announcement was really all about.

#### **Alter Net: Sessions Announces Religious Liberty Task Force to Protect the Christian Right to Discriminate** (Kerry Eleveld)

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced a Religious Liberty Task Force Monday to make certain religious groups (i.e. Christians) maintain protections when their beliefs run in conflict with government regulations. The *Washington Times* [writes](#):

"A dangerous movement, undetected by many, but real, is now challenging and eroding a great tradition of religious freedom," Mr. Sessions said announcing the task force. "There can be no doubt it's no little matter. It must be confronted intellectually and politically and defeated."

Christians are under attack, folks, such as when they are required to sign an opt-out waiver for covering contraception for women so insurers can cover it themselves. That's just a bridge too far. Under the Trump administration, the department has reportedly settled 24 cases involving 90 plaintiffs who said the Obama administration's contraception mandate trampled on their religious freedoms. In other words, providing comprehensive health coverage to women was too objectionable.

The other community that is sure to find itself in the crosshairs of Sessions's Christians-conquer-all crusade are LGBTQ Americans as conflicts continue to arise between the Christian right to discriminate and states with nondiscrimination protections.

Sessions is likely just laying the groundwork for all the damage he can do to women and LGBTQ Americans in the event Republicans are able to confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court.

#### **Bustle: A Religious Liberty Task Force Has Been Created — Here's What We Know** (Lauren Holter)

The U.S. attorney general has renewed his focus on Americans' religious rights. On Monday, [Jeff Sessions announced a "Religious Liberty Task Force"](#) aimed at making the country more hospitable to religious organizations. "You have to practice what you preach," he said at a press conference announcing the new group.

Sessions' task force will aim to ensure the Justice Department is upholding the [executive order President Trump issued](#) in May 2017 ordering the executive branch to protect religious freedoms. It will do so "in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations," according to the attorney general.

This will include making sure Justice Department employees "know their duties to accommodate people of faith," Sessions said at the press conference, as well as continuing conversations with religious groups across America "to ensure that their rights are being protected."

"We've seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives. We've seen U.S. senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma — even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office," Sessions said, also referencing the [Colorado baker who refused to bake](#) a wedding cake for a same-sex couple.

Sessions says the task force will "help the Department fully implement our religious liberty

guidance," including "making sure our employees know their duties to accommodate people of faith."

The executive order that led to the creation of the task force states that "it shall be the policy of the executive branch to vigorously enforce Federal law's robust protections for religious freedom," as well as "respect and protect the freedom of persons and organizations to engage in religious and political speech."

Sessions issued a [new religious liberty guidance](#) in October that acted as a predecessor to this task force that said the freedom to exercise your chosen religion "includes the right to act or abstain from action in accordance with one's religious beliefs."

Sessions added on Monday that "religious Americans are no longer an afterthought" under the Trump administration. "In short, we have not only the freedom to worship — but the right to exercise our faith," he said. "The Constitution's protections don't end at the parish parking lot nor can our freedoms be confined to our basements."

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) responded to the announcement on Twitter with a reminder for the Justice Department:

"Reminder: Religious freedom protects our right to our beliefs, not a right to harm others. The Department of Justice has no business licensing discrimination against LGBT people, women, and religious minorities."

Reminder: Religious freedom protects our right to our beliefs, not a right to harm others.

The Department of Justice has no business licensing discrimination against LGBT people, women, and religious minorities.

The Justice Department also announced a new ["Place to Worship Initiative"](#) just last month, seeking to protect religious institutions' ability to build, expand, buy, or rent facilities. "By raising awareness about our legal rights, the Place to Worship Initiative will help us bring more civil rights cases, win more cases, and prevent discrimination from happening in the first place," Sessions said when announcing the initiative.

Protecting religious liberties have been a consistent platform for the Trump administration, including siding with the baker who refused to serve a same-sex couple and religious organizations that refused to provide their employees with [insurance coverage for birth control](#).

**Think Progress:** [Jeff Sessions announces religious liberty task force](#) (Casey Quinlan)

On Monday, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced that the Justice Department has formed a task force to implement religious liberty guidance it introduced last year. Sessions made the announcement during a "Religious Liberty Summit" at Justice Department headquarters.

When the guidance was [issued](#) in October, saying that the government can't punish anyone for acting or not acting "in accordance with one's religious beliefs," civil rights organizations [worried](#) it could be used to excuse individuals and groups who refuse to provide services to people in the LGBTQ community and people who want reproductive care. Indeed, Sessions specifically mentioned LGBTQ rights and reproductive rights in his announcement of the task force.

"We've seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives," Sessions said on Monday. "We've seen U.S. senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma— even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office. We've all seen the ordeal faced so bravely by Jack Phillips."

Jack Phillips is the Colorado [cake artist](#) who told a same-sex couple he would not make them a wedding cake because it is against his religious beliefs in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*. In his critique of senators' questions for judicial and executive branch nominees, Sessions may be referring to Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) [questioning](#) then HUD Secretary nominee Ben Carson about whether

he supported LGBTQ rights or senators [asking](#) judicial nominee Wendy Vitter about her past anti-reproductive rights actions.

Phillips was present at the announcement Monday and was a panelist at the summit, which was backed by the Alliance Defending Freedom. The ADF has defended state-sanctioned sterilization of transgender people, supports a recriminalization of homosexuality in the United States, and has tried to link queer people to pedophilia, [according to](#) the Southern Poverty Law Center.

"The Attorney General standing shoulder-to-shoulder this morning with anti-LGBTQ extremists tells you everything you need to know about what today's announcement was really all about," Human Rights Campaign Legal Director Sarah Warbelow [said](#) in a statement on the organization's blog.

Kristen Clarke, president and executive director of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, tweeted that the task force is for using "religion to mask their discriminatory goals."

DOJ should be working to fight discrimination and protect the rights of vulnerable communities. Instead, Jeff Sessions is launching a Religious Liberty Task Force to make it easier for people to use religion to mask their discriminatory goals. Shameful.

The guidance includes protections for businesses that discriminate by saying the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) of 1993 applied to businesses as well as people. This Justice Department guidance came after Trump issued an [executive order](#) in May 2017 for agencies to work on "promoting free speech and religious liberty." The order contained the words "deeply held beliefs" which [concerned](#) advocates in the LGBTQ community because they have also been used in bills that enable discrimination.

Sessions announced that the task force would be [co-chaired](#) by Jesse Panuccio, acting associate attorney general, who was a [lawyer](#) for supporters of Proposition 8, the California ban on same-sex marriage, and assistant attorney general for DOJ Office of Legal Policy, Beth Williams. Williams has [decried](#) "limitless injunctions" and "the dogged determination" with which she said they have "been employed against this President."

The Department of Health and Human Services recently created a new division within the Office for Civil Rights, called the Division of Conscience and Religious Freedom. This division was created to ensure health care providers don't have to provide services they object to morally or religiously. Roger Severino, who is in charge of the Office for Civil Rights, once said health care providers [shouldn't have to](#) help transgender people transition.

**Townhall: [Attorney General Jeff Sessions Announces New 'Religious Liberty Task Force' at DOJ](#)** (Lauretta Brown)

Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced a new "Religious Liberty Task Force" at the Department of Justice, during a Religious Liberty Summit Monday morning.

Sessions said the new task force will be co-chaired by the Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy Beth Williams.

He explained that the task force will help the DOJ to "fully implement" [religious liberty guidance](#) issued in a memo last October that outlines 20 fundamental principles for the Executive Branch to follow so they can properly apply religious liberty protections in federal law.

That guidance arose out of President Trump's executive order last May directing agencies to respect and protect religious liberty.

Sessions said that this new task force will help implement the DOJ's guidance by "ensuring that all Justice Department components are upholding that guidance in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations."

"That includes making sure that our employees know their duties to accommodate people

of faith," he added.

Sessions emphasized the importance of practicing "what you preach," saying the DOJ will be remaining "in contact with religious groups across America to ensure that their rights are being protected."

"We have been holding listening sessions and we will continue to host them in the coming weeks," he said.

Prior to his announcement, Sessions said that he believed a "dangerous movement, undetected by many, is now challenging and eroding our great tradition of religious freedom."

"This election, and much that has flowed from it, gives us a rare opportunity to arrest these trends," he said, adding that, "such a reversal will not just be done with electoral victories, but by intellectual victories."

Sessions said that, in recent years, "many Americans have felt that their freedom to practice their faith has been under attack."

"And it's easy to see why. We've seen nuns ordered to buy contraceptives," he said, referencing the Little Sisters of the Poor's [legal fight](#) against the Obama-era HHS mandate.

"We've seen U.S. Senators ask judicial and executive branch nominees about dogma—even though the Constitution explicitly forbids a religious test for public office," he continued, referencing incidents like Sen. Dianne Feinstein's [grilling](#) of then-judicial nominee Amy Coney Barrett about her Catholic faith. At the hearing, Feinstein said the "dogma lives loudly within" Barrett and that was "of concern."

"We've all seen the ordeal faced so bravely by Jack Phillips," Sessions added.

Phillips, a baker who objected for religious reasons to bake a cake for a same-sex wedding in a case that went [all the way](#) to the U.S. Supreme Court, appeared in a panel following the Attorney General's remarks.

Sessions argued that President Trump heard the concern that arose from cases like these and that was one reason he won the 2016 election.

"I believe this unease is one reason that he was elected," he said. "In substance, he said he respected people of faith and he promised to protect them in the free exercise of their faith.

"He declared we would say 'Merry Christmas' again," Sessions added, generating some laughter from the audience.

"Under this administration, the federal government is not just reacting—we are actively seeking, carefully, thoughtfully and lawfully, to accommodate people of faith," Sessions emphasized. "Religious Americans are no longer an afterthought."

The new task force represents a continued push by federal agencies under the Trump Administration to actively protect religious freedom. The Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights [announced](#) a Conscience and Religious Freedom Division in January to help "enforce existing laws protecting the rights of conscience and religious freedom."

#### **[PJ Media: Jack Phillips Opens Up About Being Compared to a Nazi, Though His Dad Liberated a Concentration Camp](#)** (Tyler O'Neil)

On Monday, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced a new Religious Liberty Task Force at the Department of Justice (DOJ). To help explain the necessity of this new task force, the DOJ hosted a panel of advocates for religious freedom, including Jack Phillips, the baker in the Supreme Court case [Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission](#).

In that case, the [Supreme Court ruled](#) that the commission had displayed "clear and impermissible hostility" to Phillips' religious beliefs. Phillips had refused to bake a cake to

celebrate a same-sex wedding, and the commission ruled that he had discriminated against the gay couple on the basis of sexual orientation. In one telling exchange, a member of the commission compared Phillips' denial of service to those who defend the Holocaust.

On Monday, Phillips shared his personal experience with the Holocaust — his father fought in World War II and served with one of the first battalions to liberate a concentration camp.

In 2014, the Colorado commissioner declared that "freedom of religion and religion has been used to justify all kinds of discrimination throughout history, whether it be slavery, whether it be the holocaust, whether it be — I mean, we — we can list hundreds of situations where freedom of religion has been used to justify discrimination. And to me it is one of the most despicable pieces of rhetoric that people can use to — to use their religion to hurt others."

This declaration was more than just offensive. First, Phillips made key business decisions based on his religious beliefs that cost him key revenues. Not only does his shop close on Sundays, but he has refused to bake Halloween cakes — and Halloween is the third biggest time for demand in the cake business.

On Friday, Phillips revealed that he would not bake "anti-American cakes or cakes that would disparage people in any way, including people who identify as LGBT." His opposition to baking products that would endorse messages he disagrees with is the furthest thing from twisting religion to justify discrimination against LGBT people.

Kerri Kupec, a staffer with the DOJ Office of Public Affairs, asked Phillips to recount his feelings at being accused of "despicable rhetoric" like justifying the holocaust.

"I was surprised. It was stunningly insulting, really," Phillips said. He noted that he offered to sell the same-sex couple "anything in my shop. It doesn't matter what your orientation is, I just can't do this cake."

"For the commission to compare that decision to not violate my faith to especially the Holocaust was personally insulting because my father served in World War II," the baker revealed.

His father "landed in Normandy, he crossed France and Germany, he got a Purple Heart because of a mortar attack — which sent him back to England, patched him up, sent him back to combat in Germany. He finished the war there," Phillips recalled.

"But he also was part of a group that liberated one of the concentration camps, the Buchenwald concentration camp," the baker added. "And for this commissioner to compare the decision not to bake the cake portraying this message that was so antithetical to my belief about marriage, comparing that to the Holocaust, it was just such an insult."

Phillips won his case, but others face similar situations what may not be quite as clear cut. Religious business owners should be able to refuse service to events that violate their convictions, but some LGBT activists have declared their intent to "[punish the wicked](#)," to keep these people from being able to opt out of serving same-sex weddings.

If Colorado commissioners will compare the son of a Purple Heart World War II veteran who liberated a concentration camp to defenders of the Holocaust, there is no depth to which activists will not sink in opposing religious freedom.

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## External Relations

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**From:** External Relations  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 10:10 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri A. EOP/WHO; Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** FOCUS ON THE FAMILY PRESIDENT JIM DALY'S STATEMENT ON DOJ RELIGIOUS LIBERTY TASK FORCE

My friend -

Wanted to make sure you saw this from Focus on the Family in strong support of DOJ's religious liberty task force, etc.

Warm regards

Tsg

+

Tuesday July 31, 2018

1. Jim Daly Statement: [Daly Praises New Religious Freedom Task Force](#)

"We are pleased by Attorney General Jeff Sessions' announcement of the creation of a new Religious Liberty Task Force within the Department of Justice designed to promote and protect the freedom of people of faith.

"Freedom of religion is considered to be our "first freedom," not simply because it is the first guarantee contained in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, but also because it is the freedom upon which our nation was founded and the national heritage that gives deeper meaning to our other freedoms.

"This isn't the first action taken by this Administration and the Department of Justice in furtherance of defending our religious freedom. We are encouraged to see this ongoing commitment that benefits all Americans, whether they profess a faith in God or none at all."

## Laco, Kelly (OPA)

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 7:05 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: RF memo  
**Attachments:** scanned-image\_7\_30\_2018\_19\_0\_23.pdf

Memo attached and up on the web now!

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/speech/file/1083876/download>

### Kelly Laco

Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Allen, Alexis (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 7:03 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RF memo

Signed RF memo attached.  
Have a good night!

### Alex Allen Reuss

Office of the Attorney General  
Cell: (b) (6)



Office of the Attorney General  
Washington, D. C. 20530

July 30, 2018

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: HEADS OF DEPARTMENT COMPONENTS

FROM: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 

SUBJECT: Religious Liberty Task Force

Freedom of religion has been a core American principle from the very beginning of our country—indeed, it is our “first freedom.” President Trump promised that he would make preserving and protecting our religious liberty the first priority of his administration. The Department of Justice is committed to assisting with that effort.

On October 6, 2017, I issued a *Memorandum to All Executive Departments and Agencies on Federal Law Protections for Religious Liberty* (the “Religious Liberty Memorandum”). This Religious Liberty Memorandum, which the President directed me to issue in Executive Order 13798, explained twenty key principles of religious liberty in U.S. law, and provided direction to agencies in four areas: agencies as employers, rulemaking, enforcement actions, and contracting or grant-making.

The same day, I also issued a memorandum within the Department of Justice instructing components on how to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum (the “implementation memorandum”). This implementation memorandum called on components to incorporate the Religious Liberty Memorandum in all aspects of the Department’s litigation, in advice to other agencies, in Department operations, and through its own rulemaking and its interagency rule review. The implementation memorandum required components to notify the Associate Attorney General of all issues that arise which implicate the Religious Liberty Memorandum. It assigned to the Office of Legal Policy the responsibility to review every Department rulemaking or other agency action submitted for Department review by the Office of Management and Budget to ensure its consistency with the Religious Liberty Memorandum, and it designated the Office of Legal Policy as the point of contact for any questions about either document.

Since the issuance of the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum, the Associate Attorney General’s office and the Office of Legal Policy have together coordinated the Department’s compliance with both memoranda. The Associate Attorney General’s office and the Office of Legal Policy also have worked collaboratively with staff from several other components, drawing on their expertise in this area to ensure compliance with the memoranda and to identify additional opportunities to protect and promote religious liberty.

In order to institutionalize this process, and to leverage the expertise and experience of diverse components within the Department to identify new opportunities for the Department to engage with the issue of religious liberty, today I have established a Religious Liberty Task Force (the Task Force). I will serve as Chair of the Task Force, with the Associate Attorney General serving as Vice Chair for Litigation and the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy serving as Vice Chair for Policy. The Task Force will be further composed of representatives from the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Civil Division, the Civil Rights Division, the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the Office of Legal Counsel, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, a U.S. Attorney's Office that I will designate, and other components that I may designate from time to time to aid in the Task Force's work.

The Religious Liberty Task Force will continue the Department's ongoing work to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum. The Task Force will also consider new initiatives that will further the Department's work to protect and promote religious liberty. To that end, the Task Force will: 1) facilitate Department component compliance with the memoranda; 2) address novel, recurring, or cross-cutting issues in the Department's work implicating the memoranda; 3) facilitate interagency coordination regarding the Religious Liberty Memorandum; 4) engage in outreach to the public, religious communities, and religious liberty organizations to obtain feedback on compliance with the Religious Liberty Memorandum; and 5) develop new strategies, involving litigation, policy, and legislation, to protect and promote religious liberty.

Please direct any questions about the Religious Liberty Task Force to Jeffrey Hall in the Office of the Associate Attorney General, [Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-0124; or to Jennie Bradley Lichter in the Office of Legal Policy, [Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-4606.

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 6:37 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Subject:** Re: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

Eric, thank you so much for this note. And THANK YOU for your tireless years of advocating for religious liberty and bringing so many important voices to the table today. It's a blessing to be able to serve with you in this way!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 5:27 PM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Kerri

Thank you so much for your vision for this event and your skill in moderating the panel. I thought it was amazing. It all came together perfectly.

Eric

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 5:06 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Rose, Rebecca (OJP) <[Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Mahoney, Kristen (OJP) <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <[ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

That's a fantastic turnout for an event like this in DC. Awesome.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 4:51 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

The count that Becky's team at registration gave me was 139. That's underinclusive, bc it doesn't include the DOJ people who came in and out (some stayed in most of the morning, which is great) and may have missed a few others who managed to bypass the registration table including a number of the speakers who never checked in.

Think we can very safely say "over 150."

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:49 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Rose, Rebecca (OJP) <[Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Mahoney, Kristen (OJP) <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <[ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

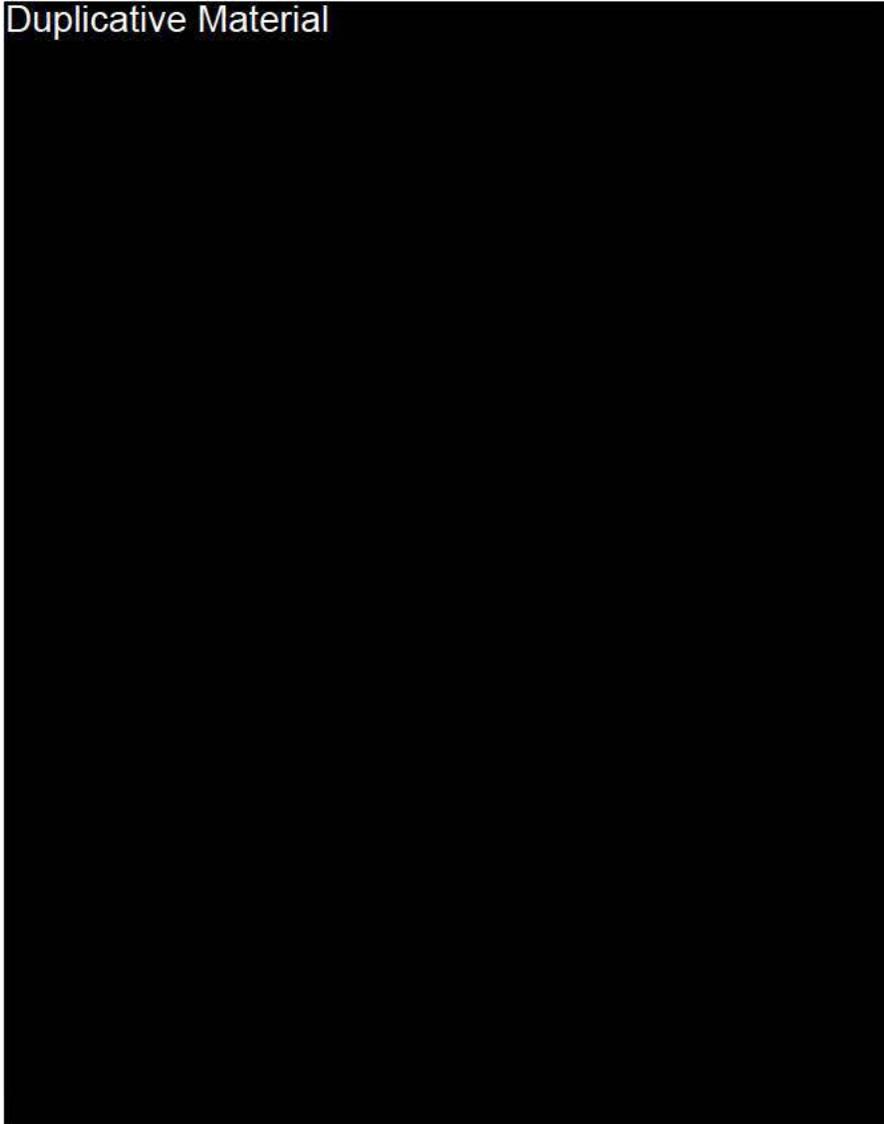
Awesome - thanks, Kelly! And great about C-Span!

The room was packed! Any final estimates in yet with total attendance?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 4:33 PM, Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material



Kupec, Kerri (OPA)

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 6:34 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Cc:** Laco, Kelly (OPA); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Rose, Rebecca (OJP); Huntoon, Alissa (OJP); Mahoney, Kristen (OJP); Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Subject:** Re: First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

Nice! I've seen some others out there too - will find and circulate.

