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Gregg L. Cunningham, Executive Director

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Dear Pro-Life Supporter,

As our supporters know, The Center for Bio-Ethical Reform (CBR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity. That means that donations to our organization are tax-deductible, but it also means that we may not properly engage in “electioneering” during political campaigns. But that doesn’t mean that we are relegated to the sidelines in important election campaigns. We are, in fact, operating our fleet of eight “GET OUT THE VOTE” billboard trucks in Arizona, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Nevada.

The definition of “electioneering” is somewhat murky but an obvious example of this sort of prohibited activity would be the display of signs which directly or indirectly endorse or oppose a named candidate or politician in any campaign for public office. What CBR is permitted to do, however, is to encourage people to register, and vote, and otherwise participate in the electoral political process. We may also properly encourage people to vote to defend preborn life and protect pregnant women from abortion.

It might be argued that our billboard truck signs urging voters to “defend life” approach the boundaries of prohibited conduct, but that argument is likely to fail. First of all, it is arguably impossible to determine which candidate is really the “pro-life” candidate in any given race. If we don’t explicitly or even impliedly name him or her, it is up to the voter to decide how to define the term. In his book *Reclaiming Hope*, (Thomas Nelson, 2017), author Michael Wear contends that Barack Obama was actually one of the most anti-abortion candidates ever to seek elected office.

Wear directed various “faith-based” initiatives in the Obama White House and political campaigns, including the President’s failed attempt to scam Catholics into believing that he was the best choice for religious voters during his commencement speech at Notre Dame University in 2009. We protested his speech so aggressively that we thoroughly sabotaged his scam and convinced him to abandon all meaningful outreach to Catholics.

Wear’s contention that President Obama was actually the pro-life candidate is based on the assertion that Obama’s commitment to massive taxation and spending excesses provided welfare benefits which would persuade women to reject abortion and carry their pregnancies to term. He argues that the bloated welfare state is more “pro-life” than any of the more traditional “pro-life” outreaches.

There is absolutely no credible evidence to support this nonsensical non sequitur, but it is a long-held and often repeated canard which liberals advance during election campaigns. In fact, political science professor Michael New has demonstrated that social spending has no measurable effect on abortion rates. That hasn’t stopped so-called “practicing Catholic” legal scholars, such as Doug Kmeic (who implausibly claims to oppose abortion), from expressing opposition to efforts to reverse *Roe v. Wade*. He too argues that we should merely spend abortion out of existence. He also makes the absurdist claim that reversing *Roe* could lead pro-life state governments to regulate abortion so restrictively that they would become as tyrannical as Communist China! The fact is that Democrat, and Republican, and independent candidates can all support

“abortion rights.” It is also true that different voters define the terms “abortion rights” and “pro-life” and “pro-choice” in different ways, and these differences can be stark.

We at CBR believe that people who have been shown what abortion actually looks like are far less likely to vote for candidates who believe that elective abortion should be lawful. But nothing in the tax code imperils our tax-exempt status for displaying abortion photos signs and encouraging people to vote, or even to defend life. And our billboard truck signs aren't merely intended for voter education. They also have educational value for the general public, including non-voters; and we have reason to believe the abortion photos on our trucks have dissuaded substantial numbers of mothers from aborting.

We never say “support Trump” or “vote Republican.” We never say “oppose Biden” or “reject Democrats.” We merely say “this is what abortion looks like,” as a means of facilitating better informed decisions involving voting and responsibly responding to undesired pregnancies. We don't have to condemn “pro-abortion” candidates, or even condemn abortion; when we display abortion photos, abortion condemns itself, and most people of conscience will know the right thing to do. We operate our trucks primarily in “swing states” in which presidential and U.S. Senate races are likely to be closely decided. Even a small extrinsic influence, such as our trucks, can shift the outcome in an election likely to be decided by a point or less. We don't operate in states such as California or Alabama because election outcomes in such states are foregone conclusions and draw little attention from voters. We want to be where voters are highly engaged and interested in considering the voter information we provide.

A popular theme which currently pervades many “news” casts is the dubious claim that early mail-in voting may have already determined the outcomes of the presidential and competitive senate races. I was skeptical of that contention so I did some research and found a VOX essay (I know) asserting that somewhat more than 50 million to 60 million voters have indeed cast their ballots by this date (by some press accounts 40 million have come in by mail – mostly Democrat ballots), but some estimations predict that a record 150 million voters will ultimately participate in these elections. If true, that means that some two-thirds of voters still haven't voted, either by mail or in person. The “news” media wants conservatives to despair of any hope of further influencing electoral outcomes and stop campaigning. But the truth is that these races are still in play and we need to fight until the polls close and even beyond as the Democrats continue their efforts to steal races with frivolous lawsuits and bundles of ballots which magically materialize, as a couple of my young friends like to say, in the saddlebags of unicorns galloping up through fairy dust.

One important but unintended consequence of 2020 election dynamics is the estimates that between 70% and 75% of Democrats will vote by mail because liberal elites have cynically frightened them into imagining that COVID will kill them if they leave their homes. That makes left-wing voters even more dependent on government (such as the overburdened Post Office struggling to deliver their ballots by the legal deadlines) but it also means that most Democrats, a majority of whom favor abortion rights, may already have voted. Not so with Republicans, most of whom oppose abortion, and who are expected to vote in person at an estimated rate of 60% to 65%. We obviously have no control over these numbers but they do suggest that our “GET OUT THE VOTE” billboard truck campaign will remain effective with the Republican base voters right up until the polls close on election day. But the press is reporting that many leading Democrat strategists say what the voters want won't matter because the Left is willing to stage a virtual coup to dictate the outcome of this election, no matter who actually wins. And both Joe Biden and Kamala Harris have said that if they win, they will block state attempts to regulate abortion even if the U.S. Supreme Court reversed *Roe v. Wade*.

I hate to write about what is going on with this election because it is all so crazy that I am afraid people will think I am making it up. This is the most bizarre and potentially dangerous election of my lifetime and one of the most alarming discussion themes in the mainstream press is the preposterous notion that if the president loses, he will refuse to relinquish the presidency. The press has also widely reported that

influential Democrats have gamed out scenarios in which a victory by President Trump would be resisted by blue state governors who would dispute vote counts, demand multiple recounts, file endless lawsuits, and foment civil unrest with the sorts of protests which we saw morph into riots with assaults on police officers, arson and looting in Seattle, Portland, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., etc. TheFederalist.com, September 11, 2020, in an article headlined “The Left is Setting the Stage for a Coup if Trump Wins,” quotes a Democrat strategist revealing an intention to “... occupy sh\*t, hold space, and shut things down, not just on Election Day but for weeks.” The story cites Democrat strategists planning to urge demands by Washington, Oregon and California to secede from the Union, if President Trump is reelected. Perhaps, they claim, he would have to be removed by force. “News” stories speculate that election outcomes might remain undecided for months if left-wing extremists get their way. One prominent *New York Times* editorial writer even proposed empowering the United Nations to resolve U.S. election disputes. Which countries would be our “supervisors”? Paragons of democratic virtue such as Venezuela, Cuba, North Korea, or Iran?

Such a risk may have been moderated just today, however, by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that Wisconsin cannot properly count ballots received after election day. Since most mail-in ballots will come from Democrat voters, the ruling is likely to adversely affect the Biden campaign. An opinion by Justice Brett Kavanaugh explained the importance of avoiding “the chaos and suspicions of impropriety” which might otherwise occur. Still unresolved is Pennsylvania’s attempt to permit the counting of ballots received after Election Day, and the authority of election officials to toss ballots with signatures which don’t match the corresponding signature on that voter’s registration records. [Today’s confirmation of Justice Amy Coney Barrett may ensure a ban on post-election ballot counting and the counting of ballots with mismatched signatures in Pennsylvania.](#) The Democrat base is heavily comprised of minority and young voters which, studies have shown, are most likely to make mistakes in filling out ballots, particularly mail-in ballots.

These U.S. Supreme Court decisions may prove vital to avoiding serious civil unrest in light of recent headlines in papers such as *The Wall Street Journal* (“What’s the ballot deadline, who knows?” and “Mail-Vote Madness in Pennsylvania”, and “Get Ready for an Election Crisis,” and “Will Courts Pick The Next President?”) and RealClearPolitics (“Warning Signs in Pennsylvania of Mail Ballot Chaos in November”). Then there is *The New York Times*, with headlines such as “Biden Camp, Prepared for Fight Over Voting, Builds Legal War Room.” This pandemonium may be why *The Washington Examiner* wrote a September 25 story headlined “Democrats frantically move away from pushing mail-in voting to in-person [ballots].” In fact, the mail-in ballot confusion has grown so concerning that the very Left-wing *New York Times* wrote an editorial imploringly titled “Vote in Person, New York.” But it may be too late to stem the hemorrhaging of disqualified mail-in ballots. Indeed, *The Guardian* newspaper posed the question, October 26, “Could rejected mail-in ballots cost Joe Biden the election?”