Also, Bret Baier just reported on our event and included footage. That's a win!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 5:20 PM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Adding this FRC press release:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 30, 2018  
CONTACT: J.P. Duffy or Alice Chao, (866) FRC-NEWS or (866)-372-6397

### **Family Research Council Praises DOJ's Formation of Religious Liberty Task Force**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Department of Justice (DOJ) today announced the formation of a Religious Liberty Task Force. The Task Force, which will be chaired by Attorney General Jeff Sessions, "will continue the Department's ongoing work to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum. The Task Force will also consider new initiatives that will further the Department's work to protect and promote religious liberty."

This evening at 5:30 p.m. Eastern, Attorney General Jeff Sessions will join the [Washington Watch with Tony Perkins](#) radio program to discuss the new task force.

Family Research Council President Tony Perkins released the following statement in reaction:

"In the wake of the Obama administration, we are witnessing a revival of freedom! Today's announcement of the creation of a new Religious Liberty Task Force by Attorney General Jeff Sessions is the launch of the next phase of President Trump's campaign promise to protect the religious freedoms of all Americans. The formation of this task force puts bureaucrats on notice: you will respect the freedom of every American not only to believe but to live according to those beliefs.

"With initiatives such as this, it's clear that the Trump administration understands the dangers of government actors attempting to quarantine religious beliefs within the walls of a church instead of embracing their historical contributions to America's public good.

"No American should have to restrict the practice of their faith to within the confines of their place of worship.

"I commend President Trump and Attorney General Sessions for safeguarding the freedom to live out one's faith in all areas of society without government punishment or intimidation. History makes clear, religious freedom is the key to a strong, stable and successful nation," concluded Perkins.

-30-

---

Family Research Council  
801 G Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001  
1-800/225-4008 | Contact FRC



[Privacy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:33 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@imd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@imd.usdoj.gov)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[raccparker@imd.usdoj.gov](mailto:raccparker@imd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[ehall@imd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ehall@imd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[rtucker@imd.usdoj.gov](mailto:rtucker@imd.usdoj.gov)>; Rose, Rebecca (OJP) <[Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Mahoney, Kristen (OJP) <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6); Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <[ahudson@imd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ahudson@imd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** First Sweep of Religious Liberty Summit Press Clips

Duplicative Material



**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 5:24 PM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** Fwd: TF Memo  
**Attachments:** RF task force memorandum\_FINAL.docx; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)" <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** July 29, 2018 at 10:41:47 PM EDT  
**To:** "Kupec, Kerri (OPA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "Tucker, Rachael (OAG)" <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Laco, Kelly (OPA)" <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: TF Memo

Use this version, (b) (5)  
Kelly or Kerri, if you have the bandwidth to do a final read (b) (5)

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 10:38 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: TF Memo

Okay, thanks. Rachael, just let us know.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 29, 2018, at 10:36 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Kerri, FYI, this is current version of the TF Memo – (b) (5)

~ J.

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice

-----  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

<RF task force memorandum\_7.30.docx>

jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov

---

**From:** jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 7:18 AM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: TF Memo

Yes and yes, I think?

So subject line would be: Religious Liberty Task Force.

(b) (5)



Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 5:06 AM, Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5)



On Jul 29, 2018, at 10:41 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material



JP Duffy

---

**From:** JP Duffy  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:22 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: Family Research Council Praises DOJ's Formation of Religious Liberty Task Force

fyi

 Logo

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 30, 2018  
CONTACT: J.P. Duffy or Alice Chao, (866) FRC-NEWS or (866)-372-6397

### **Family Research Council Praises DOJ's Formation of Religious Liberty Task Force**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Department of Justice (DOJ) today announced the formation of a Religious Liberty Task Force. The Task Force, which will be chaired by Attorney General Jeff Sessions, "will continue the Department's ongoing work to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum. The Task Force will also consider new initiatives that will further the Department's work to protect and promote religious liberty."

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"No American should have to restrict the practice of their faith to within the

confines of their place of worship.

"I commend President Trump and Attorney General Sessions for safeguarding the freedom to live out one's faith in all areas of society without government punishment or intimidation. History makes clear, religious freedom is the key to a strong, stable and successful nation," concluded Perkins.

-30-

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**Family Research Council**

801 G Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

1-800/225-4008 | [Contact FRC](#)



[Privacy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

## PAO (SMO)

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**From:** PAO (SMO)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 3:54 PM  
**To:** PAO (SMO)  
**Subject:** DOJ Daily Communications Report 7/30/18

### U.S. Department of Justice

WASHINGTON

July 30, 2018

**FROM:** Office of Public Affairs  
**SUBJECT:** DOJ Daily Communications Report

### Top Stories

#### **Sessions announces 'religious liberty task force'**

"Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced Monday that the Department of Justice is creating a 'religious liberty task force.' Sessions said the task force, co-chaired by Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and the assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy, Beth Williams, will help the department fully implement the religious liberty guidance it issued last year. The guidance was a byproduct of President Trump's executive order directing agencies to respect and protect religious liberty and political speech. Sessions said on Monday that the task force will 'ensure all Justice Department components are upholding that guidance in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations.' The announcement came during the department's religious liberty summit..." ([The Hill](#))

#### **DOJ forms Religious Liberty Task Force to protect freedom of religion**

"The Justice Department on Monday announced the formation of a Religious Liberty Task Force aimed at ensuring religious groups' protections when their beliefs conflict with government regulations. In October, Attorney General Jeff Sessions issued a directive outlining a broad interpretation of religious freedom protections. It provided support for employers making hiring decisions based on their faith or objecting to providing health insurance for birth control. The task force will follow up on that directive, Mr. Sessions said Monday. It will facilitate Justice Department compliance with the memo; facilitate coordination with it across government agencies; and reach out to religious organizations for feedback and develop new policies and strategies to protect religious freedoms..." ([The Washington Times](#))

#### **Justice Department creates religious liberty task force**

"Attorney General Jeff Sessions has created a religious liberty task force to 'protect and promote religious liberty.' Speaking from the Justice Department in Washington, Sessions said the task force, which he will chair, is to help implementation of the religious liberty memo he signed in October. That 25-page memo outlines 20 guiding principles that federal agencies can use to protect religious liberty in employment, contracting and programming..." ([The Washington Examiner](#))

-

## Top Issues and Accomplishments

### **Attorney General Sessions Delivers Remarks At The Department Of Justice's Religious Liberty Summit**

"... Today I am announcing our next step: the Religious Liberty Task Force, to be co-chaired by the Associate Attorney General and the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy—Jesse and Beth. The Task Force will help the Department fully implement our religious liberty guidance by ensuring that all Justice Department components are upholding that guidance in the cases they bring and defend, the arguments they make in court, the policies and regulations they adopt, and how we conduct our operations. That includes making sure that our employees know their duties to accommodate people of faith..."

### **Not Responsive Records**



### Tomorrow's Events

There are no scheduled public events.

###

## Rafoel Hoffman

---

**From:** Rafoel Hoffman  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:48 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Hamodia Newspaper in ref Religious Liberty Task Force

Thank You

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) [mailto:Kelly.Laco@usdoj.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:47 PM  
**To:** Rafael Hoffman; Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Hamodia Newspaper in ref Religious Liberty Task Force

Language is below.

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

Freedom of religion has been a core American principle from the very beginning of our country—indeed, it is our “first freedom.” President Trump promised that he would make preserving and protecting our religious liberty the first priority of his administration. The Department of Justice is committed to assisting with that effort.

On October 6, 2017, I issued a *Memorandum to All Executive Departments and Agencies on Federal Law Protections for Religious Liberty* (the “Religious Liberty Memorandum”). This Religious Liberty Memorandum, which the President directed me to issue in Executive Order 13798, explained twenty key principles of religious liberty in U.S. law, and provided direction to agencies in four areas: agencies as employers, rulemaking, enforcement actions, and contracting or grant-making.

The same day, I also issued a memorandum within the Department of Justice instructing components on how to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum (the “implementation memorandum”). This implementation memorandum called on components to incorporate the Religious Liberty Memorandum in all aspects of the Department’s litigation, in advice to other agencies, in Department operations, and through its own rulemaking and its interagency rule review. The implementation memorandum required components to notify the Associate Attorney General of all issues that arise which implicate the Religious Liberty Memorandum. It assigned to the Office of Legal Policy the responsibility to review every Department rulemaking or other agency action submitted for Department review by the Office of Management and Budget to ensure its consistency with the Religious Liberty Memorandum, and it (like the Religious Liberty Memorandum) designated OLP as the point of contact for any questions about either document.

Since the issuance of the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum, the Associate Attorney General’s office and the Office of Legal Policy have together coordinated the Department’s compliance with both memoranda. The Associate Attorney General’s office and the Office of Legal Policy also have worked collaboratively with staff from several other components, drawing on their expertise in this area to ensure compliance with the memoranda and to identify additional opportunities to protect and promote religious liberty.

In order to institutionalize this process, and to leverage the expertise and experience of diverse components within the Department to identify new opportunities for the Department to engage with the issue of

religious liberty, today I have established a Religious Liberty Task Force. I will serve as Chair of the Task Force, with the Associate Attorney General serving as Vice Chair for Litigation and the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy serving as Vice Chair for Policy. The task force will be further composed of representatives from the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Civil Division, the Civil Rights Division, the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the Office of Legal Counsel, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, a U.S. Attorney's Office that I will designate, and other components that I may designate from time to time to aid in the Task Force's work.

The Religious Liberty Task Force will continue the Department's ongoing work to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum. The Task Force will also consider new initiatives that will further the Department's work to protect and promote religious liberty. To that end, the Task Force will: 1) facilitate Department component compliance with the memoranda; 2) address novel, recurring, or cross-cutting issues in the Department's work implicating the memoranda; 3) facilitate interagency coordination regarding the Religious Liberty Memorandum; 4) engage in outreach to the public, religious communities, and religious liberty organizations to obtain feedback on compliance with the Religious Liberty Memorandum; and 5) develop new strategies, involving litigation, policy, and legislation, to protect and promote religious liberty.

Please direct any questions about the Religious Liberty Task Force to Jeffrey Hall in the Office of the Associate Attorney General, [Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-0124; or to Jennie Bradley Lichter in the Office of Legal Policy, [Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-4606.

---

**From:** Rafoel Hoffman <[rhoffman@hamodia.com](mailto:rhoffman@hamodia.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:44 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Hamodia Newspaper in ref Religious Liberty Task Force

Please forward the below mentioned memo as soon as possible.  
Thank You

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 1:22 PM  
**To:** Navas, Nicole (OPA)  
**Cc:** Rafael Hoffman; Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: Hamodia Newspaper in ref Religious Liberty Task Force

Hi Rafael - Kelly will direct you to the memo. That should contain what you need.

Best,  
Kerri

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 1:16 PM, Navas, Nicole (OPA) <[nnavas@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:nnavas@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi Rafael,  
Good to hear from you. I added to email my colleagues to assist with your inquiry. I am assigned the Department's Criminal Division. Thank you

Nicole Navas Oxman  
Spokesperson/Public Affairs Specialist  
U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

---

**From:** Rafoel Hoffman <[rhoffman@hamodia.com](mailto:rhoffman@hamodia.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 1:09 PM  
**To:** Navas, Nicole (OPA) <[nnavas@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:nnavas@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Media Inquiry

I am writing from the Hamodia newspaper. Not sure if you recall, but we have corresponded in the past (both regarding news stories and investigating whether we are members of the same Oxman family).

We are working on a story regarding the newly announced Religious Liberty Task Force. I scanned the AG's comments today and checked the web site, but could not find a clear mission statement for the task force. If you could send some basic details as to what the goals/areas of focus will be, staffing levels, etc, it would be greatly appreciated. Based on that, we might have some follow-up questions.

Thank You

Rafael Hoffman  
Hamodia Newspaper  
T: 718-853-9094 Ext (b) (6)  
F: 718-853-9103  
E: [rhoffman@hamodia.com](mailto:rhoffman@hamodia.com)

**Hudson, Andrew (OLP)**

---

**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:42 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: Religious Liberty Task Force

Thanks.

---

**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:40 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (5) Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: Religious Liberty Task Force

I've handled their request. Ignore.

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:40 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Laco, Kelly (OPA) <klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Media Request: Religious Liberty Task Force

What is PJ media?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Tyler O'Neil (b) (6)  
**Date:** July 30, 2018 at 2:14:58 PM EDT  
**To:** <jeffery.hall@usdoj.gov>, <jennifer.lichter@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Media Request: Religious Liberty Task Force

Jeffery, Jennifer,

I'm writing about the Attorney General's comments and the new task force for PJ Media and would like a few answers to these questions.

Under "new strategies involving litigation, policy, and legislation, to protect and promote religious liberty," would the DOJ's Religious Liberty Task Force consider investigation or action against organizations that attack religious organizations as "hate groups"? Jeff Sessions mentioned a "dangerous movement" that is "challenging and eroding our great tradition of religious freedom."

Would the new task force undertake efforts to expose that movement?

My deadline on this is 3:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Kind Regards,

Tyler O'Neil  
Assistant Editor  
PJ Media

(b) (6)

**Tucker, Rachael (OAG)**

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:26 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Subject:** RE: RF task force memorandum\_FINAL RT  
**Attachments:** RF task force memorandum\_FINAL RT.docx

Updated. I think this is fine.

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:22 PM  
**To:** Rachel Parker (ASG) (racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kerri Kupec (JMD) (b) (6) Jeffrey Hall (OASG) (jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RF task force memorandum\_FINAL RT

(b) (5)

**Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)**

---

**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:18 PM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Subject:** Religious Liberty TPs  
**Attachments:** Religious Liberty Summit Talkers--DRAFT (DCH) (JBL) v2.docx

Beth,

Attached are updated TPs for your Religious Liberty interview today. Thank you to Jennie and Drew for drafting. Your interview will be over the phone at 5:15 from your office. I'll plan to stop by around 5:00 to prep you on any last minute details. Thanks.

Katie

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

## Hudson, Andrew (OLP)

---

**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:13 PM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo  
**Attachments:** Religious Liberty Summit Talkers--DRAFT (DCH) (JBL) v2.docx

Great, thanks! I made a few minor tweaks, but that is great material.

Yes, we should do it from Beth's office—I think she'll be most comfortable there, and it also avoids having someone accidentally interrupt (which could happen in a conference room). If she prefers to do it elsewhere, just let me know—we can also use the OPA conference room if that's better.

---

**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:11 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

Thanks, Jennie.

Drew – Where will this interview happen? I assume it's over the phone; will we conduct the interview from BAW's office?

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:00 PM  
**To:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

Looks great! Here are my additions re today, in case they're useful. I'm going up to CRT for a follow-up meeting and will be tied up until about 3.30. hope this helps in the meantime.

---

**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 8:25 AM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

Great, thanks. Jennie, you're the SME here—anything huge that I'm missing (I know you're also swamped with the Summit, though)?

---

**From:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 8:19 AM  
**To:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <[ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

They look good to me.

**Katie Crytzer**  
**Chief of Staff**  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 353-3069  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov](mailto:Katherine.Crytzer2@usdoj.gov)

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**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 7:42 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP) <[kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kcrytzer@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

(b) (5) Here's the draft talkers doc—any comments from either of you? (b) (5)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 2:41 PM  
**To:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP) <[ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ahudson@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Williams, Beth A (OLP) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

Sure. Here's the agenda, and here is the current draft of the Task Force memo—(b) (5)  
Feel free to call me at (b) (6) when you're able. (b) (6)

---

**From:** Hudson, Andrew (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 11:16 AM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

Absolutely. Jennie, do you have a couple of minutes to discuss later this afternoon? And can you send me the schedule for the summit?

Beth, I've got our religious liberty memo talkers, and will get them updated based on what they want you to hit tomorrow afternoon. I'll get those to Jennie for her thoughts and then we'll get the combined ones to

you ASAP.

On Jul 29, 2018, at 10:12 AM, Williams, Beth A (OLP) (b) (6) wrote:

If these are going forward tomorrow, can we get a few of the talking points they would like me to make? Thanks, Beth

**Beth A. Williams**  
Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4601  
(b) (6)

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 5:43 PM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Potential Monday Radio Hits on Religious Liberty Memo

Hi Beth,

I just wanted to touch base with you about scheduling a few radio hits for you in the afternoon on Monday (to air Monday evening/Tuesday AM drive time) centered around the news of the Task Force Memo and the Religious Liberty Summit in general.

(b) (5)

The AG will be interviewed in the afternoon on Monday by the Tony Perkins show on this topic.

If you have any questions/concerns please let me know. Again, I'll circle back with a few options and we can work together on timing on Monday. Please let me know if you have blocks of time open that afternoon. We could also tape Tuesday morning if we need.

Thanks!

Kelly

**Kelly Laco**  
Office of Public Affairs  
Department of Justice  
Office: 202-353-0173  
Cell: (b) (6)

**Williams, Beth A (OLP)**

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**From:** Williams, Beth A (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 11:24 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening session - tomorrow afternoon

Thanks Jennie. Let me talk with Katie and check the schedule tomorrow. If we can fit it in, I'd like to stop by.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 29, 2018, at 10:28 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Beth, would you like to stop by the religious liberty "listening session" that is scheduled for tomorrow afternoon, after the event ends?

CRT has scheduled a series of these, with groups with which they have relationships. (These seem to be part of their standard operating procedure; I believe the last time they did a set of listening sessions was prior to the AG religious liberty guidance.) Eric Treene has invited me and I went to the two last week. (b) (5)

conversations have ultimately ranged beyond just CRT concerns – some (b) (5)

(b) (5)

It is scheduled from 2pm to 3.30.

Jennie

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

Treene, Eric (CRT)

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 6:47 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** Re: Embargoed copy of AG Sessions' religious freedom announcement

(b) (5). Thanks

On Jul 29, 2018, at 2:30 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Hey, Eric – (b) (5)

Thanks!  
Kerri

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 2:29 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Embargoed copy of AG Sessions' religious freedom announcement

Hi, all – We'd like to give you a preview of AG Sessions' announcement at tomorrow's DOJ religious freedom summit. (b) (5)

Feel free to call me (b) (6) or email me if you have any questions. We appreciate any efforts to amplify the announcement and all that you do on behalf of religious freedom.

Best,  
Kerri

 The content of this document is confidential.

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY  
FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2018

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL SESSIONS TO MAKE  
ANNOUNCEMENT ON PROTECTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM  
AT JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S RELIGIOUS LIBERTY SUMMIT**

**\*\*\*\*\* MEDIA ADVISORY \*\*\*\*\***

WASHINGTON -- The Department of Justice will hold a Religious Liberty Summit on **MONDAY, July 30, 2018**. The event will be hosted by Acting Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio and include an announcement on protecting religious freedom by Attorney General Sessions, remarks by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, Archbishop Kurtz, and Senator Lankford, and two featured panel discussions.

**WHO**

Attorney General Jeff Sessions;  
Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein;  
Acting Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio;  
Assistant Attorney General Beth Williams for the Office of Legal Policy;  
Acting Assistant Attorney General John Gore for the Civil Rights Division;  
Archbishop of Louisville Joseph Edward Kurtz;  
United States Senator from Oklahoma James Lankford.

**WHAT**

The Justice Department is holding a Religious Liberty Summit hosted by Acting Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio. It will include an announcement on protecting religious freedom by Attorney General Sessions, remarks by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, Archbishop Kurtz, and Senator Lankford, and two featured panel discussions.

**Panel: The Promise and Challenge of Religious Liberty**

Moderator: Kerri Kupec, Department of Justice

- Kelly Clemente, Bethany Christian Services
- Derrick A. Max, Co-Founder and Principal, Cornerstone Schools
  - Rabbi Ruvi New, Director, Chabad of East Boca Raton
    - Jack Phillips, Masterpiece Cakeshop
- Dr. Harpreet Singh, MASSAH, Community Relations Service, DOJ

**Panel: Legal and Policy Experts**

Moderator: John Gore, Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division

- Shay Dvoretzky, Partner, Jones Day
- Emilie Kao, Director, Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Religion & Civil Society, Heritage Foundation
- Michael W. McConnell, Professor of Law and Director, Constitutional Law Center, Stanford Law School

- Asma Uddin, Senior Scholar and Faculty, Religious Freedom Center of the Freedom Forum Institute

**WHEN**

MONDAY, July 30, 2018  
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EDT

**WHERE**

Department of Justice  
Robert F. Kennedy Building  
Great Hall  
950 Constitution Ave, NW  
Washington, D.C.

The event will be LIVESTREAMED at: [www.justice.gov/live](http://www.justice.gov/live)

**OPEN PRESS**

(Camera Preset: 9:00 a.m. EDT // Final access time for print media without gear:  
9:15 a.m. EDT)

**NOTE: All media must RSVP and present government-issued photo I.D. (such as a driver's license) as well as valid media credentials.**

The RSVP and any inquiries regarding logistics should be directed to Kelly Laco at [kelly.laco@usdoj.gov](mailto:kelly.laco@usdoj.gov) AND [press@usdoj.gov](mailto:press@usdoj.gov).

# # #

Do not reply to this message. If you have questions, please use the contacts in the message or call the Office of Public Affairs at 202-514-2007.

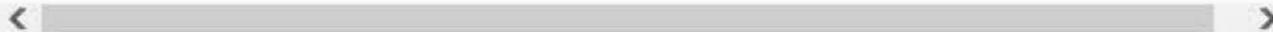
Kerri Kupec  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Public Affairs

(b) (6)

(office)

(b) (6)

(cell)



**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 29, 2018 2:05 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** task force proposal  
**Attachments:** RF task force memorandum\_7.29.docx

Rachael, I hope you had a great trip!! Beth made a couple of small tweaks to the TF Memo, so when you review please use the attached version. (I haven't gotten any further feedback or edits from the team after it circulated on Friday night.)

Thanks-  
Jennie

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 11:21 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

Eric, great idea. I had forgotten about that.

I'm attaching a new clean version of the TF memo that reflects all of the changes and ideas we've been tossing around. If you have the time – please give it a close read in the next day or so; we should be scrubbing for nits at this point as well as for substance so that we can get this ready to issue.

Thanks team!  
Jennie

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 10:36 AM  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

(b) (5)



Eric

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 2:32 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov>

~~mailto:eric.treene@crt.usdoj.gov; jennifer.lichter@jmd.usdoj.gov; kupec.kerri@opa.usdoj.gov; mary.thomas@crt.usdoj.gov~~  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

(b) (5)

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**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 8:48 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: task force proposal

(b) (5)

On Jul 26, 2018, at 8:23 AM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5)

So always good to emphasize.

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 10:27 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

I have just now realized that Kerri's email about the TF went only to me and not to the group.  
Looping everyone in -

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 24, 2018 11:08 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: task force proposal

Yay, so happy about this!

(b) (5)

. The other ones, okay I guess.

I like the memo -

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Treene, Eric (CRT)" <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** July 24, 2018 at 9:16:47 AM EDT  
**To:** "Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)" <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Tucker, Rachael (OAG)" <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)" <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)" <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Kupec, Kerri (OPA)" <[kkupec@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:kkupec@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Thomas, Mary (CRT)" <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

I think this looks great. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Eric

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 10:49 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

Team – Rachael and I have both reviewed the draft task force memorandum – here is where we are now. Additional edits welcome. In (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Thanks!  
Jennie

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 12:20 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

I am reviewing. Today is crazy so it will be after 5.

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 10:45 AM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** task force proposal

Where do things stand on the draft AG memo creating a task force on religious liberty?

Thanks

Eric

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 12:08 AM  
**To:** Hamilton, Gene (OAG)  
**Subject:** Re: (b)(6) with pertinent information for the Religious Liberty Task Force

Thanks for thinking this through w me.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 1, 2018, at 4:52 PM, Hamilton, Gene (OAG) <[ghamilton@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ghamilton@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

<https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/contact-doj.htm>

Gene P. Hamilton  
Counselor to the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 1, 2018 4:37 PM  
**To:** Hamilton, Gene (OAG) <[ghamilton@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ghamilton@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: (b)(6) with pertinent information for the Religious Liberty Task Force

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

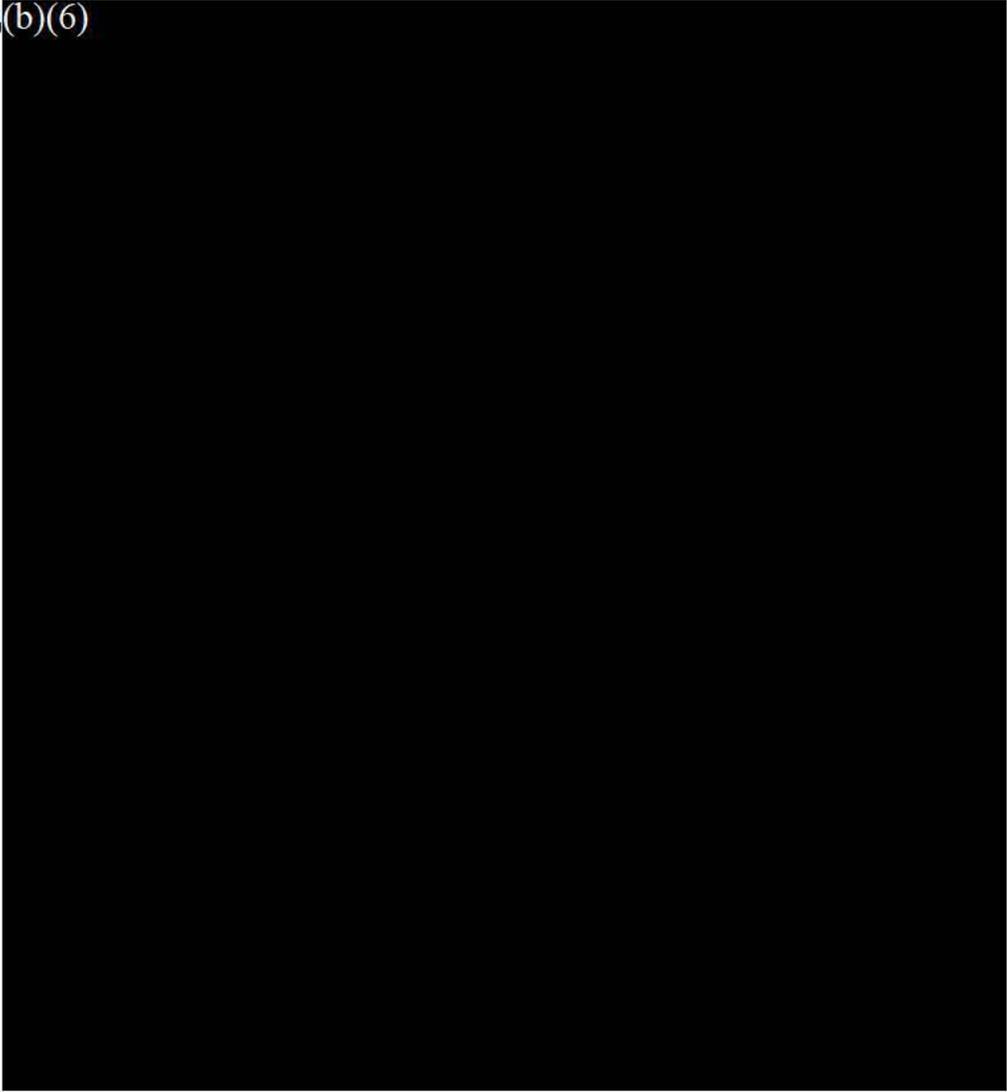
**From:** (b)(6)  
**Date:** August 1, 2018 at 9:13:04 AM EDT  
**To:** <[jeffrey.hall@usdoj.gov](mailto:jeffrey.hall@usdoj.gov)>, <[jennifer.lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:jennifer.lichter@usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** (b)(6) with pertinent information for the Religious Liberty Task Force

Dear Mr. Hall and Ms. Lichter,

Please extend my gratitude to Attorney General Sessions for his creation of the Religious Liberty Task Force. I thank both of you, too, for participating in this greatly needed endeavor. President Trump and AG Sessions are absolutely correct about the dire and immediate need to preserve and protect our religious liberty.

(b)(6)

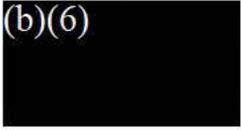
(b)(6)



I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

(b)(6)



**Rothenberg, Laurence E (OLP)**

---

**From:** Rothenberg, Laurence E (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 4:31 PM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** coverage of RL summit

<https://www.law.com/nationallawjournal/2018/07/30/whos-leading-ag-jeff-sessions-new-religious-liberty-task-force/?kw=Who%27s%20Leading%20AG%20Jeff%20Sessions%27s%20New%20%27Religious%20Liberty%20Task%20Force%27?&et=editorial&bu=National%20Law%20Journal&cn=20180730&src=EMC-Email&pt=Afternoon%20Update>

Laurence E. Rothenberg  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
(202) 514-3116

**Mark Tapscott**

---

**From:** Mark Tapscott  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 1:27 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) - Kerri Kupec  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Freedom Task Force

Of course, whatever works for you.  
I'm between credentials (Daily Caller to Lifezette) so you will  
have to clear me in.

Mark Tapscott

(b) (6) (Cell)

@mtapscott (Twitter)

(b) (6)

Senior Editor,  
[LifeZette](#)

Editor,  
[HillFaith](#) - A Project of the 52-Week Ministry Foundation

Member, First Amendment Center's National Freedom of Information Act [Hall of Fame](#),  
[Class of 2006](#). CPAC's 2008 Journalist of the Year. Founding editor, Washington Examiner  
Watchdog Team, 2012/Daily Caller News Foundation Investigative Group, 2015.

*Corruption in government is a bipartisan problem. Exposing it is a trans-partisan obligation.*

On Mon, Jul 30, 2018 at 1:24 PM Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) wrote:

Let's get together next week. Perhaps you can come see me at the WH?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 12:13 PM, Mark Tapscott (b) (6) wrote:

**HERE YOU GO:**

<https://www.lifezette.com/2018/07/sessions-forms-religious-liberty-task-force-to-move-doj/>

Mark Tapscott

MARK TAPSCOTT

(b) (6) (Cell)

@mtapscott (Twitter)

(b) (6)

Senior Editor,

[LifeZette](#)

Editor,

[HillFaith](#) - A Project of the 52-Week Ministry Foundation

Member, First Amendment Center's National Freedom of Information Act [Hall of Fame, Class of 2006](#). CPAC's 2008 Journalist of the Year. Founding editor, Washington Examiner Watchdog Team, 2012/Daily Caller News Foundation Investigative Group, 2015.

*Corruption in government is a bipartisan problem. Exposing it is a trans-partisan obligation.*

On Mon, Jul 30, 2018 at 11:24 AM Mark Tapscott (b) (6) wrote:

Hey, Kerri, it's great to see your influence at work within DOJ! You are a blessing.

Two things for you:

First, check out HillFaith, my blog that is the first step on the road ultimately to a full-time ministry focused on putting Gospel Apologetics in front of congressional staff. I would be honored if you would share the link with your believing friends and colleagues, especially those who work on the Hill and in faith-led advocacy groups. You might find the most recent post to be of particular interest:

<https://hillfaithproject.wordpress.com/>

Second, one of my reporters covered the Sessions announcement and as soon as I finish this note to you, I will be editing and posting it. I will send you the link once it's up.

In the meantime, I was an non-career SESer during the Reagan years, so I can appreciate how busy you are, but if you can make a few minutes on your schedule in the next weeks, I would love to come by your office and catch up. (b)(6)

[REDACTED]

Mark Tapscott

(b) (6) (Cell)

@mtapscott (Twitter)

(b) (6)

Senior Editor,

[LifeZette](#)

Editor,

[HillFaith](#) - A Project of the 52-Week Ministry Foundation

Member, First Amendment Center's National Freedom of Information Act [Hall of Fame, Class of 2006](#). CPAC's 2008 Journalist of the Year. Founding editor, Washington Examiner Watchdog Team, 2012/Daily Caller News Foundation Investigative Group, 2015.

*Corruption in government is a bipartisan problem. Exposing it is a trans-partisan obligation.*

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 1:22 PM  
**To:** Laco, Kelly (OPA); Pettit, Mark T. (OPA)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Religious Freedom Task Force

For round-up

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Mark Tapscott (b) (6)  
**Date:** July 30, 2018 at 12:12:32 PM EDT  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Freedom Task Force

Duplicative Material



**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 1:22 PM  
**To:** Mark Tapscott  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Freedom Task Force

Awesome! Thanks, Mark!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 30, 2018, at 12:13 PM, Mark Tapscott <(b) (6)> wrote:

Duplicative Material



Jenna Ellis

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**From:** Jenna Ellis  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 8:50 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Re: EMBARGOED UNTIL 9:40 AM: Attorney General Sessions' Announcement on Religious Liberty  
**Attachments:** ELLIS\_DOJReligiousLibertySummit.docx

Here's my piece that's set to go out approx 9:45am in Wash Examiner.



**JENNA ELLIS, Esq.**  
**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC POLICY**  
Dr. James Dobson Family Institute  
dobsonfamilyinstitute.com  
Office: 719.244.9300 x(b)(6)  
Cell: (b)(6)

On Jul 30, 2018, at 7:54 AM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6) wrote:

Hi all,

The AG's memo that will be issued today is below. **The embargo will lift at the beginning of the AG's remarks (approximately 9:40 am).** At that time, a signed version of the memo will be released with the AG's remarks. If you choose to publish the memo, please wait until the final version is released – the below is for your use before the signed memo is published.

The event will be livestreamed from the Great Hall from 9:30am-12:30pm EDT [here](#).

Thank you!

Kerri

Freedom of religion has been a core American principle from the very beginning of our country—indeed, it is our “first freedom.” President Trump promised that he would make preserving and protecting our religious liberty the first priority of his administration. The Department of Justice is committed to assisting with that effort.

On October 6, 2017, I issued a *Memorandum to All Executive Departments and Agencies on Federal Law Protections for Religious Liberty* (the “Religious Liberty Memorandum”). This Religious Liberty Memorandum, which the President directed me to issue in Executive Order 13798, explained twenty key principles of religious liberty in U.S. law, and provided direction to agencies in four areas: agencies as employers, rulemaking, enforcement actions, and contracting or grant-making.

The same day, I also issued a memorandum within the Department of Justice instructing components on how to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum (the “implementation memorandum”). This implementation memorandum called on components to incorporate the Religious Liberty Memorandum in all aspects of the Department's litigation, in advice to other agencies, in Department operations, and through its own rulemaking and its interagency rule review. The implementation memorandum required components to notify the Associate

Attorney General of all issues that arise which implicate the Religious Liberty Memorandum. It assigned to the Office of Legal Policy the responsibility to review every Department rulemaking or other agency action submitted for Department review by the Office of Management and Budget to ensure its consistency with the Religious Liberty Memorandum, and it (like the Religious Liberty Memorandum) designated OLP as the point of contact for any questions about either document.

Since the issuance of the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum, the Associate Attorney General's office and the Office of Legal Policy have together coordinated the Department's compliance with both memoranda. The Associate Attorney General's office and the Office of Legal Policy also have worked collaboratively with staff from several other components, drawing on their expertise in this area to ensure compliance with the memoranda and to identify additional opportunities to protect and promote religious liberty.

In order to institutionalize this process, and to leverage the expertise and experience of diverse components within the Department to identify new opportunities for the Department to engage with the issue of religious liberty, today I have established a Religious Liberty Task Force. I will serve as Chair of the Task Force, with the Associate Attorney General serving as Vice Chair for Litigation and the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy serving as Vice Chair for Policy. The task force will be further composed of representatives from the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Civil Division, the Civil Rights Division, the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the Office of Legal Counsel, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, a U.S. Attorney's Office that I will designate, and other components that I may designate from time to time to aid in the Task Force's work.

The Religious Liberty Task Force will continue the Department's ongoing work to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum. The Task Force will also consider new initiatives that will further the Department's work to protect and promote religious liberty. To that end, the Task Force will: 1) facilitate Department component compliance with the memoranda; 2) address novel, recurring, or cross-cutting issues in the Department's work implicating the memoranda; 3) facilitate interagency coordination regarding the Religious Liberty Memorandum; 4) engage in outreach to the public, religious communities, and religious liberty organizations to obtain feedback on compliance with the Religious Liberty Memorandum; and 5) develop new strategies, involving litigation, policy, and legislation, to protect and promote religious liberty.

Please direct any questions about the Religious Liberty Task Force to Jeffrey Hall in the Office of the Associate Attorney General, [Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-0124; or to Jennie Bradley Lichter in the Office of Legal Policy, [Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-4606.

Kerri Kupec  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Public Affairs

(b)(6)

(office)

(b)(6)

(cell)

## Laco, Kelly (OPA)

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**From:** Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 7:44 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** Language

Hi all,

The AG's memo that will be issued today is below. **The embargo will lift at the beginning of the AG's remarks (approximately 9:40 am).** At that time, a signed version of the memo will be sent out with the AG's remarks. We ask that if you upload a picture, it will be of the signed memo, the below is for your use before the signed memo is published.

The event will be livestreamed from the Great Hall from 9:30am-12:30pm EDT [here](#).

Thank you!

Kelly

Freedom of religion has been a core American principle from the very beginning of our country—indeed, it is our “first freedom.” President Trump promised that he would make preserving and protecting our religious liberty the first priority of his administration. The Department of Justice is committed to assisting with that effort.

On October 6, 2017, I issued a *Memorandum to All Executive Departments and Agencies on Federal Law Protections for Religious Liberty* (the “Religious Liberty Memorandum”). This Religious Liberty Memorandum, which the President directed me to issue in Executive Order 13798, explained twenty key principles of religious liberty in U.S. law, and provided direction to agencies in four areas: agencies as employers, rulemaking, enforcement actions, and contracting or grant-making.

The same day, I also issued a memorandum within the Department of Justice instructing components on how to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum (the “implementation memorandum”). This implementation memorandum called on components to incorporate the Religious Liberty Memorandum in all aspects of the Department's litigation, in advice to other agencies, in Department operations, and through its own rulemaking and its interagency rule review. The implementation memorandum required components to notify the Associate Attorney General of all issues that arise which implicate the Religious Liberty Memorandum. It assigned to the Office of Legal Policy the responsibility to review every Department rulemaking or other agency action submitted for Department review by the Office of Management and Budget to ensure its consistency with the Religious Liberty Memorandum, and it (like the Religious Liberty Memorandum) designated OLP as the point of contact for any questions about either document.

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In order to institutionalize this process, and to leverage the expertise and experience of diverse components within the Department to identify new opportunities for the Department to engage with the issue of religious liberty, today I have established a Religious Liberty Task Force. I will serve as Chair of the Task Force, with the Associate Attorney General serving as Vice Chair for Litigation and the Assistant Attorney

General for the Office of Legal Policy serving as Vice Chair for Policy. The task force will be further composed of representatives from the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, the Civil Division, the Civil Rights Division, the Environment and Natural Resources Division, the Office of Legal Counsel, the Office of Legal Policy, the Office of Public Affairs, a U.S. Attorney's Office that I will designate, and other components that I may designate from time to time to aid in the Task Force's work.

The Religious Liberty Task Force will continue the Department's ongoing work to implement the Religious Liberty Memorandum and the implementation memorandum. The Task Force will also consider new initiatives that will further the Department's work to protect and promote religious liberty. To that end, the Task Force will: 1) facilitate Department component compliance with the memoranda; 2) address novel, recurring, or cross-cutting issues in the Department's work implicating the memoranda; 3) facilitate interagency coordination regarding the Religious Liberty Memorandum; 4) engage in outreach to the public, religious communities, and religious liberty organizations to obtain feedback on compliance with the Religious Liberty Memorandum; and 5) develop new strategies, involving litigation, policy, and legislation, to protect and promote religious liberty.

Please direct any questions about the Religious Liberty Task Force to Jeffrey Hall in the Office of the Associate Attorney General, [Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Hall@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-0124; or to Jennie Bradley Lichter in the Office of Legal Policy, [Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov), phone (202) 514-4606.

**Williams, Beth A (OLP)**

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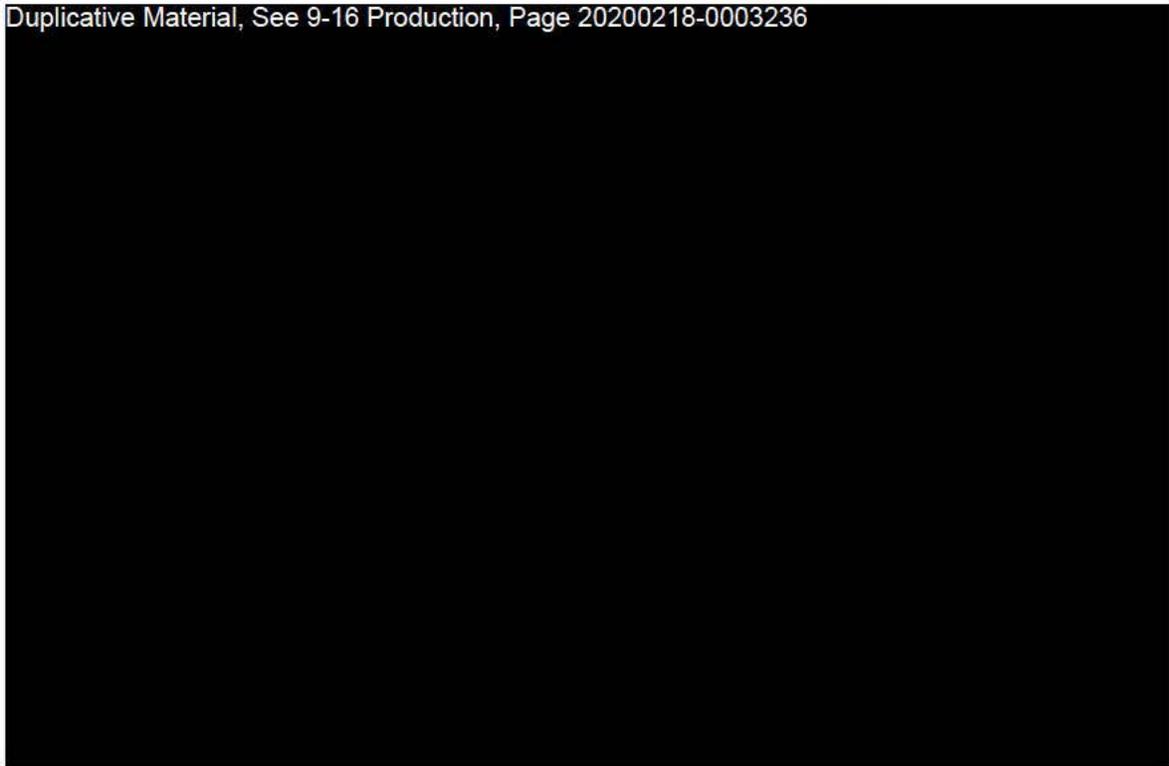
**From:** Williams, Beth A (OLP)  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 28, 2018 10:14 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** Re: RL Task Force

Thanks Jennie

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 28, 2018, at 9:43 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material, See 9-16 Production, Page 20200218-0003236



**Rose, Rebecca (OJP)**

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**From:** Rose, Rebecca (OJP)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 9:26 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Treene, Eric (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Hildabrand, Dorothy W. (OLA)  
**Cc:** Mahoney, Kristen (OJP)  
**Subject:** RE: RSVP Status  
**Attachments:** Invitation Status\_7-27-18.xlsx

Ok, I think I got through all of my emails. Updated list attached. We are at 142. If you think I may have missed someone, don't hesitate to let me know.

Becky

---

**From:** Rose, Rebecca (OJP)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 5:11 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hildabrand, Dorothy W. (OLA) <dwhildabrand@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RSVP Status

Hi all,

A few of you have asked for an update. Attached is the latest as of about an hour ago, but they are still coming in. This has us at 131. I will send another update over the weekend.