The need to avoid the conflict described above, and worse, can be seen in the very irresponsible line of press coverage published, for instance, in *The New York Times*, September 11, 2020, which ran the headline “Veterans fortify the ranks of militias aligned with Trump’s views.” The story suggests Right-wing militias could stage armed resistance to a Biden Administration. It warns that military veterans now make up “at least 25 percent of militia rosters,” and that they bring “weapons and tactical skills” to organizations “populated by prior-service personnel, some of whom faced trouble reintegrating” into civilian life. The story speculates that their maladjustment could lead to “the emergence of terrorist groups” which would be “capable of carrying out violent attacks” against real or imagined political enemies. The story notes that many of these veterans “are proficient with weapons, which they often own.”

The article ends with a quote from an official of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, warning breathlessly that “... there will be a range of organizations that don’t support the legitimacy of a Biden presidency and that administration will have to think about how to disarm militias. That will be a dangerous situation.” This sort of “journalism” is grossly alarmist. How would the government even define a “militia”? *The New York Times* guesses that there are some 300 such groups staffed by 15,000 to 20,000 people.

Would gun clubs and firing ranges and gun shop mailing lists be defined as “militias” and be targeted for gun confiscation if people associated with them post anti-Biden content on social media? British attempts to impound the civilian-owned firearms of colonists is what started the Revolutionary War, and the same horrifying gun-grab idea risks civil war today. CNN reports that on September 12, Beto O’Rourke, whom Biden says will be his gun czar if he is elected president, declared, “Hell yes, we’re going to take your AR-15.” CBR obviously opposes any sort of violent insurrection but the threat to our Constitutionally protected freedoms is real and armed civil strife, if it occurred, would not likely end well for the Left or the country at large.

*National Review* magazine reports that VA Governor Ralph Northam and the VA state legislature have watched helplessly as the leadership of the state National Guard refused to say that it would enforce gun bans when 50 county law enforcement officials refused to begin confiscating guns pursuant to gun restrictions passed recently into state law. If the Left can decide which laws they will enforce and which they won’t on immigration, etc., they are stoking anarchy and provoking the Right to do the same.

With gun sales surging, bigthink.org reports that “The U.S. military has 4.4 million weapons, compared to the American public possessing 393 million.” The site adds that “U.S. police officers are even more overwhelmed by the American public’s arsenal, with about a million guns allocated to their mission of protecting the peace.” Pew Research says “Three-in-ten American adults ... say they personally own a gun, and an additional 11% say they live with someone who does, according to a Pew Research Center survey conducted in March and April 2017. Whether or not they personally own a gun, Americans have broad exposure to firearms: Nearly half of U.S. adults (48%) grew up in a household with guns, nearly six-in-ten (59%) have friends who own guns .... Gallup adds that “Veterans are more likely to be Republican than are those of comparable ages who are not veterans. Also, “[O]ver one-quarter ... of men aged 18 and older say they are veterans or currently serving in the military.” Additionally, “For the entire adult population, 34% of veterans and those currently on active military service are Republican, compared to 26% of those who are not veterans, while 29% of veterans identify themselves as Democrats, compared to 38% of those who are not veterans. (Thirty-three percent of veterans are independents, compared to 29% of nonveterans.)”

Based on my 31 years of military and government service I can assure you that those who serve in our military and police departments are largely patriots, irrespective of their party affiliation. Most would not be willing to confiscate civilian-owned firearms, much less lead or tolerate a Leftist coup. But regardless of the outcome of the election and irrespective of how the public reacts, God and our donors have given CBR the capacity to do what no other pro-life group was willing or able to do, and that was to show millions of voters the majesty of preborn life and the horror of abortion, on freeways across seven key battleground states. Thank you for the donations which made this possible, and now PLEASE help us recover financially.

Lord bless,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregg Cunningham', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gregg Cunningham  
Executive Director

P.S. The pictures our trucks have lodged in the minds of passing motorists will save lives long after the election passes. The donations you contributed will continue to promote peace in the womb.