Becky

Rebecca M. Rose  
Senior Policy Advisor  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice  
T: 202.598.9314  
E: [Rebecca.Rose@usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@usdoj.gov)

Name	Last Name	Organization	Email	Attending (Yes or No)	Notes	Name Badge
Eftakhar	Alam	Islamic Relief USA	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(5)	Y
Sarah	Albrecht	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		YES		Y
Jonathan	Alexandre	Liberty Counsel				
Montse	Alvarado	Becket — Religious Liberty for All		YES		Y
Anna	Anderson	American Principles Project		NO	Wants her colleague Jon Schweppe to attend in her stead. Please confirm OK. APPROVED.	
Ryan	Anderson	The Heritage Foundation				
Chris	Anzidei	Archdiocese of Washington		YES		Y
Prof. Hadley	Arkes	Amherst College				
Kristina	Arriaga	US Commission on International Religious Freedom				
Ruben	Backer	Congregation of Rabbi Ruvy New		YES	Requested to attend; APPROVED	
Christopher	Baldacci	The Heritage Foundation		YES		
Deanna	Ballard	Samaritan's Purse		YES		
Dan	Balserak	HHS				
Diana	Banister	<i>Shirley &amp; Banister Public Affairs</i>		YES		
Stephanie	Barclay	Becket		NO		
Tiffany	Barrans	ACLU				
Eric	Baxter	Becket — Religious Liberty for All		YES		Y
Dominic	Bayer	The Heritage Foundation		YES		
Greg	Baylor	ADF				
Mike	Beatty	USDA				
Amber	Beck	Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Ap		YES	(b)(6)	Y
Nick	Bell	U.S. Department of Labor		YES		Y
March	Bell	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		YES		Y
Daniel	Benson	Jones Day		NO		
Evan	Berlanti	(b)(5) Georgetown student				
Jonathan	Berry	DOL		NO		
Mortin	Blackwell	Leadership Institute				
Daniel	Blomberg	Becket Fund				
Mitch	Boersma	Catholic Information Center,				
Anna	Bowers	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	YES	(b)(5) Confirm OK; APPROVED		
Katherine	Braga	USDA				
John	Brennan	Brennan Law LLC	YES	(b)(5)		
Nicholas	Brown	Congressman Jody B. Hice	YES		Y	
Louis	Brown	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	YES		Y	
Nathaniel	Bruno	ADF	NO			

Benjamin	Bull	First Liberty	(b)(6)		He would like First Liberty Institute colleague Ken Klukowski attend in his stead. (b)(5)	
				NO	APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)	
Justin	Burnham	(b)(5) going to Covington				F/U
Justin	Butterfield	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		YES		Y
Ibrahim	Buyukcelebi	Rumi Forum		YES		Y
Jeremy	Bylund	King & Spalding				
Hillary	Byrnes	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops		YES		Y
<b>Ilhan</b>	<b>Cagri</b>	<b>Muslim Public Affairs Council</b>		<b>YES</b>		
Alexandra	Campana	Christian Schools International				
Galen	Carey	National Association of Evangelicals		YES		Y
Stanley	Carolson-Thies	Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance		NO		
Michael	Carvin	Jones Day				
Emre	Celik	Rumi Forum		YES	He would like to bring his colleauge Ibrahim Buyukcelebi. Please confirm OK. APPROVED	Y
Tim	Chandler	Alliance Defending Freedom		YES		Y
David	Christensen	Family Research Council		YES		Y
Scott	Christensen	Hughes Hubbard & Reed (represents Boys Town and Boy Scouts)				
Cathy	Cleaver Ruse	Family Research Council				
Paul	Clement	Kirkland & Ellis				
<b>Margaret</b>	<b>Clemmons</b>	<b>The Heritage Foundation</b>		<b>YES</b>		
Tim	Clinton	American Association of Christian Counselors				
Shannen	Coffin	Steptoe		NO	(b)(5)	
Zach	Cohen	Winston & Strawn		YES		Y
Abba	Cohen	Agudath Israel of America		YES		Y
Joseph	Cohn	FIRE				
Kim	Colby	Christian Legal Society		YES		Y
Marcus	Coleman	FEMA				
Marie	Connelly Meszaros	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		YES		Y
<b>Caroline</b>	<b>Cook</b>			<b>YES</b>		
David	Cortman	ADF				
<b>Michael</b>	<b>Costigan</b>	<b>U.S. Department of Justice</b>		<b>YES</b>		
Laura	Cunliffe	WH				
Laura	Cunliffe	WH				
Andrea	Curry	Eagle Forum				
William	Daroff	United Jewish Communities				
Joe	Davis	Becket				

Daniel	Defonce	The Heritage Foundation	(b)(6)		Would it be appropriate if I sent this invitation onto the rest of the Legal Center here at Heritage (many may already be on the invitee list)? There are about 13 legal scholars here, namely John Malcolm, Hans von Spakovsky, Paul Larkin, Elizabeth Slattery, and former AG Edwin Meese III. APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)	Y
Bob	Destro	Catholic U. & nominee for Assistant Secretary for Democracy				
Nathan	Diament	Orthodox Union		YES		Y
Anthony	Dick	Jones Day		NO		
Jenn	Dickey	WH				
Stephen	Dillard	VA				
Chris	DiPompeo	Jones Day		YES		Y
Michael	Donnelly	Home School Legal Defense Association		YES		
Eric	Dreiband	Jones Day				
Jeremy	Dys	First Liberty Institute		YES		
Terry	Eastland	Weekly Standard				
Emma	Enig	The Louis D. Brandeis Center For Human Rights Under Law		YES		
Kellie	Fiedorek	Alliance Defending Freedom		YES		Y
Kim Viti	Fiorentino	Archdiocese of Washington, GC		YES		Y
Benjamin	Fleshman	Becket		YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Richard	Foltin	Religious Freedom Center, Freedom Forum Institute		YES		Y
Gabriella	Forte	Family Research Council		YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Gregory	Friel	U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division		YES		Y
Brendan	Fulmer	U.S. Representative Mike Kelly (PA-03)		YES		Y
Rebekah	Gantner	Eagle Forum				
Mike	Ghouse	Center for Pluralism, Washington		YES	(b)(5)	
Sheldon	Gilbert	Institute for Justice				
Tim	Goeglein	Focus on the Family		NO		
Joe	Goldman	Jones Day				
Pamela	Gorman	Faith and Freedom Coalition		YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Meredith	Gramann	Becket		YES		
Laura	Grossberndt	Family Research Council		YES		Y
Anna	Grossu	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		YES		Y
Julia	Haller	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development		YES		Y
John	Harding	Winston & Strawn		YES		Y
Paul	Harold	Winston & Strawn	YES		Y	
Samantha	Harris	Foundation for Individual Rights in Education	YES	(b)(5)	Y	
Matt	Hawkins	Southern Baptist Convention ERLC	YES		Y	
Beth	Heifetz	Jones Day	NO			
Clancey	Henderson	U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary	YES		Y	

Jay	Hobbs	Alliance Defending Freedom	(b)(6)	(b)(5); Kellie Fiedorek sent RSVP; Can I confirm registration?		
Rachel	Hochhauser			YES	APPROVED; Registration Confirmed	Y
Shirley	Hoogstra	Council Of Christian Colleges and Universities		YES	Howie Intern	Y
Jeffery	Hunter Moon	USCCB				
Nathaniel	Hurd	Commission on Security & Cooperation in Europe		YES		Y
Jonathan	Imbody	Christian Medical and Dental Association		YES		Y
Jonathan	Imbody	Christian Medical and Dental Ass'n				
Stephanie	Inks	Adjunct Professor				
Candice	Jackson	U.S. Department of Education		YES	Request from Andrea Ramirez at ED; Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Tom	Jipping	Heritage				
Brennan	Johnson	Office of Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL)		YES		Y
Steffan	Johnson	Winston and Strawn				
Brigitte	Jolliet	Office of Senator Marco Rubio		YES		
William	Kamin	Becket		YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Jay	Kansara	Hindu American Foundation		YES		
Dave	Kinkopf	Archdiocese of Baltimore, GC				F/U
Adam	Kissel	U.S. Department of Education		YES		
Brian	Klotz	U.S. Agency for International Development		YES	I think we might have 8 additional Sr. staff that might want to attend, would that be possible? APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)	Y
Ken	Klukowski	First Liberty		YES		Y
Lauren	Konkol	Southern Baptist ERLC				
Robert	Koons	FIRE				
Jenny	Korn	The White House		YES		Y
Bethany	Kozma	USAID				
Bob	Laird	Cardinal Newman Society				
Tyson	Langhofer	Alliance Defending Freedom		YES		Y
Timothy	Lavelle	USAID				
Michael	Leavell	U.S. Agency for International Development		YES	ADDED	Y
Dwayne	Leslie	Seventh-day Adventists		YES		Y
Nat	Lewin	Lewin and Lewin		YES	(b)(5)	Y
Alyza	Lewin	The Louis D. Brandeis Center For Human Rights Under Law		YES	Would like to bring 3 colleagues: 1. Aviva Vogelstein (Louis D. Brandeis Center Director of Legal Initiatives) 2. Hannah Stanhill (Louis D. Brandeis Center Intern) 3. Emma Enig (Louis D Brandeis Center Intern) APPROVED	
Shapri	Lomagio	Council for Christian Colleges and Universities				
Kristen	Looney	Freedom Forum Institute	YES	ADDED	Y	
Kathryn	Lopez	National Review				
Jordan	Lorence	ADF				
Seth	Lucas	The Federalist Society	YES			
Dominique	Ludvigson	former Heritage and Bush Faith-based office				

Sarah	Makin	VPs office	(b)(6)			
Anum	Malik			YES	(b)(5)	Y
Ifran	Malik			YES	(b)(5)	Y
Stephanie	Maloney	Winston & Strawn		YES	Wants to bring colleagues Zach Cohen, John Harding, and Paul Harold. Please confirm OK. APPROVED	Y
Kenneth	Marcus	U.S. Department of Education		NO		
Kevin	Marshall	Jones Day				
Richard	Mast	Liberty Counsel				
Ed	McFadden	Archdiocese of Washington, Comms Director				
Steve	McFarland	World Vision		NO		
Todd	McFarland	Seventh-day Adventists		YES		Y
Ashley	McGuire	Catholic Association Foundation		YES		Y
Cynthia	McKnight	U.S. Department of Justice		YES		
Megan	Medley	Office of Rep. Robert B. Aderholt (AL-04)		YES		Y
<b>Engie</b>	<b>Mohsen</b>	<b>Muslim Public Affairs Council</b>		YES		
Matteo	Moran	Office of Senator Tom Cotton		YES		
Michael	Moses	USCCB				
<b>Carissa</b>	<b>Mulder</b>	<b>U.S. Commission on Civil Rights</b>		YES		
Bill	Muma	Becket				
Claire	Murray	WH				
David	Nammo	Christian Legal Society				
Penny	Nance	Concerned Women for America				
Peggy	Niebnaber	Faith and Action	YES		Y	
Chieko	Noguchi	Archdiocese of Washington, Dir of Media Relations				
Maya	Noronha	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	YES		Y	
Becky	Norton Dunlop	Heritage				
Vanessa	Oblinger-Santos	Javelin	YES		Y	
Kristina	Olney	Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation	YES	(b)(5); received invite from a colleague at HHS; Ok to Confirm? APPROVED	Y	
Catharine	ONeill	State				
Daniel	Ortner	Becket	YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK		
Luis	Perez	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	YES		Y	
Tony	Perkins	Family Research Council				
Anthony	Picarello	USCCB				
Andrea	Picciotti-Bayer	Catholic Association Foundation	YES		Y	
Stephen	Pinkos	WH				
Kathryn	Post	intern at Center for Public Justice	YES		Y	
Christen	Price	Alliance Defending Freedom	YES		Y	
Zack	Pruitt	Alliance Defending Freedom	YES		Y	
Pam	Pryor	State				
John	Pughe	Commerce				

Patrick	Purtill	Faith and Freedom Coalition	(b)(6)	YES		
David	Raimer	Jones Day	(b)(6)			
Andrea	Ramirez	U.S. Department of Education	(b)(6)	YES	Would like to bring two colleagues - Adam Kissell and Kenneth Marcus; Confirm OK APPROVED	Y
Tina	Ramirez	Hardwired	(b)(6)			
Paul	Ray	OIRA	(b)(6)			
Peter	Redpath	Federalist Society	(b)(6)			
Ralph	Reed	Faith and Freedom Coalition	(b)(6)			
Dean	Reuter	Federalist Society	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(6)	Y
Brett	Richards	Office of Senator Roger Wicker	(b)(6)	YES		
Mark	Rienzi	Becket Fund	(b)(6)			
Andrew	Rock	Family Research Council	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(6); Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Yaakov	Roth	Jones Day	(b)(6)			
Shannon	Royce	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	(b)(6)	YES	I would like to attend and would appreciate if my colleague Catherine Snow could attend as well. APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)	Y
Ismail	Royer	Religious Freedom Institute	(b)(6)	NO		
Austin	Ruse	Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute	(b)(6)	YES		
Tim	Saccoccia	Knights of Columbus	(b)(6)	YES		
Sharif	Saeid Aly	Islamic Relief USA	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(5); (b)(6)	Y
Hiram	Sasser	First Liberty	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(5)	Y
William	Saunders	Catholic U.	(b)(6)	NO		
Zack	Schroeder	The Federalist Society	(b)(6)	YES		
Jon	Schweppe	American Principles Project	(b)(6)	YES		Y
John-Michael	Seibler	The Heritage Foundation	(b)(6)	YES	Invite through DeFonce	Y
Christ	Seiple	Institute for Global Engagement	(b)(6)			
Roger	Severino	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	(b)(6)	YES		Y
Kelly	Shakelford	First Liberty	(b)(6)	YES	Will be late, but should make a name tag just in case.	Y
Nina	Shea	Hudson Institute	(b)(6)			
Brandon	Sherman	U.S. Department of Education	(b)(6)	YES	Request from Andrea Ramirez at ED; Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Suhag	Shukla	Hindu American Foundation	(b)(6)			
Tim	Shultz	First Amendment Partnership	(b)(6)	YES		Y
Robert	Silverman	American Jewish Coalition	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(6)	Y
Noah	Silverman	Republican Jewish Council	(b)(6)			
Satnam	Singh	SALDEF	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(5)	Y
Baldev	Singh	SALDEF	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(5)	Y
Anjula	Singh	South Asian Bar Association of North America	(b)(6)			
Sim	Singh	Sikh Coalition	(b)(6)			
Krystina	Skurk	Allan P. Kirby, Jr. Center for Constitutional Studies an	(b)(6)	YES		
Howie	Slugh	Jewish Coalition for Religious Freedom	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(5)	Y

Jessica	Smith	Alliance Defending Freedom	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(5) Kellie Fiedorek sent RSVP; Can I confirm registration? APPROVED; Registration Confirmed	Y
Ja'Ron	Smith	WH				
Catherine	Snow	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		YES	ADDED	Y
Ben	Snyder	Latham & Watkins		NO		
Anne	St. Amant	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops		YES	(b)(5)	
Hannah	Stanhill	The Louis D. Brandeis Center For Human Rights Under Law		YES		
Mia	Steupert	Family Research Council		YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Sarah	Stewart	Family Research Council		YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Atticus	Swett	Becket		YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED	
Katy	Talento	WH				
Tim	Taylor	U.S. Department of Labor		YES		Y
Paul	Teller	WH				
Mary	Thomas	US Department of Justice		YES	Added	Y
David	Thompson	Cooper & Kirk				
Tracey	Trautman	US Department of Justice		YES		Y
Laura	Trueman	HHS				
Fr. Charles	Trullols	Catholic Information Center, Director				
Rev. Niki	Tshibaka	Foursquare Gospel Churches				
Gabby	Tucci	Archdiocese of Washington, Exec Asst to the Cardinal		NO		
William	Turton	Allan P. Kirby, Jr. Center for Constitutional Studies and Cit		YES		
Asma	Uddin	Center of the Freedom Forum Institute		YES	My colleague at the Freedom Forum Institute/Newseum, Kristen Looney, would also like to attend APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)	Y
Diane	Verm	Becket				
Thayer	Verschoor					
Aviva	Vogelstein	The Louis D. Brandeis Center For Human Rights Under Law		YES		
Mary Beth	Waddell	Family Research Council		YES		Y
Kristen	Waggoner	ADF				
Lance	Walker	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints		YES	(b)(6)	Y
Andrew	Walther	Knights of Columbus		YES		
Emily	Weatherholt	Family Research Council	YES			
Travis	Weber	Family Research Council	YES			
Doug	Weber	Navigators				
Chris	Weeks	Samaritan's Purse	NO	Would like to send Deanna Ballard. Please confirm OK. APPROVED		
Pete	Wehner	EPPC				
Rachel	West	The Heritage Foundation	YES			
Ed	Whelan	EPPC				
Spenser	White	Family Research Council	YES	Requested to attend; (b)(5); Confirm OK; APPROVED		
Lori	Windham	Becket				

Megan	Wold	Kirkland & Ellis	(b)(6)		
Katie	Wrede	Congressman Raúl Labrador	(b)(6)	YES	
Phil	Wright	Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty	(b)(6)	YES	Y
Travis	Wussow	Southern Baptist Convention	(b)(6)	YES	Y
Richard	Youngblood	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	(b)(6)	YES	Y
Mark	Zelden	DOL	(b)(6)		

## Treene, Eric (CRT)

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**Subject:** Religious group listening session #3--advocacy/litigation groups  
**Location:** Main CRT conference room

**Start:** Monday, July 30, 2018 2:00 PM  
**End:** Monday, July 30, 2018 3:30 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Required Attendees:** Gore, John (CRT); Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT); Nation, Patricia (CRT); Thomas, Mary (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Frank, Michael (ODAG)  
**Optional Attendees:** Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG)

Groups listed below:

ADF, **Kellie Fiedorek, Tim Chandler**  
Liberty Counsel **Jonathan Alexandre**  
Becket **Mark Rienzi**  
First Liberty **Kelly Shackelford, Hiram Sasser**  
ACLU **Walter Weber**  
Christian Legal Society **Kim Colby**  
Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance **Stanley Carlson-Thies**  
DeVos Center, Heritage **Emilie Kao**  
Christian Medical and Dental Association **Jonathan Imbody**

**Treene, Eric (CRT)**

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 4:06 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Frank, Michael (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Gore, John (CRT)  
**Subject:** FW: invitation to listening session  
**Attachments:** AG Sessions Persecution Definition Letter to Print.docx

Walter Weber sent me the attached letter that ACLU sent to the Attorney General earlier this month. It is about the religious persecution standard in immigration cases. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Eric

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**From:** Walter Weber <wmweber@aclj-dc.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 11:11 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: invitation to listening session

FYI, in case this is relevant to Monday's meeting.

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@usdoj.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2018 12:31 PM  
**To:** Kellie Fiedorek <KFiedorek@adflegal.org>; kelly@libertylegal.org; rienzi@law.edu; Walter Weber <wmweber@aclj-dc.org>; Richard Mast <RMast@LC.org>; kcolby@clsnet.org; Stanley Carlson-Thies <stanley@irfalliance.org>; Kao, Emilie <Emilie.Kao@heritage.org>  
**Subject:** invitation to listening session

Dear Community Leader,

Over the next several weeks the Civil Rights Division will be holding a series of listening sessions on religious liberty, religious discrimination, and religion-based hate crimes. The Office of Legal Policy and a few other DOJ components will attend as well. We are interested in hearing from diverse communities regarding enforcement or policy issues in this space that you would like us to be aware of. We are also interested in feedback regarding how the Attorney General Guidelines on Religious Liberty are being implemented.

We would like to invite you, or someone else from your organization, to attend a listening session on Monday, July 30 from 2:00 to 3:30 at the RFK Main Justice Building. We have kept these meetings small to foster dialogue, and thus are limiting attendance to one person per organization. We have tried to group participants in ways that make sense as far as trying to anticipate common issues and concerns.

Acting Assistant Attorney General John Gore hopes to, and currently plans to, attend all of these sessions.

Please let me know if your or someone from your organization will attend.

Sincerely,

Eric

Eric W. Treene  
Special Counsel for Religious Discrimination  
Civil Rights Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
202.514.2228



July 10, 2018

The Honorable Jeff Sessions  
Attorney General of the United States  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

As you know, the American Center for Law & Justice (ACLJ) is a non-profit law firm dedicated to the defense of constitutional liberties secured by law. ACLJ attorneys have argued before the Supreme Court of the United States in a number of significant cases involving the freedoms of speech and religion.<sup>1</sup> The ACLJ and its international affiliates are also dedicated to defending human rights around the world. Therefore, we are writing you today regarding the lack of a formal definition of “persecution” in the Immigration and Nationality Act.

### Background

Currently, aliens seeking asylum in the United States are required to establish that they are refugees meaning that they (1) suffered persecution, or (2) have a well-founded fear of persecution. However, certain terms, such as “persecution,” have not been defined, and therefore their meaning is determined by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA). This has led to a case-by-case interpretation of the meaning of “persecution,” and has led to a circuit split regarding the term and what it encompasses.

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<sup>1</sup>See, e.g., *Pleasant Grove City v. Sumnum*, 555 U.S. 460 (2009) (unanimously holding that a monument erected and maintained by the government on its own property constitutes government speech and does not create a right for private individuals to demand that the government erect other monuments); *McConnell v. FEC*, 540 U.S. 93 (2003) (unanimously holding that minors enjoy the protection of the First Amendment); *Lamb’s Chapel v. Ctr. Moriches Sch. Dist.*, 508 U.S. 384 (1993) (holding that denying a church access to public school premises to show a film series on parenting violated the First Amendment); *Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens*, 496 U.S. 226 (1990) (holding by an 8-1 vote that allowing a student Bible club to meet on a public school’s campus did not violate the Establishment Clause); *Bd. of Airport Comm’rs v. Jews for Jesus*, 482 U.S. 569 (1987) (unanimously striking down a public airport’s ban on First Amendment activities).

★  
201 Maryland Avenue, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20002  
202-546-8890  
aclj.org

## Facts

According to 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(42)(A), an alien seeking asylum has “the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that they are [a] ‘refugee[]’ under the INA’s definition of this term” by “showing that they (1) have suffered persecution, or (2) have a well-founded fear of persecution (3) on account of (4) a protected ground (i.e., race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group).”<sup>2</sup> However, “[t]he term ‘persecution’ is not defined in the Immigration and Nationality Act,” *Balazoski v. INS*, 932 F.2d 638, 641-42 (7th Cir. 1991), and “is not established by Convention or Protocol, or by the INA and its implementing regulations. Instead, [its] meaning has been determined by the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) – the highest administrative tribunal for interpreting and applying immigration law – through case-by-case adjudication, with the federal courts generally deferring to the BIA’s interpretation so long as it is based on a ‘permissible construction’ of the INA.”<sup>3</sup>

On the other hand, the executive branch has interpreted the term “well-founded fear” through the promulgation of regulations: “These regulatory interpretations are also afforded deference by the courts insofar as they are based on ‘permissible’ constructions of the statutory language.”<sup>4</sup> Asylum applicants can demonstrate a well-founded fear of persecution if: (A) they have a fear of persecution in their country; (B) there is a reasonable possibility of suffering such persecution; and (C) they are unable or unwilling to return to that country because of such fear. *See* 8 C.F.R. § 1208.13(b)(2)(i).

Accordingly, while “well-founded fear” has been defined, whether an alien is seeking to establish that they have suffered persecution, or that they have a well-founded fear of experiencing persecution if they return to their country, that alien faces the challenge of meeting a currently subjective standard of defining “persecution.”

According to 8 U.S.C. § 1103(g)(1)-(2) “[t]he Attorney General shall have such authorities and functions under this chapter and all other laws relating to the immigration and naturalization of aliens,” and “shall establish such regulations, . . . issue such instructions, review such administrative determinations in immigration proceedings . . . and perform such other acts as the Attorney General determines to be necessary for carrying out this section.” Moreover, the “determination and ruling by the Attorney General with respect to all questions of law shall be controlling.” 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a)(1). Thus, it is within the Attorney General’s power to establish by regulation, instruction, or review of administrative determination, a definition of “persecution” in order to resolve the current circuit split and the subjective nature of the way in which current interpretations are established.

## Issue

In 2016, a panel of Tenth Circuit judges, upheld a BIA decision that denied a Chinese Christian’s petition for asylum. In that case, Ting Xue, a Chinese citizen, was arrested when Chinese authorities raided an illegal house church service which Xue was attending. During interrogation, Xue was questioned, slapped across the head, and hit with a baton on his upper left arm. After his interrogation, Xue was placed in a small jail cell with four other men who were arrested during the raid. “The five men shared a single wooden bucket for a toilet,”<sup>5</sup> which was not

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<sup>2</sup>KATE M. MANUEL, CONG. RESEARCH SERV. R43716, ASYLUM AND GANG VIOLENCE: LEGAL OVERVIEW 5 (Sept. 5, 2014), *available at* <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/homesecc/R43716.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup>*Id.* at Summary.

<sup>4</sup>*Id.* at 5.

<sup>5</sup>*Xue v. Sessions*, 846 F. 3d 1099, 1102 (10th Cir. 2016) (originally *Xue v. Lynch*).

emptied during the three days and four nights of Xue’s incarceration. Upon Xue’s release, which was procured when his mother paid a significant fine, Xue was “forced to sign a document guaranteeing he would not attend any more illegal church meetings. Officers warned Xue that if he ever again attended services at a house church, he would be severely punished.”<sup>6</sup> Following his release, “Xue was required to report to the police station once every week and remain for one hour. During these weekly sessions, officers would ask Xue about his whereabouts during the week, tell him he should be patriotic and faithful to his job, and force him to write down his personal feelings about his reeducation.”<sup>7</sup>

Despite finding Xue’s testimony credible, including the facts that Xue was arrested for attending a Christian church, assaulted while in police custody, required to pay a fine for his release, forced to sign a paper saying he would not attend Christian services, required to attend weekly “reeducation,” and told that if he did attend Christian church services he would be severely punished, the BIA found, and the Tenth Circuit affirmed its finding, that Xue did not experience persecution. Nor did he “demonstrate that he face[d] a particularized threat of persecution should he return to China.”<sup>8</sup> Rather, “[a]s the BIA explained, Xue testified that he [secretly] returned to the underground church two weeks after being released, and did not demonstrate that the reporting requirement was onerous or that he suffered other harm.”<sup>9</sup> Such reasoning effectively, allows for freedom of religious belief, but does *not* allow freedom to *exercise* that religious belief; persecution can occur only when a religious adherent *openly* practices his religious belief.

In contrast, the Seventh, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits have adopted a definition of persecution in which it is a “clear error of law,” to hold “that one is not entitled to claim asylum on the basis of religious persecution if . . . one can escape the notice of the persecutors by concealing one’s religion.”<sup>10</sup> In fact, the Seventh Circuit went on to note that “Christians living in the Roman Empire before Constantine made Christianity the empire’s official religion faced little risk of being thrown to the lions if they practiced their religion in secret; it doesn’t follow that Rome did not persecute Christians, or that a Christian who failed to conceal his faith would be acting ‘unreasonably.’ . . . One aim of persecuting a religion is to drive its adherents underground in the hope that their beliefs will not infect the remaining population.”<sup>11</sup> Similarly, the Eleventh Circuit stated that it “agree[d] with the decision of the Seventh Circuit that having to practice religion underground to avoid punishment is itself a form of persecution.”<sup>12</sup>

## Conclusion

Immigration (asylum) law is complex and requires a great deal of fact finding. Defining legal terms to clarify standards for facts finders is within the purview of the Attorney General, as it is directly related to his authority under U.S. law to administer and enforce laws relating to the immigration and naturalization of aliens. As has been demonstrated by the split in the circuits regarding what constitutes “persecution,” there is a need for a concrete and correct definition of persecution to ensure that immigration and naturalization laws are uniformly applied to asylum seekers.

Freedom of religion, and the right to freely exercise that religion, has always been valued in the United States. It is a foundational right. Thus, it is important that the United States recognize that

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<sup>6</sup>*Id.*

<sup>7</sup>*Id.*

<sup>8</sup>*Id.* at 1109.

<sup>9</sup>*Id.* at 1107.

<sup>10</sup>*Muhur v. Ashcroft*, 355 F. 3d 958, 960 (7th Cir. 2004).

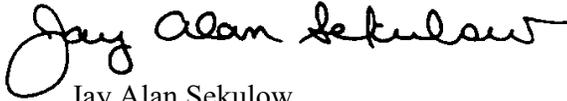
<sup>11</sup>*Id.* at 960 61.

<sup>12</sup>*Kazemzadeh v. U.S. Att’y Gen.*, 577 F.3d 1341, 1453 (11th Cir. 2009).

a prohibition that forces a person to secretly practice their faith or face imprisonment, physical abuse, state reeducation and indoctrination, and fines is a form of persecution.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you exercise the power granted to you under 8 U.S.C. § 1103 and direct the adoption of a definition of “persecution” that aligns with the Seventh, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuit definitions, which recognize government restriction that forces a person to conceal their faith and practice in secret is itself a form of persecution.

Respectfully,



Jay Alan Sekulow  
Chief Counsel



CeCe Heil<sup>13</sup>  
Senior Counsel

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<sup>13</sup>Admitted in CA, VA, TN, & MO.

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 10:09 AM  
**To:** Williams, Beth A (OLP)  
**Cc:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** Draft AG remarks  
**Attachments:** 180731 Religious Liberty Task Force RT.docx

And here is the draft AG speech. I'll pass on new versions of both of these whenever I get them.

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 11:32 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Liberty meeting with Jesse tomorrow

Here's the AG's. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 11:29 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty meeting with Jesse tomorrow

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 25, 2018, at 11:25 PM, Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Apologies for the previous email. Please find attached the draft script for Jesse's introductory remarks through his introduction of Beth Williams. I am working through his introductions of the panels and panel members separately.

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 11:24 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Liberty meeting with Jesse tomorrow

All,

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**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 12:28 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jllichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jllichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Laco, Kelly (OPA) <[klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:klaco@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Rose, Rebecca (OJP) <[Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Religious Liberty meeting with Jesse tomorrow

Hi everyone –

For tomorrow's meeting with Jesse, we should be prepared with the following:

- Final run of show (Rachel/Jennie)
- Attendee list (Alissa/Becky)
- Script for him (Jeff)

I'll try to circulate a run of show by mid-afternoon. Alissa/Becky – can you please plan to bring copies of the current attendee list for the meeting? Jeff – can you please circulate the draft script to Jennie, Eric, Kerri, and me this afternoon so we can review before it goes to Jesse? I think having a few set of eyes on these docs is always helpful. Thanks everyone.

Rachel Parker Bissex  
Chief of Staff and Counselor  
Office of the Associate Attorney General  
202-514-0109

<18.07.30 Acting AAG Panuccio Remarks to Rel Lib Event - 7.25 draft.docx>

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 8:19 AM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** AG remarks  
**Attachments:** 180731 Religious Liberty Task Force RT.docx; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)" <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** July 25, 2018 at 11:31:54 PM EDT  
**To:** "Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)" <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)" <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Treene, Eric (CRT)" <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>, "Kupec, Kerri (OPA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Liberty meeting with Jesse tomorrow

Duplicative Material



July 27, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Record			

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Record			
<b>Religious Liberty</b>  OLP is working with OAG, OASG, CRT, and OPA on a Religious Freedom event to be held July 30. (b) (5)	July 30 Religious Freedom Event	OLP: Jennie Lichter (4 4606)	None at this time

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
(b) (5) [Redacted]			

Not Responsive Record

July 20, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Record			

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Record			
<p><b>Religious Liberty</b></p> <p>OLP is working with OAG, OASG, CRT, and OPA on a Religious Freedom event to be held July 30. (b) (5) [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>July 30 Religious Freedom Event</p>	<p>OLP: Jennie Lichter (4 4606)</p>	<p>None at this time</p>

**Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)**

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 11:50 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: TF Memo  
**Attachments:** RF task force memorandum\_7.26\_redline JH.docx

Here are my suggestions. I am happy to talk about my thoughts on (b) (5)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 11:28 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: TF Memo

Right, that's what Rachael had told me you were going to handle – thank you. did you add my other changes? If not, I'm happy to input them if you want to send it back to me. I just want to have the newest version to be able to show it to Beth when I brief her first thing in the morning.

---

**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 11:05 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: TF Memo

(b) (5)

I will try to take a close look and see if there are any other changes we should make.

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 5:11 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** TF Memo

Rachel told me you're making some edits to the TF memo – I made some this afternoon too – FYI so you can incorporate mine. Thanks!

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 3:33 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Bios  
**Attachments:** RF task force memorandum\_7.26\_clean.docx; RF task force memorandum\_7.26\_redline.docx

(b) (5) – if you want to put this in the prep binder.

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 3:14 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Bios

Bios attached. These will need to be fly-specked again, and (b) (5); but should be in good shape for the prep binder.

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**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 1:32 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Agenda tweaking

Do we have bios for participants? Trying to make the AG a binder. And an updated agenda would be great if we can get it. Any way to make that happen before 3:30?

On Jul 26, 2018, at 1:16 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Ok!

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 12:45 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Agenda tweaking

(b) (5)

On Jul 26, 2018, at 12:38 PM, Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

We tried but the Senator can't make that timeslot work.

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 12:07 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Agenda tweaking

(b) (6)

(b) (5)

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

Treene, Eric (CRT)

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 11:39 AM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Subject:** RE: invitees

Got it. Thanks for the clarification.

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 9:59 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: invitees

(b) (5) [Redacted]

On Jul 26, 2018, at 9:47 AM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Rachael,

Would you be ok with (b) (5) [Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

(b) (5) [Redacted]

(b) (5) [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Thanks  
  
Eric

**Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)**

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 10:48 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: Religion listening sessions

Eric was supposed to get me email addresses. Seems like he already had them...

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 10:41 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Religion listening sessions

Thanks! I think we added him right Jeff? (b) (5)

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 10:36 AM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Religion listening sessions

Howie Slugh from Jewish Coalition for Religious Liberty cannot attend the listening session tomorrow (b)(5)

---

**From:** Howie Slugh (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 9:20 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Religion listening sessions

Good morning.

Thank you, I really appreciate the invitation. Unfortunately, I am not going to be able to make it this Thursday, but I would be very interested in being involved in the future.

Thank you,  
Howard Slugh

On Mon, Jul 23, 2018 at 2:37 PM Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@usdoj.gov> wrote:

Dear Howie,

I am not sure if we have met (I met someone from your group a year ago at a Becket Fund dinner when I think it was in the formative stages) but I would like to introduce myself and invite you to a listening session on religious liberty we are having this Thursday at the Main DOJ building. Below is information on the meeting. Sorry we didn't think of you sooner. Please let me know if you can attend.

Eric

Eric W. Treene  
Special Counsel for Religious Discrimination  
Civil Rights Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
202.514.2228

Dear Community Leader,

Over the next several weeks the Civil Rights Division will be holding a series of listening sessions on religious liberty, religious discrimination, and religion-based hate crimes. The Office of Legal Policy and a few other DOJ components will attend as well. We are interested in hearing from diverse communities regarding enforcement or policy issues in this space that you would like us to be aware of. We are also interested in feedback regarding how the Attorney General Guidelines on Religious Liberty are being implemented.

We would like to invite you, or someone else from your organization, to attend a listening session on **Thursday, July 26 at 10:00 a.m.** at the RFK Main Justice Building. We have kept these meetings small to foster dialogue, and thus are limiting attendance to one person per organization. We have tried to group participants in ways that make sense as far as trying to anticipate common issues and concerns.

Acting Assistant Attorney General John Gore hopes to, and currently plans to, attend all of these sessions.

Please let me know if you or someone from your organization will attend.

Sincerely,

Eric

Eric W. Treene  
Special Counsel for Religious Discrimination  
Civil Rights Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
202.514.2228

## Tucker, Rachael (OAG)

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**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 10:16 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Gore, John (CRT); Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT); Nation, Patricia (CRT); Thomas, Mary (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Bradley, Timothy (CRT); Dorilas, Rodney (CRT)  
**Subject:** RE: ROOM CHANGE

Hi Eric,

I have a 10:30 and 11 with the boss. I will try to stop by after I get done. The 11 just came up. Thanks.

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 10:02 AM  
**To:** Gore, John (CRT) <[John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <[Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Nation, Patricia (CRT) <[Patricia.Nation@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Patricia.Nation@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Murray, Michael (ODAG) <[mmurray@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mmurray@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bradley, Timothy (CRT) <[Timothy.Bradley@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Bradley@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Dorilas, Rodney (CRT) <[Rodney.Dorilas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rodney.Dorilas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** ROOM CHANGE  
**Importance:** High

The CRT conference room is now available, so we will hold the meeting at 11 today there (Room 5643).

Thanks

Eric

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 9:13 AM  
**To:** Gore, John (CRT) <[John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <[Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Nation, Patricia (CRT) <[Patricia.Nation@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Patricia.Nation@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Murray, Michael (ODAG) <[mmurray@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mmurray@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bradley, Timothy (CRT) <[Timothy.Bradley@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Bradley@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Dorilas, Rodney (CRT) <[Rodney.Dorilas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rodney.Dorilas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting with Religious Groups #1

All

Please note the location of the meeting at 11 today—the OLC conference room (5525). The meetings tomorrow and next week will be held in the CRT conference room.

Eric

-----Original Appointment-----

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 1:22 PM

**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Gore, John (CRT); Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT); Nation, Patricia (CRT); Thomas, Mary (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)

**Cc:** Bradley, Timothy (CRT); Dorilas, Rodney (CRT)

**Subject:** Meeting with Religious Groups #1

**When:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 11:00 AM-12:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

**Where:** OLC Conference Room

Below is the updated list of attendees to the listening session tomorrow:

Interfaith Alliance **Jay Keller**

Baptist Joint Committee **tbd**

ACLU religion project **Dan Mach**

Muslim Advocates **Nimra Azmi**

ADL **Michael Lieberman**

MPAC **Hoda Hawa**

Sikh Coalition **Sim Singh**

**Treene, Eric (CRT)**

---

**Subject:** Meeting with Religious Groups #1  
**Location:** OLC Conference Room

**Start:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 11:00 AM  
**End:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 12:30 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Required Attendees:** Gore, John (CRT); Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT); Nation, Patricia (CRT); Thomas, Mary (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Optional Attendees:** Bradley, Timothy (CRT); Dorilas, Rodney (CRT)

Below is the updated list of attendees to the listening session tomorrow:

Interfaith Alliance **Jay Keller (wants to know who else)**  
Baptist Joint Committee **tbd**  
ACLU religion project **Dan Mach**  
Muslim Advocates **Nimra Azmi**  
ADL **Michael Lieberman**  
MPAC **Hoda Hawa**  
Sikh Coalition **Sim Singh**

## Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 10:49 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Treene, Eric (CRT); Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Thomas, Mary (CRT)  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal  
**Attachments:** RF task force memorandum\_7.23.docx

Team – Rachael and I have both reviewed the draft task force memorandum – here is where we are now. Additional edits welcome. In particular (b) (5) (I know Jeff has thoughts about this.)

Thanks!  
Jennie

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 12:20 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Thomas, Mary (CRT) <Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: task force proposal

I am reviewing. Today is crazy so it will be after 5.

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 10:45 AM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Thomas, Mary (CRT) <Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** task force proposal

Where do things stand on the draft AG memo creating a task force on religious liberty?

Thanks

Eric

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 8:53 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force

Great! Thanks. I'll circulate this in clean copy to the group for any further comments.

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 7:13 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force

This works.

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 21, 2018 3:19 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force

Here are my suggestions (b) (5) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Let me know what  
you think. Thanks!!

J.

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 9:14 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force

If you want (b) (5) [REDACTED], please do. I just thought that (b) (5) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 1:37 AM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force

Thanks. yeah - (b) (5) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



## Treene, Eric (CRT)

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 2:12 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Liberty Event Invitation Status

Thanks. They did rsvp separately

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 12:46 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Religious Liberty Event Invitation Status

Eric, see Becky's notes below and attached. Wanted you to see this just in case the ppl RSVPing to her for the listening session have not also RSVPed to you directly.

Jennie

---

**From:** Rose, Rebecca (OJP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 11:26 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Mahoney, Kristen (OJP) <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Hildabrand, Dorothy W. (OLA) <[dwhildabrand@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:dwhildabrand@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Religious Liberty Event Invitation Status

Hello all!

Here is an update on RSVPs. We've got 31 YES. Please note two highlighted items in the notes section. They said they would be attending the afternoon listening session. Is there a listening session in the afternoon and should they be RSVPing to someone else for that?

Also, Dorothy, I heard from Sen Leahy's office who was a NO (can't remember if I already mentioned that one) as well as Brendan Fulmer from Congressman Mike Kelly's office that we he (Brendan) would be attending. Am I ok to confirm his registration?

I will send an update late tonight.

Thanks,  
Becky

---

**From:** Rose, Rebecca (OJP)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 20, 2018 11:18 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Mahoney, Kristen (OJP) <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Bios for Religious Liberty event

Hello,

Attached is an update on the RSVPs. I probably won't have time to update this chart prior to our 3:00 pm but I will do my best to verbally update you all on the call.

Also, I received a request from Mary Thomas to attend.

**L. Mary Thomas**

Office of the Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

(b)(5)

Thanks all,  
Becky

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 11:41 PM  
**To:** Rose, Rebecca (OJP) <[Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Mahoney, Kristen (OJP) <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Bios for Religious Liberty event

Thank you Becky! Yes, please notify Dorothy when RSVPs come in from the Hill. (Maybe you could just update her once a day or so on what's come in that day, unless it's easier for you to send on each one individually as it comes in.)

As to the questions in yellow:

- all of these requests to share the invite with colleagues are approved

(b) (5)

Thanks again and have a good night.  
Jennie

---

**From:** Rose, Rebecca (OJP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 11:37 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Mahoney, Kristen (OJP) <[Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Kristen.Mahoney@ojp.usdoj.gov)>; Huntoon, Alissa (OJP) <[Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Alissa.Huntoon@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Bios for Religious Liberty event

Hi Jennie,

Ideally, we would have everything by Thursday (26<sup>th</sup>) COB so we can put everything together on Friday.

xii

Hi,

See attached list which I am using to track RSVPs. Jeff, I have highlighted some questions in yellow under the notes section.

Also, I received a NO from Senator Graham's office. It looks like Dorothy sent out the invite (see attached email). Should I be notifying her when RSVPs come in from the Hill?

Talk to you all at 3:00 on Friday.

Becky

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 6:31 PM  
**To:** Rose, Rebecca (OJP) <[Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Rose@ojp.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Bios for Religious Liberty event

Becky, thank you for your help with invitations. Jeff has told me we're getting RSVPs already, which is fantastic.

Could you please refresh my memory on the timeline for getting programs printed? Specifically, when would you need all of the speaker bios put together in order to have programs ready for the morning of July 30?

Thanks again.  
Jennie

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

Name	Last Name	Organization	Email	Attending (Yes or No)	Notes
Jonathan	Alexandre	Liberty Counsel	(b)(6)		
Montse	Alvarado	Becket Fund			
Ryan	Anderson	Heritage			
Prof. Hadley	Arkes	Amherst			
Kristina	Arriaga	US Commission on International Religious Freedom			
Stephanie	Barclay	Becket			
Tiffany	Barrans	ACLJ			
Eric	Baxter	Becket			
Greg	Baylor	ADF			
Mike	Beatty	USDA			
Evan	Berlanti	(b)(5) Georgetown student			
Mortin	Blackwell	Leadership Institute			
Daniel	Blomberg	Becket Fund			
Katherine	Braga	USDA			
Nathaniel	Bruno	ADF			
Benjamin	Bull	First Liberty		NO	He would like First Liberty Institute colleague Ken Klukowski attend in his stead. (b)(5) APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)
Justin	Burnham	(b)(5) going to Covington			
Hillary	Byrnes	USCCB		YES	
Alexandra	Campana	Christian Schools International			
Stanley	Carolson-Thies	Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance			
Tim	Chandler	ADF		YES	
David	Christensen	Focus on the Family			
Scott	Christensen	Hughes Hubbard & Reed (represents Boys Town and Boy Scouts)			
Cathy	Cleaver Ruse	Family Research Council			
Tim	Clinton	American Association of Christian Counselors			

Shannen	Coffin	Step toe	(b)(6)	NO	(b)(5)
Abba	Cohen	Agudath Israel			
Joseph	Cohn	FIRE			
Kim	Colby	Christian Legal Society		YES	
Marcus	Coleman	FEMA			
David	Cortman	ADF			
Laura	Cunliffe	WH			
Andrea	Curry	Eagle Forum			
William	Daroff	United Jewish Communities			
Joe	Davis	Becket			
Daniel	Defonce	Heritage		YES	Would it be appropriate if I sent this invitation onto the rest of the Legal Center here at Heritage (many may already be on the invitee list)? There are about 13 legal scholars here, namely John Malcolm, Hans von Spakovsky, Paul Larkin, Elizabeth Slattery, and former AG Edwin Meese III. APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)
Bob	Destro	Catholic U. & nominee for Assistant Secretary for Democracy			
Stephen	Dillard	VA			
Eric	Dreiband	Jones Day			
Terry	Eastland	Weekly Standard			
Kellie	Fiedorek	ADF		YES	
Rebekah	Gantner	Eagle Forum			
Sheldon	Gilbert	Institute for Justice			
Tim	Goeglein	Focus on the Family		NO	
Julia	Haller	HUD			
Matt	Hawkins	Southern Baptist Convention ERLC	YES		
Shirley	Hoogstra	Council Of Christian Colleges and Universities	YES		
Jeffery	Hunter Moon	USCCB			
Jonathan	Imbody	Christian Medical and Dental Association	YES		
Jonathan	Imbody	Christian Medical and Dental Ass'n			
Stephanie	Inks	Adjunct Professor			
Tom	Jipping	Heritage			
Steffan	Johnson	Winston and Strawn			
Jay	Kansara	Hindu American Foundation			

Brian	Klotz	USAID	(b)(6)		I think we might have 8 additional Sr. staff that might want to attend, would that be possible? APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)
Ken	Klukowski	First Liberty			
Lauren	Konkol	Southern Baptist ERLC			
Robert	Koons	FIRE			
Jenny	Korn	WH		YES	(b)(6)
Bethany	Kozma	USAID			
Bob	Laird	Cardinal Newman Society			
Tyson	Langhofer	ADF		YES	
Timothy	Lavelle	USAID			
Michael	Leavell	USAID		YES	ADDED
Dwayne	Leslie	Seventh-day Adventists		YES	
Nat	Lewin	Lewin and Lewin		YES	(b)(5)
Alyza	Lewin	Brandeis Center			
Shapri	Lomagio	Council for Christian Colleges and Universities			
Kristen	Looney	FREEDOM FORUM INSTITUTE		YES	ADDED
Jordan	Lorence	ADF			
Dominique	Ludvigson	former Heritage and Bush Faith-based office			
Sarah	Makin	VPs office			
Richard	Mast	Liberty Counsel			
Todd	McFarland	Seventh-day Adventists		YES	
Ashley	McGuire	Catholic Association Foundation		YES	
Michael	Moses	USCCB			
Bill	Muma	Becket			
David	Nammo	Christian Legal Society			
Penny	Nance	Concerned Women for America			
Peggy	Niebnaber	Faith and Action		YES	
Becky	Norton Dunlop	Heritage			
Catharine	ONeill	State			
Tony	Perkins	Family Research Council			
Anthony	Picarello	USCCB			
Andrea	Picciotti-Bayer	Catholic Association Foundation		YES	
Kathryn	Post	intern at Center for Public Justice		YES	

Christen	Price	ADF	(b)(6)		
Zack	Pruitt	ADF		YES	
Pam	Pryor	State			
John	Pughe	Commerce			
Patrick	Purtill	Faith and Freedom Coalition			
Andrea	Ramirez	Dept of Education Faith based office			
Tina	Ramirez	Hardwired			
Andrea	Ramirez	Ed			
Peter	Redpath	Federalist Society			
Ralph	Reed	Faith and Freedom Coalition			
Dean	Reuter	Federalist Society		YES	(b)(6)
Mark	Rienzi	Becket Fund			
Shannon	Royce	HHS		YES	I would like to attend and would appreciate if my colleague Catherine Snow could attend as well. APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)
Ismail	Royer	Religious Freedom Institute		NO	
Austin	Ruse	Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute			
Hiram	Sasser	First Liberty		YES	(b)(5)
William	Saunders	Catholic U.			
Christ	Seiple	Institute for Global Engagement			
Kelly	Shakelford	First Liberty		NO	(b)(5)
Nina	Shea	Hudson Institute			
Suhag	Shukla	Hindu American Foundation			
Tim	Shultz	First Amendment Partnership			
Bob	Silverman	American Jewish Coalition			
Noah	Silverman	Republican Jewish Council			
Anjula	Singh	South Asian Bar Association of North America			
Ja'Ron	Smith	WH			
Catherine	Snow	HHS		YES	ADDED
Paul	Teller	WH			
Mary	Thomas	US Department of Justice		YES	Added
Laura	Trueman	HHS			
Rev. Niki	Tshibaka	Foursquare Gospel Churches			

Asma	Uddin	former Becket Fund	(b)(6)	YES	My colleague at the Freedom Forum Institute/Newseum, Kristen Looney, would also like to attend APPROVED (INVITE EXTENDED)
Diane	Verm	Becket	(b)(6)		
Thayer	Verschoor		(b)(6)		
Mary Beth	Waddell	Family Research Council	(b)(6)		
Kristen	Waggoner	ADF	(b)(6)		
Lance	Walker	LDS church	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(6)
Andrew	Walther	Knights of Columbus	(b)(6)		
Doug	Weber	Navigators	(b)(6)		
Travis	Weber	Family Research Council	(b)(6)		
Chris	Weeks	Samaritan's Purse	(b)(6)		
Pete	Wehner	EPPC	(b)(6)		
Ed	Whelan	EPPC	(b)(6)		
Lori	Windham	Becket	(b)(6)		
Phil	Wright	Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty	(b)(6)	YES	
Travis	Wussow	Southern Baptist Convention	(b)(6)	YES	(b)(6)
Richard	Youngblood	HUD	(b)(6)	YES	
Mark	Zelden	DOL	(b)(6)		

Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 11:34 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Hey team, couple things:

1. (b) (5) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Does that sound good to everyone?
2. (b) (6) [REDACTED]

Thanks all.  
Jennie

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**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:24 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

(b)(5) [REDACTED]

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:18 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Yep that should work. I think the schedule would make the most sense the original way though if possible – will call his office right now and get his travel details.

---

**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:09 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b) (5) [REDACTED]

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:08 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

This looks generally ok to me with one possible issue – Abp Kurtz is flying in that morning so I expect will not be there by 10, (b) (6) I'll check with his assistant now. There will be a way to figure this out, may just need to swap people around.

Also note that DAG is going to intro Kurtz, per Mike. (b)(5)

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**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:03 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Rachael and I just talked. We're going to start at 9:30 am. Below is a proposed agenda. Please let me know your thoughts.

(b)(5)

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:48 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

That would be great.

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**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:47 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b)(5)

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:41 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b)(5)

Kerri, (b)(5)

(b)(5)

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:18 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[lichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:lichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Gore, John (CRT) <[John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <[Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RL event timeline

Ditto

On Jul 19, 2018, at 1:17 PM, Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b)(5)

**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 1:16 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[lichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:lichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Gore, John (CRT) <[John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <[Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b)(5)

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 12:42 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) [REDACTED] Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Gore, John (CRT) <[John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <[Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RL event timeline

Looping in Ben and John for their visibility of the current agenda.

On Jul 19, 2018, at 12:37 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

This is great.

(b)(5) [REDACTED]

I propose:

(b)(5) [REDACTED]

(b)(5) [REDACTED]

(b)(5) [REDACTED]

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**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:58 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) [REDACTED] Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Adoption/ Foster Care

Yes AG will speak in addition to introducing Lankford.

On Jul 19, 2018, at 9:55 AM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Wow great! (b)(5) [REDACTED]

Mike just called me about this and (b)(5) [REDACTED]

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:41 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Adoption/ Foster Care

(b)(5)

On Jul 19, 2018, at 9:28 AM, Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b)(5)

On Jul 19, 2018, at 12:28 AM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Let me ask Beth what she'd like to do. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 4:19 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Adoption/ Foster Care

(b)(5)

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 4:02 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (5) Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall,

Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Subject: Re: Adoption/ Foster Care

(b)(5) (b)(6)  
Would've loved to do it. Who else can we get to do the intro?

On Jul 18, 2018, at 3:18 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b)(5)  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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From: Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:12 PM  
To: Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
(b)(5)  
Cc: Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Subject: Re: Adoption/ Foster Care

(b)(5)  
[Redacted]

On Jul 18, 2018, at 3:11 PM, Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6) wrote:

Duplicative Material - See Next Page

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 3:11 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Treene, Eric (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** Re: Adoption/ Foster Care

One thought: (b)(5)

Re: (b)(5) ?

(b)(5) ?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 18, 2018, at 3:01 PM, Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

I talked with Jesse – he is interested in MC'ing the event. (He's about 90% sure he'll be here – he's working on moving things around.) Going down the agenda:

(b)(5)

I think this is going to be a great event!

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 2:55 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA)

(b)(6)

**Subject:** RE: Adoption/ Foster Care

(b)(5)

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**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 18, 2018 2:09 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

To: Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Cc: Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) <(b)(6)>  
Subject: RE: Adoption/ Foster Care

(b)(5)

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From: Treene, Eric (CRT)  
Sent: Wednesday, July 18, 2018 1:28 PM  
To: Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Cc: Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) <(b)(6)>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Subject: Re: Adoption/ Foster Care

Jeff

(b)(5)

Eric

On Jul 18, 2018, at 1:11 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi team – (b)(5), (b)(6)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Unrelatedly – Rachel Parker has offered to help with logistics and I'm copying her here. Very grateful to have the benefit of her experience with this kind of large-scale DOJ event. Thank you Rachel!

Jennie

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b)(6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

**Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)**

---

**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:50 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Fantastic! Thanks for checking!

---

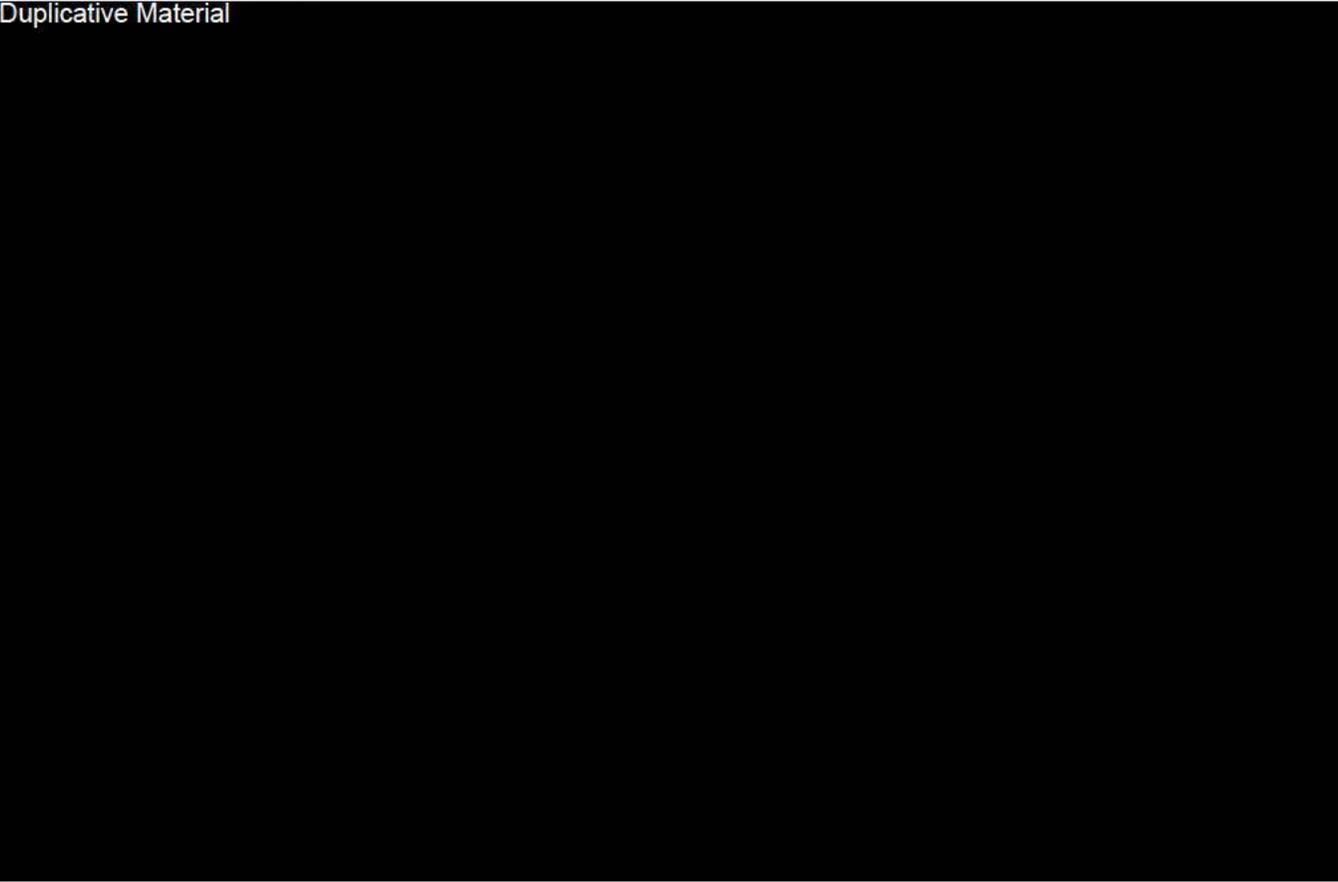
**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:48 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

I talked to (b) (6) (Kurtz's assistant) and he is good for 10am start time. (b) (6) So we can keep this ordering.

---

**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:03 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Duplicative Material



**Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)**

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**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:05 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b)(5)

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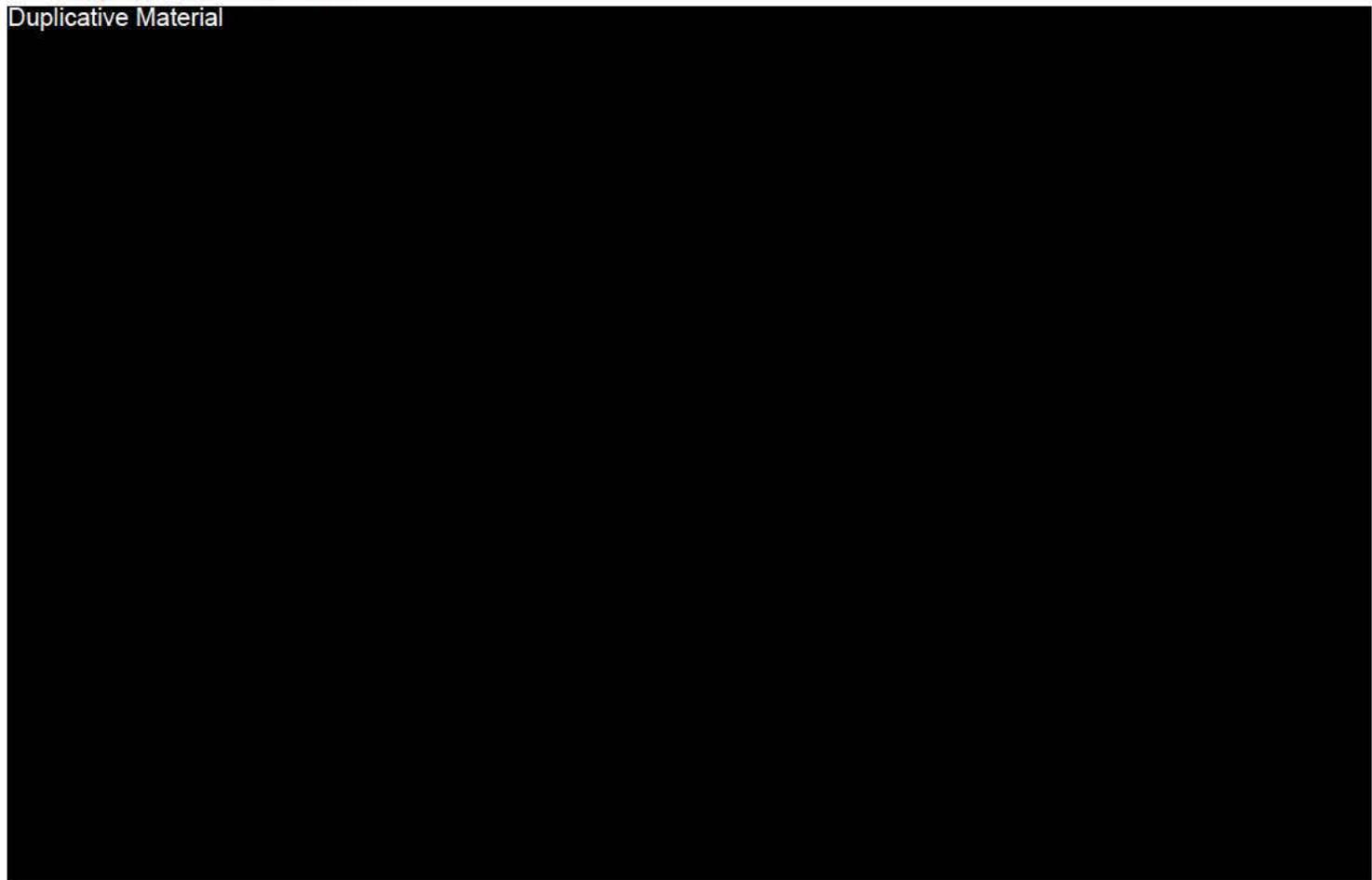
**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:04 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparke@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b)(5)

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**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:03 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Duplicative Material



Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:47 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Sure, I think that would work. I think (b)(5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:24 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Duplicative Material

[REDACTED]

Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)

---

**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:18 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b) (5)

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:17 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b) (5)

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**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:13 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b) (5)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:11 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b) (5)

---

**From:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:10 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b) (5)

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:08 PM  
**To:** Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Duplicative Material

Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:18 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT); Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

(b)(5)

---

**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 2:13 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Parker-Bissex, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) <kkupec@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: RL event timeline

Duplicative Material



**Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT)**

---

**From:** Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 10:58 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** RE: July 31?

Excellent--so long as he's touched base with you, I'm good. Thank you!

J. Benjamin Aguiñaga (AH-gheen-YAH-gah)  
Chief of Staff and Counsel  
Office of the Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division  
United States Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
202.616.1566

-----Original Message-----

From: Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 10:57 AM  
To: Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov>  
Subject: Re: July 31?

Hi Ben - Mike called me about this and I've filed him in on the event details. To respond to your broader question, I haven't written up a detailed agenda yet but will send to you when I have a chance to do that (sometime today).

Thanks for checking in.  
Jennie

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jul 19, 2018, at 9:49 AM, Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov> wrote:

>

> Jenny, (b) (6) Do you by any chance have an agenda or background information on the July 30 religious liberty event? Thanks.

>

> J. Benjamin Aguiñaga (AH-gheen-YAH-gah) Chief of Staff and Counsel  
> Office of the Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division United  
> States Department of Justice  
> 950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
> Washington, D.C. 20530  
> 202.616.1566

>

>

> Original Message

> -----Original message-----

> From: Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT)

> Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:43 AM

> To: Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Gore, John (CRT) <John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov>

> Subject: RE: July 31?

>

> Eric, do you have an agenda or some other background document for this event? Mike Murray called me to ask for some information because the DAG has been asked to introduce Senator Lankford.

Thanks.

>

> J. Benjamin Aguiñaga (AH-gheen-YAH-gah) > Chief of Staff and Counsel > Office of the Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division United States Department of Justice > 950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

> Washington, D.C. 20530

> 202.616.1566

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Treene, Eric (CRT)

> Sent: Sunday, July 15, 2018 11:53 AM

> To: Gore, John (CRT) <John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov>

> Cc: Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT) <Ben.Aguinaga@crt.usdoj.gov>

> Subject: Re: July 31?

>

> We are sticking with the 30th. They will get a replacement moderator for Jesse.

>

>> On Jul 13, 2018, at 2:34 PM, Gore, John (CRT) <John.Gore@crt.usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Yes, (b)(5)

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>> On Jul 13, 2018, at 12:11 PM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> Jesse is now not available on a July 30 so we are looking at POSSIBLY moving the religious liberty event to July 31. Is that open for John?

>>>

>>> Eric

July 13, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
<p><b>Religious Liberty</b></p> <p>OLP is working with OAG, OASG, CRT, and OPA on a Religious Freedom event to be held July 30. (b) (5)</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>July 30 Religious Freedom Event</p>	<p>OLP: Jennie Lichter (4 4606)</p>	<p>None at this time</p>

Not Responsive Records

[REDACTED]

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** FW: Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force  
**Attachments:** task force memorandum July 9 2018.docx

---

**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:14 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 3:38 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Draft AG memo on religious liberty task force

I sketched out a draft to get us started on this

Eric

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:45 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: RL event / invitation list

I offered to Archbishop Kurtz's office that we could help with travel costs and they have not taken me up on it. (b)(5)

---

**From:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2018 12:21 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: RL event / invitation list

(b)(5)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2018 8:24 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RL event / invitation list

Thanks! Can I please see the memo ASAP? (b) (5)

(b) (5) But will let him speak to that.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 16, 2018, at 8:14 AM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Two other things:

(b)(5)

On Jul 15, 2018, at 11:13 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Thank you! This is very helpful. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Jennie

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 15, 2018 9:16 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: RL event / invitation list

Here are my annotations to my list. Should give an idea of my thinking on these.

Eric

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 15, 2018 4:39 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: RL event / invitation list

Thank you!

(b)(5)

Please let me know of any additions. (b)(5)  
Rachael (b)(5) ?

(b)(5)

(b) (5)

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 15, 2018 11:43 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RL event

Jennie, (b)(5)

On Jul 14, 2018, at 12:01 AM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Hi team, a few things re our event.

(b) (5)

Jennie

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

<JBL invite list.docx>

Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 16, 2018 8:30 AM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** RL task force

(b)(5)



Let me

know if we should chat. Thanks!!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)" <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** July 16, 2018 at 8:24:22 AM EDT  
**To:** "Treene, Eric (CRT)" <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Tucker, Rachael (OAG)" <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)" <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RL event / invitation list

Duplicative Material



**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 12:06 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Thomas, Mary (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG)  
**Subject:** RE: my list

Thank you very much. (b)(5)

We should also think about how to word the invitation (b) (5)

I will have a small supplemental list that I will send tomorrow.

Jennie

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 11, 2018 5:14 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** my list

Jennie,

Attached is my list (b)(5) who would be interested in what we have to say at this event.

(b)(5)

Eric

July 6, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
<b>Not Responsive Records</b>			
<b>Religious Liberty</b> OLP is working with OAG, OASG, CRT, and OPA on a Religious Freedom event confirmed for July 30. (b) (5) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	July 30 Religious Freedom Event	OLP: Jennie Lichter (4 4606)	None at this time
<b>Not Responsive Records</b>			

## Treene, Eric (CRT)

---

**Subject:** Religious Groups listening session #5  
**Location:** Main CRT conference

**Start:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 2:30 PM  
**End:** Tuesday, July 31, 2018 4:00 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Accepted

**Organizer:** Treene, Eric (CRT)

**Required Attendees:** Gore, John (CRT); Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT); Nation, Patricia (CRT); Thomas, Mary (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)

**Optional Attendees:** Frank, Michael (ODAG); Sheehan, Matthew (ODAG)

Updated list of participants:

Navigators **Doug Weber**

Association of Christian Colleges and Universities **Shirley Hoogstra**

Knights of Columbus **Andrew Walther**

Focus on the Family **Tim Goeglein**

Family Research Council **David Christensen**

World Vision **Steve McFarland**

**Treene, Eric (CRT)**

---

**Subject:** Meeting with Religious Groups #1  
**Location:** OLC Conference Room

**Start:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 11:00 AM  
**End:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 12:30 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Accepted

**Organizer:** Treene, Eric (CRT)

**Required Attendees:** Gore, John (CRT); Aguiñaga, Ben (CRT); Nation, Patricia (CRT); Thomas, Mary (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Murray, Michael (ODAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)

**Optional Attendees:** Bradley, Timothy (CRT); Dorilas, Rodney (CRT)

Below is the updated list of attendees to the listening session tomorrow:

Interfaith Alliance **Jay Keller (wants to know who else)**  
Baptist Joint Committee **tbd**  
ACLU religion project **Dan Mach**  
Muslim Advocates **Nimra Azmi**  
ADL **Michael Lieberman**  
MPAC **Hoda Hawa**  
Sikh Coalition **Sim Singh**

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 4:01 PM  
**To:** Sutton, Sarah E. (OPA); Edwards, Jeremy M. (OPA); Laco, Kelly (OPA)  
**Subject:** FW: Overview of what's going on in my portfolios, events, etc  
**Attachments:** KenStarr\_OSG\_OpEd\_USAToday.docx; SCOTUS reporter emails.msg; RE: Hotel for DAG trip - Aspen.msg; Re: American Bar Association Speaking Engagement.msg; Details for 7/11 press conference.msg

If helpful, see below 😊

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 4:01 PM  
**To:** Prior, Ian (OPA) <IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov>; O'Malley, Devin (OPA) <domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Overview of what's going on in my portfolios, events, etc

Hey, all – since it's possible I could be starting my detail at the WH at some point over the next couple of days, below covers what's going in my world. I'll loop in Devin on some of the on-going email threads relevant to below. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Kerri

Not Responsive Records



Not Responsive Records

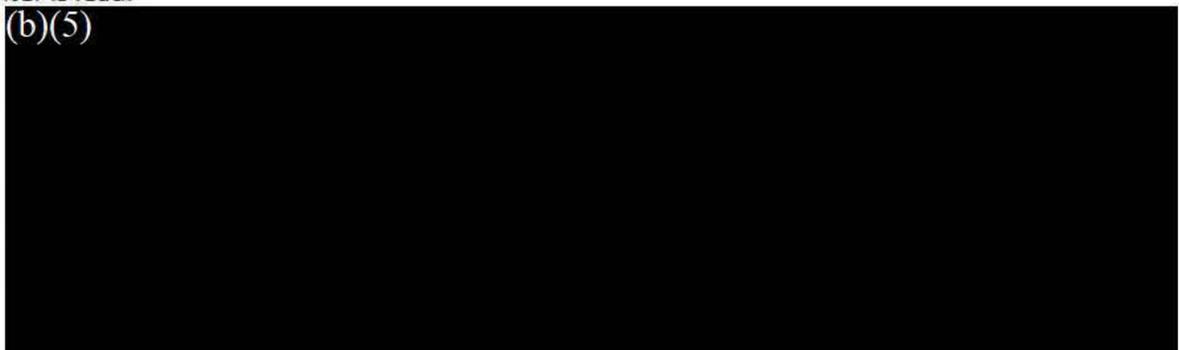


**EVENTS**

**Religious Freedom Event – 7/30**

Working with Rachael Tucker, Jennie Lichter, Eric Treene, and Jeff Hall on religious freedom event on 7/30. Jennie Lichter is lead.

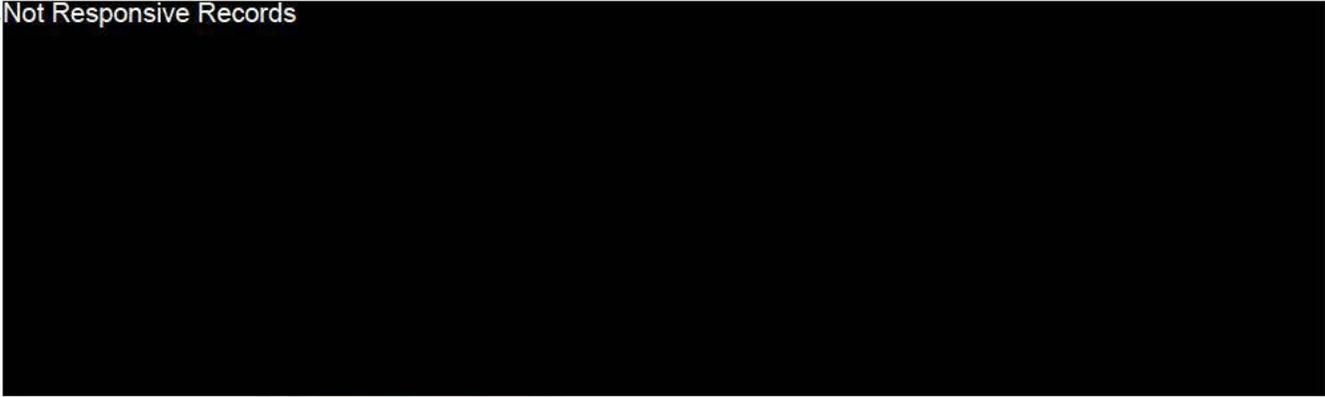
(b)(5)



Not Responsive Records



Not Responsive Records



Kerri Kupec  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Public Affairs

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (office)

(b)(6) (cell)

**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 9:57 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Thomas, Mary (CRT)  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

I know exactly where you are coming from - (b)(5) ;)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 10, 2018, at 9:05 AM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for that insight. (b)(5)

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 8:49 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

My vote is (b)(5)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 10, 2018, at 8:28 AM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Unfortunately Jennifer Marshall cannot do it— (b)(5)

We need a plan B. (b)(5)

Eric

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 11:47 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>

Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

\*reappears from scotus world\* (b)(5)

Ugh, such a bummer I'm missing this!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 9, 2018, at 6:01 PM, Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b)(5)

On Jul 9, 2018, at 5:59 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Rachael, (b)(5)

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**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 5:57 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Liberty listening sessions

When our ad hoc religious liberty group got together to come up with religious liberty ideas, (b)(5) one of the things we talked about was having some listening sessions. (b)(5)

Eric

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 5:53 PM

To: Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Cc: Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>;  
Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6); Hall,  
Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary  
(CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

Can someone remind me of the genesis of the listening sessions?

On Jul 9, 2018, at 5:38 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b)(5)  
[Redacted]

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 10:08 AM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
(b) (6) Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: listening sessions

Separate from the religious liberty event, but related, (b)(5)  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted] ?

I also have a couple follow ups:

(b) (5)  
[Redacted]

Thanks

Eric

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 5:32 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** listening sessions

All,

(b)(5) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

So, I would propose having these two on July 25 or 26, hold the Religious Liberty/Advocacy group meeting the afternoon of July 30, and the remaining two meetings on the 31<sup>st</sup> or August 1.

What do you all think?

Eric

**Treene, Eric (CRT)**

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 8:24 AM  
**To:** Thomas, Mary (CRT); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Liberty listening sessions

Thanks. (b)(5), (b)(6)

---

**From:** Thomas, Mary (CRT)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 6:01 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b)(6); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

Eric,

(b)(5), (b)(6)

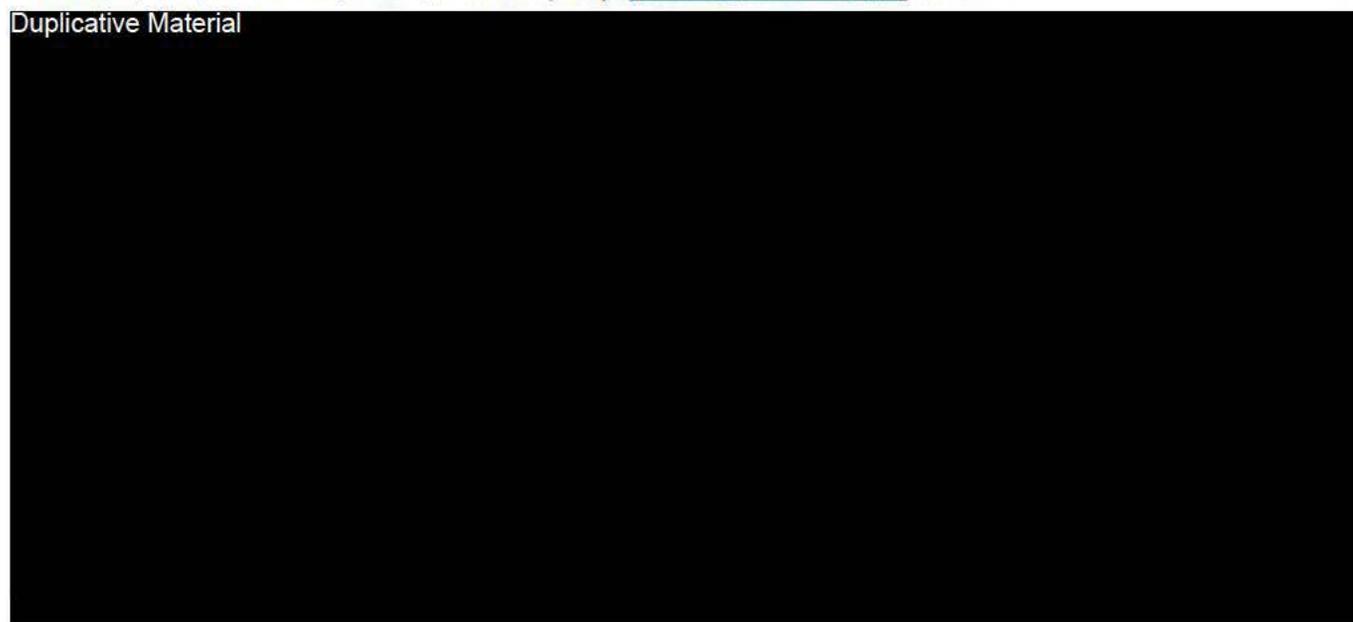
---

Thanks, Mary

Mary Thomas  
202-616-1854

On Jul 9, 2018, at 5:38 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov> wrote:

Duplicative Material



**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 11:56 PM  
**To:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** RE: Religious Liberty listening sessions

(b)(5)

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 11:52 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

(b)(5)

Sent from my iPhone

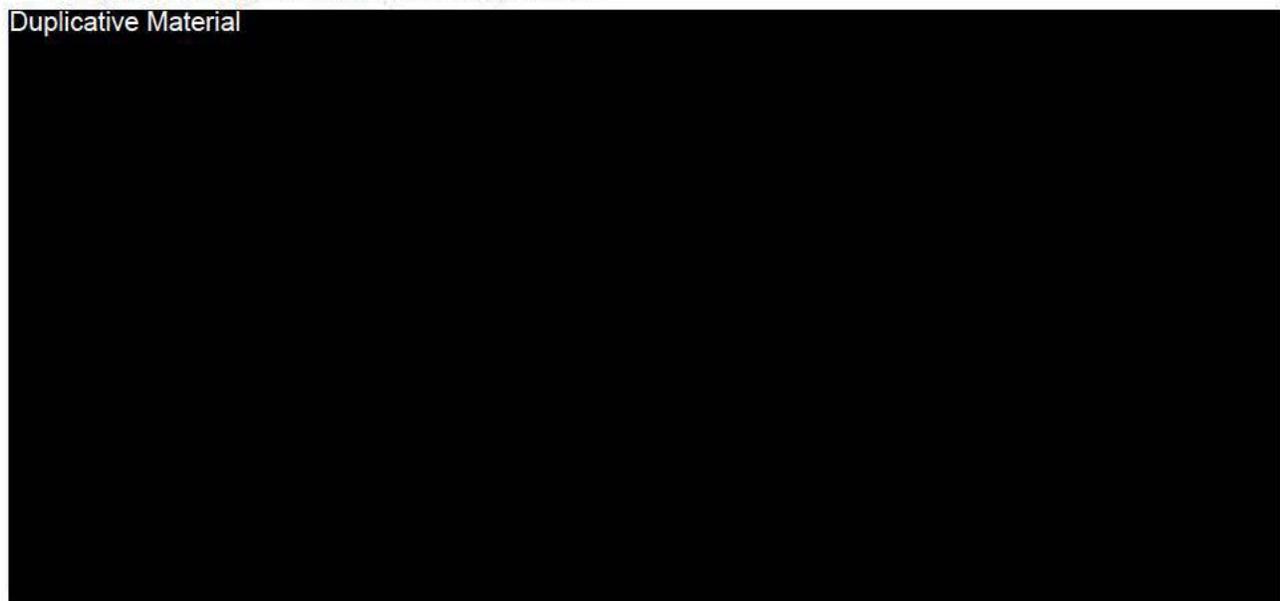
On Jul 9, 2018, at 11:49 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Kerri, (b)(5)

---

**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 11:47 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <[jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <[Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

Duplicative Material



**Tucker, Rachael (OAG)**

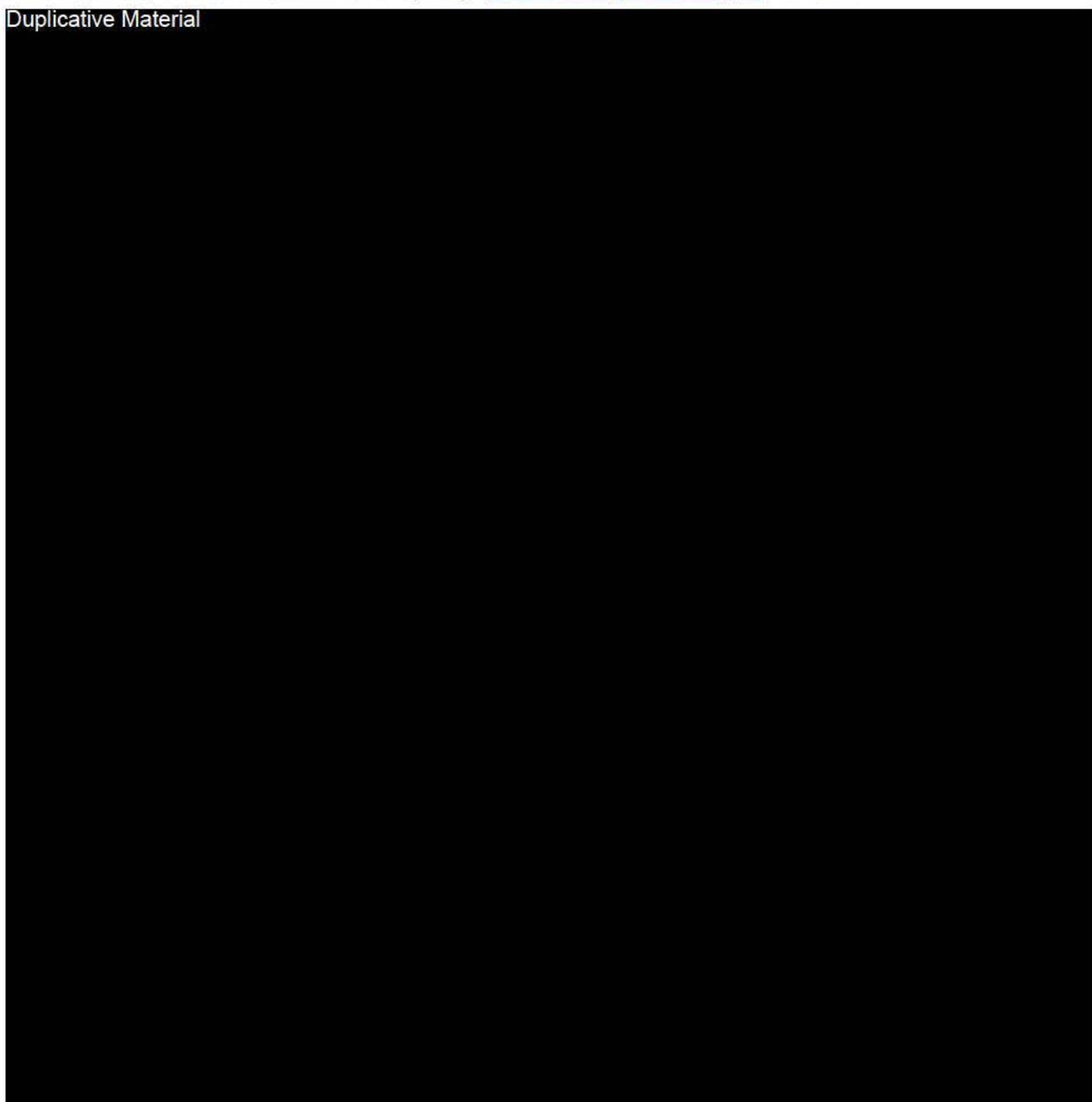
---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 9, 2018 5:59 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Kupec, Kerri (OPA); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Thomas, Mary (CRT)  
**Subject:** Re: Religious Liberty listening sessions

(b)(5) Thanks.

On Jul 9, 2018, at 5:57 PM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material



**Kupec, Kerri (OPA)**

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**From:** Kupec, Kerri (OPA)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 6, 2018 10:06 AM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Treene, Eric (CRT); Hall, Jeffrey (OASG); Thomas, Mary (CRT)  
**Subject:** RE: listening sessions

Sounds good!

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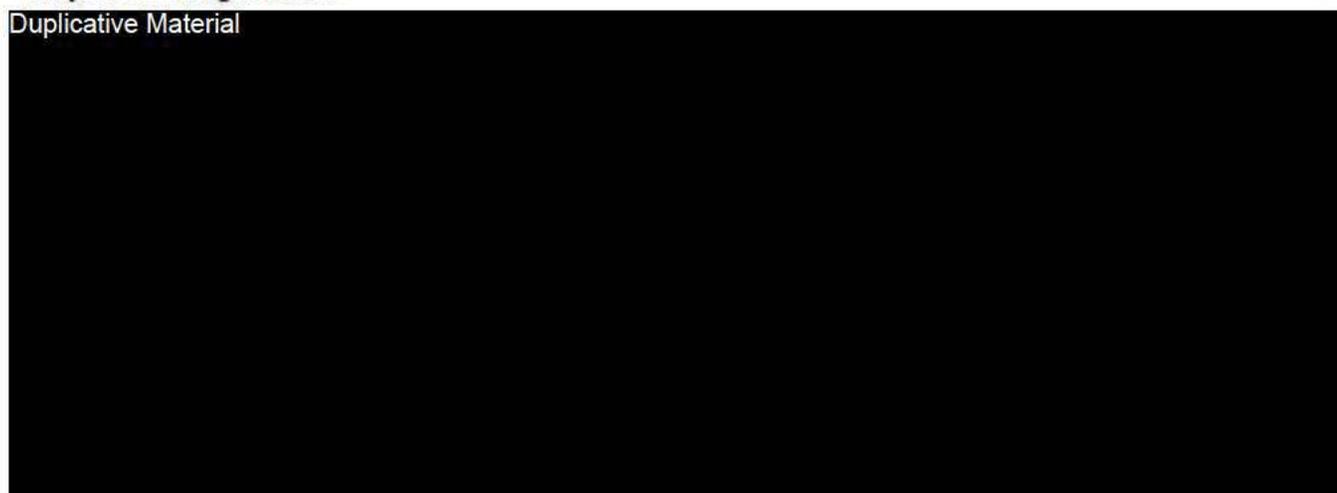
**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 10:42 PM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: listening sessions

This plan is fine with me. Thanks Eric!

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 5:32 PM  
**To:** Hall, Jeffrey (OASG) <jehall@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Kupec, Kerri (OPA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Thomas, Mary (CRT) <Mary.Thomas@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** listening sessions

Duplicative Material



Deliberative and Predecisional

June 29, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
<b>Not Responsive Records</b>			
<b>Religious Liberty</b>  OLP is working with OAG and OPA on a Religious Freedom event confirmed for July 30. (b) (5) [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	July 30 Religious Freedom Event	OLP: Jennie Lichter (4 4606)	None at this time

June 22, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			
<p><b>Religious Liberty</b></p> <p>OLP is working with OAG and OPA on a Religious Freedom event slated to be held in July. (b) (5)</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>July Religious Freedom Week Event</p>	<p>OLP: Jennie Lichter (4 4606)</p>	<p>None at this time</p>
Not Responsive Records			

June 15, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Uncoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			

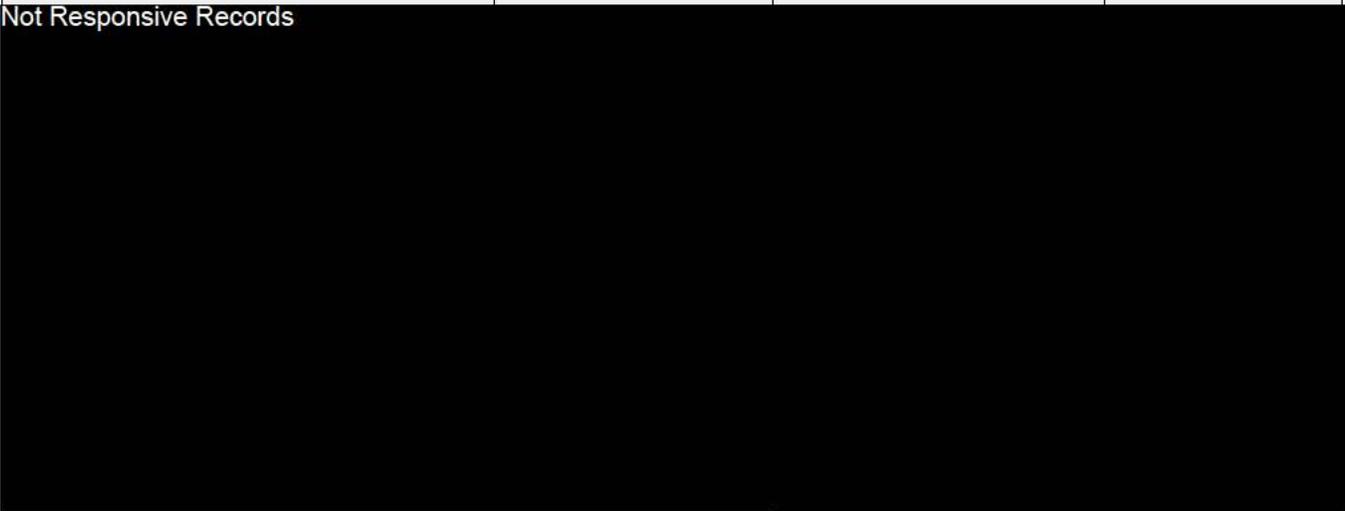
<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			
<b>Religious Liberty—</b> OLP is working with OAG and OPA on a Religious Freedom event slated to be held during Religious Freedom Week (week of June 25). (b)(5) [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	Late June Religious Freedom Week Event	OLP: Jennie Lichter (4-4606)	None at this time
Not Responsive Records			

June 8, 2018 OLP Weekly Report

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
Not Responsive Records			

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Upcoming Event(s)</u>	<u>Component POC</u>	<u>ODAG Action</u>
<p><b>Religious Liberty</b></p> <p>OL (b)(5) [REDACTED]  [REDACTED]  [REDACTED] and  is assisting with planning an event on religious  liberty to be held in late June. (b)(5) [REDACTED]  [REDACTED]  [REDACTED]  [REDACTED]</p>	<p>None at this time</p>	<p>OLP: Jennie Lichter (4 4606)</p>	<p>None at this time</p>

Not Responsive Records



**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 30, 2018 9:31 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** RL meeting with AG - draft bullets for quick review  
**Attachments:** RL AG Briefing\_6.1.docx

(b)(5)

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[Redacted]

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**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 29, 2018 10:20 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RL meeting with AG

(b) (5)

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On May 29, 2018, at 10:02 PM, Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

(b) (5)

---

[Redacted]

re meeting on Thurs – I need to be on a 3.15 call but could be free any other time.

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 29, 2018 1:01 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Bylund, Jeremy (OASG) <[bylund@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:bylund@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RL meeting with AG

(b)(5)

---

[Redacted]

Can you all meet on Thursday to discuss?

Thanks,

Rachael

Rachael Tucker  
Counselor to the Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice

202.616.7740

Treene, Eric (CRT)

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 22, 2018 4:49 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Subject:** Obama era listening sessions

Jennie

Here is the report we did after our listening sessions around the country during the Obama Administration.  
[https://www.justice.gov/Combating\\_Religious\\_Discrimination](https://www.justice.gov/Combating_Religious_Discrimination)

(b) (5)  
[Redacted text block]

Eric

Treene, Eric (CRT)

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 2:54 PM  
**To:** Bylund, Jeremy (OASG); Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Lichter, Jennifer (OLP); Murray, Michael (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Kupec, Kerri (JMD)  
**Subject:** meetings with groups  
**Attachments:** Meetings with groups april 2018 2.docx

All,

With help from Kerri, I have put together a list of potential groups to meet with, (b)(5)

Please take a look and let me know what you think. (b)(5)

Eric

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 9, 2018 4:07 PM  
**To:** Crytzer, Katherine (OLP)  
**Subject:** FW: Draft Agenda for RL Meeting  
**Attachments:** RL Working Group\_4.10.18.docx

FYI.

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Pickett, Bethany (CRT) <Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Agenda for RL Meeting

Thanks, Eric. I'm attaching a revised version. (b) (5)

[Redacted]

Jennie

---

**From:** Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018 5:14 PM  
**To:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Pickett, Bethany (CRT) <[Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Agenda for RL Meeting

Jennie,

This looks good.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)  
See attached suggestions.

Thanks

Eric

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 3, 2018 5:49 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Pickett, Bethany (CRT) <[Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Draft Agenda for RL Meeting

Rachael, Eric – here’s a draft agenda for tomorrow.

(b) (5)  
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Let me know if this looks good or if you want to make any changes. I’m happy to take charge of bringing copies of the final version to our meeting tomorrow.

Looking forward to it.

Jennie

Jennie Bradley Lichter  
Office of Legal Policy  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20530  
Office: (202) 514-4606  
Cell: (b) (6)  
[Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Lichter@usdoj.gov)

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 9, 2018 4:06 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** Draft Agenda for RL Meeting  
**Attachments:** RL Working Group\_4.10.18.docx

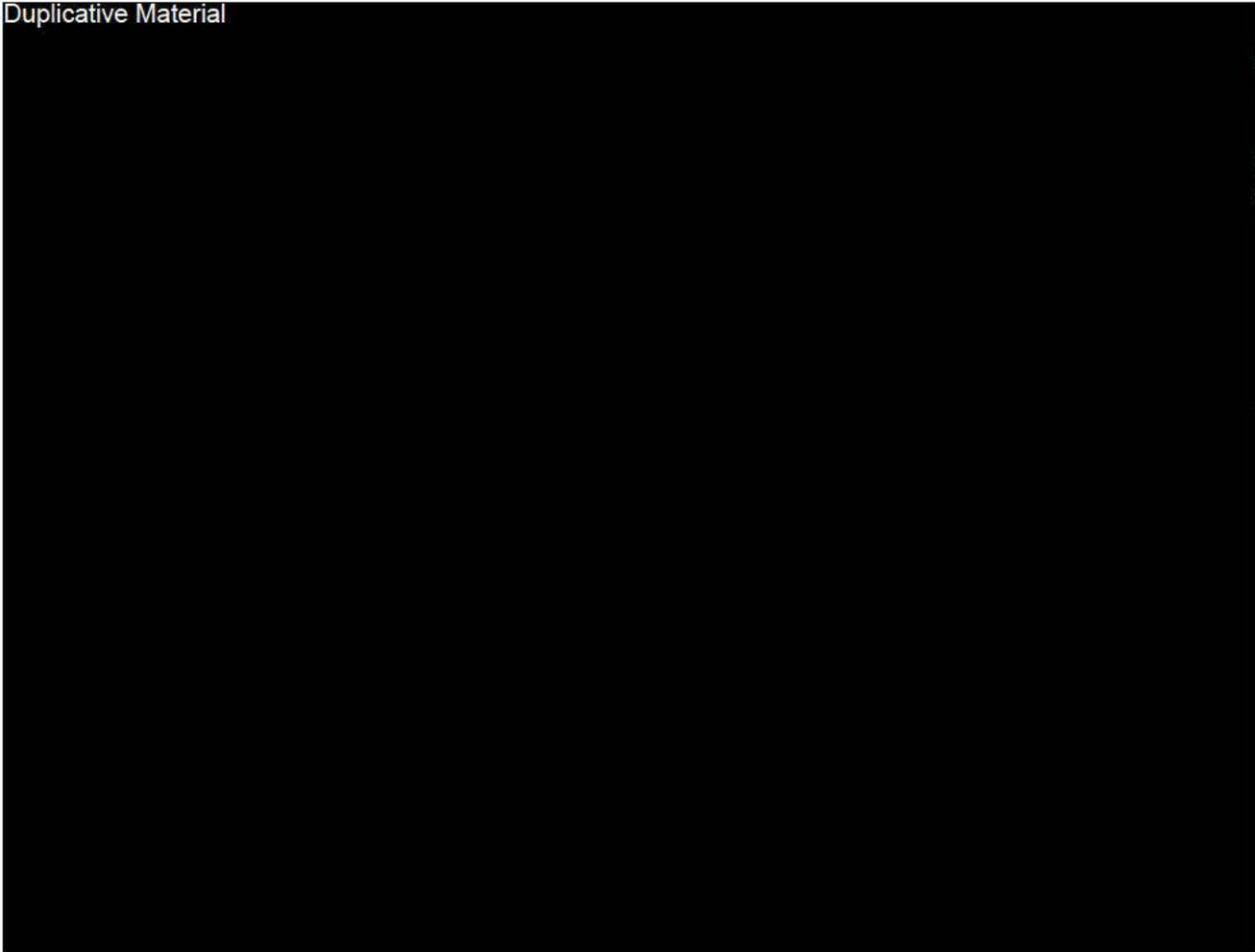
Does this look good to you for tmrw? If so I'll print off a bunch of copies. See you then.

Jennie

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 5, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>; Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Pickett, Bethany (CRT) <Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Agenda for RL Meeting

Duplicative Material



**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 10:14 AM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG); Treene, Eric (CRT)  
**Subject:** RE: religious liberty working group

Yes – thanks Eric!

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 28, 2018 10:13 AM  
**To:** Treene, Eric (CRT) <Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: religious liberty working group

Yes I forgot about Mike. I'll make the change. Thanks for doing that.

On Mar 28, 2018, at 10:12 AM, Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Rachael

I plugged all these names into an outlook meeting invite, and added Eric Grant from ENRD, Mike Murray from ODAG, and Jeff Hall from OASG (Jeff Wood wanted Eric G. to take his place, Mike and Jeff Hall have interest and experience and you might want to add).

The following times are available, assuming everyone's Outlook is up to date:

Next Wed April 4 from 2:30 to 4 (all available)  
Tuesday April 10: all available 9 to 10, Eric Grant not available 10 to 11 but all others are available (through 11:30).

Eric

---

**From:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:20 PM  
**To:** Bylund, Jeremy (OASG) <[jbylund@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jbylund@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Percival, James (OASG) <[jpercival@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jpercival@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Treene, Eric (CRT) <[Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Eric.Treene@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Pickett, Bethany (CRT) <[Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov](mailto:Bethany.Pickett@crt.usdoj.gov)>; Lichter, Jennifer (OLP) <[jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:jlichter@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Sturgill, Lowell (CIV) (b)(6); Lucas, Brinton (CIV) (b)(6); Wood, Jeffrey (ENRD) <[JWood@ENRD.USDOJ.GOV](mailto:JWood@ENRD.USDOJ.GOV)>; Forrester, Nate (OLC) (b)(6); Clarke, Conor (OLC) (b)(6)  
**Subject:** religious liberty working group

Hi all,

It's time for a brainstorming session. (b) (5)

(b) (5)  
(b) (5) I'll send a calendar invite. Let me know if you have a conflict and we can move it around.

Thanks very much,

Rachael

Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)

---

**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 9:08 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** Re: religious liberty working group

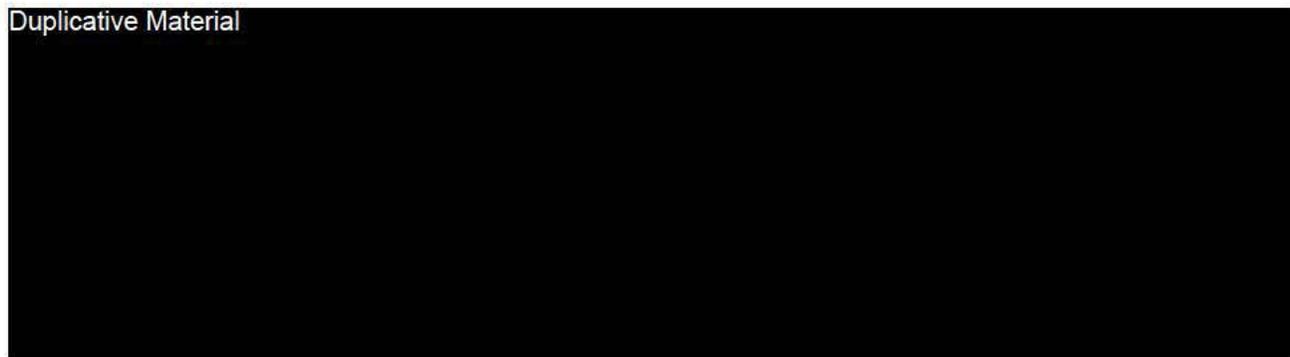
Idea: (b) (5)

A large block of text is redacted with black bars, covering approximately 10 lines of content.A large block of text is redacted with black bars, covering approximately 10 lines of content.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 27, 2018, at 7:19 PM, Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material

A large rectangular area of the document is redacted with a solid black box, covering approximately 17 lines of content.

**Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)**

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**From:** Lichter, Jennifer (OLP)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 7:29 PM  
**To:** Tucker, Rachael (OAG)  
**Subject:** Re: religious liberty working group

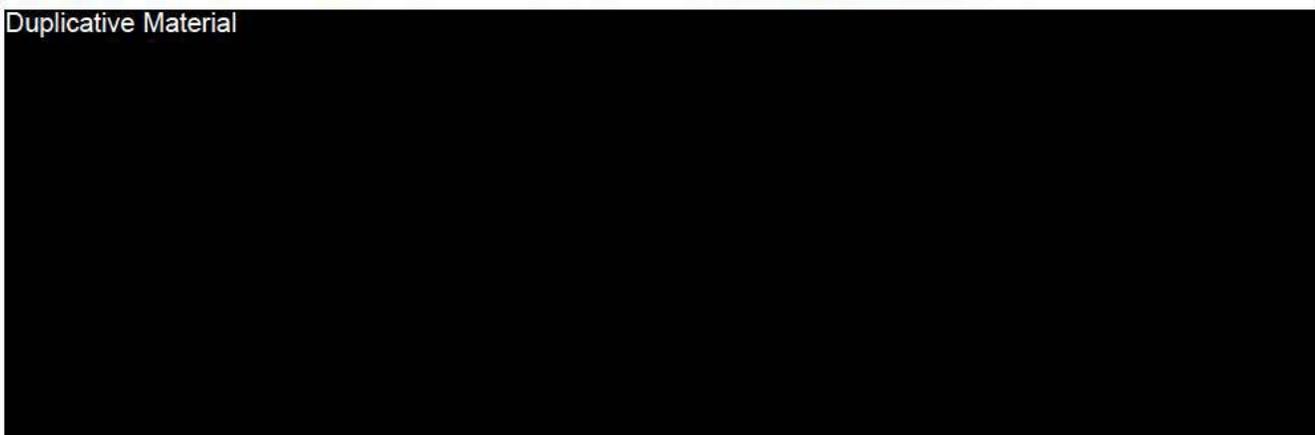
Awesome. Thanks. I can't do 11.30 that day - Beth is giving a speech at the USAO at 12.15 and I'll be going with her. Later that afternoon is fine w me.

Jennie

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 27, 2018, at 7:19 PM, Tucker, Rachael (OAG) <[ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:ratucker@jmd.usdoj.gov)> wrote:

Duplicative Material



**Bylund, Jeremy (OASG)**

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**From:** Bylund, Jeremy (OASG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 9:07 AM  
**To:** Parker, Rachel (OASG); Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Cc:** Murray, Michael (ODAG)  
**Subject:** RE: APPROVAL: AG Religious Freedom Day Proclamation  
**Attachments:** FW: Draft coordination memo on religious liberty issues.msg; Religious Liberty Coordination Memo.pdf; Attorney General Memorandum- Implementation of Memorandum on Federal Law Protections for Religious Liberty.pdf

Dear Zach,

Attached, please find the AG's implementation memo that assigns the coordination to the Associate's Office, including USAOs. (b) (5)

Best,

Jeremy

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**From:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 6:32 AM  
**To:** Murray, Michael (ODAG) <[mmurray@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mmurray@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Parker, Rachel (OASG) <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG) <[zbolitho@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:zbolitho@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Hur, Robert (ODAG) <[rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Prior, Ian (OPA) <[IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov)>; Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA) <[siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: APPROVAL: AG Religious Freedom Day Proclamation

Morning all,

Just want to check in about the below- (b) (5)

(b) (5)

I know today is the day and we need to move quickly.

Thanks,  
Zach

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Prior, Ian (OPA)" <[IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:IPrior@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
**Date:** January 15, 2018 at 9:42:28 PM ESTa

To: "Whitaker, Matthew (OAG)" <[mwhitaker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:mwhitaker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG)" <[zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Cc: "O'Malley, Devin (OPA)" <[domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:domalley@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Flores, Sarah Isgur (OPA)" <[siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:siflores@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Bolitho, Zachary (ODAG)" <[zbolitho@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:zbolitho@jmd.usdoj.gov)>, "Parker, Rachel (OASG)" <[racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov](mailto:racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov)>  
Subject: APPROVAL: AG Religious Freedom Day Proclamation

Reviewed by Jeremy Bylund and Mike Murray

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL ISSUES RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY PROCLAMATION**

Attorney General Jeff Sessions released the following proclamation commemorating Religious Freedom Day:

"Thomas Jefferson served as President for two terms, as Vice President, and as Secretary of State, but he did not mention these prestigious titles on his tombstone. Instead, he named three accomplishments he was more proud of: that he had founded the University of Virginia, authored the Declaration of Independence, and authored the Virginia statute of religious freedom.

To commemorate Religious Freedom Day, the Department of Justice will: file an amicus brief today supporting reversal of the D.C. District Court's decision denying the Archdiocese of Washington's motion for preliminary injunction against Washington Area Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA); update the United States Attorney's Manual (USAM) with Associate Attorney General's Approval and Notice Requirements for Issues Implicating Religious Liberty and direct United States Attorneys' Offices to appoint a Religious Liberty Coordinator; and file an amicus brief later this week with the Supreme Court of Montana supporting parents who claim that the state unconstitutionally discriminated against their children when it barred them from a private school scholarship program because they attend a religious school.

On this Religious Freedom Day, as we remember this historic statute, we do well to remember the timeless truths it articulates: that religious freedom is an inalienable human right which deserves the protection of the law and that 'truth is great and will prevail if left to herself.'"

Ian D. Prior  
Principal Deputy Director of Public Affairs  
Office: 202.616.0911  
Cell: (b) (6)

*For information on office hours, access to media events, and standard ground rules for interviews, please click [here](#).*

**Parker, Rachel (OASG)**

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**From:** Parker, Rachel (OASG)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 9:00 AM  
**To:** Bylund, Jeremy (OASG)  
**Subject:** FW: Draft coordination memo on religious liberty issues  
**Attachments:** draft coordination memo (10.13.17) (RJT comments).docx; CCWG comments on notification-coordination requirements re religious lib....docx

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**From:** Crowell, James (ODAG)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2017 11:24 AM  
**To:** Parker, Rachel (OASG) <racparker@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Cc:** Terwilliger, Zachary (ODAG) <zterwilliger@jmd.usdoj.gov>; Hur, Robert (ODAG) <rhur@jmd.usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Draft coordination memo on religious liberty issues

Rachael:

(b) (5)

We have attached a red-line (b) (5)

Please let us know if we can be helpful.

Best,

Jim

# Nonresponsive Records

# Nonresponsive Records

Me  
(b)(5) 10:03 AM

Me  
(b)(5) 10:04 AM

# Nonresponsive Records

[Redacted content]

# Nonresponsive Records

# Nonresponsive Records



Mark Pettit

Roger that!

10:00 AM

Mark Pettit

Only main question was is it ok to call it the "Department of Justice's Religious Liberty Summit"

10:01 AM

Me

Good!

10:01 AM

Mark Pettit

Sending!

10:01 AM

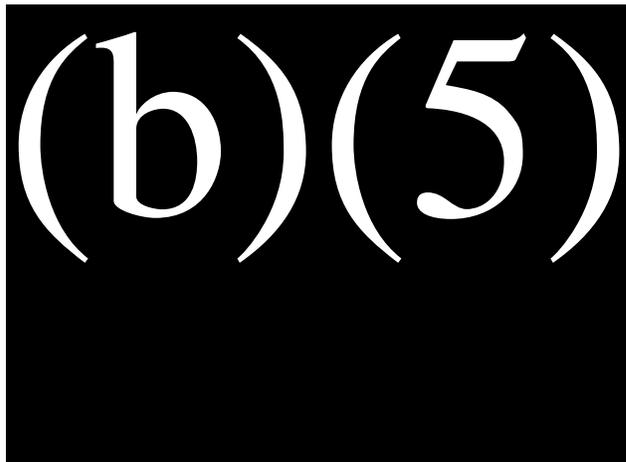
# Nonresponsive Records

# Nonresponsive Records



Wednesday, August 8, 2018

Me



4:52 PM

(b)(5)

4:52 PM

4:52 PM

4:52 PM

(b)(5)

4:52 PM

4:52 PM

4:52 PM

(b)(5)

4:52 PM

4:52 PM

4:52 PM

(b)(5)

4:52 PM

Mark Pettit

(b)(5)

7:33 PM

Me

Just send

7:36 PM

Mark Pettit

Roger that!

7:36 PM

# Nonresponsive Records

# Nonresponsive Records

Friday, July 27, 2018

Tony Perkins

Sarah  
Hope you're well. Can the AG come on radio Monday and discuss the DOJ's efforts on religious freedom at 5:05?  
Thanks  
Tony

1:29 PM

Me

Can probably make that work--let me check his schedule

1:29 PM

Tony Perkins

Great!

1:30 PM

Me

Is there a later time by chance?

1:56 PM

Tony Perkins

5:22 or 5:32 or we could do 5:42

1:58 PM

Tony Perkins

Will any of those times work?

1:59 PM

Me

Yeah I think I can make the 5:32 work. Can I confirm Monday am?

2:01 PM

Tony Perkins

Yes, sounds good. Thanks.  
Have a good weekend!

2:02 PM

Monday, July 30, 2018

Tony Perkins

Circling back to see if we can confirm for this evening?

10:01 AM

Me

I'm working on a timing problem that has come up but I think we'll be fine. Give me one more hour!

10:01 AM

Tony Perkins



10:01 AM

Me

We're good to go!

11:07 AM

Tony Perkins

Great. I'll have Russ get you the info.

11:08 AM