



---

# Media kit

---

# ***MEDIA CONTACTS***

## **Alliance Defending Freedom**

15100 North 90th St.

Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Phone: (480) 444-0020

Fax: (480) 444-0025

Main Web site: [www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org](http://www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org)

Media Web site: [www.adfmedia.org](http://www.adfmedia.org)

**To schedule an interview with an Alliance Defending Freedom attorney or allied attorney, please contact Alliance Defending Freedom Media and Public Relations through one of the following methods:**

Phone: (480) 444-0020, ext. 17102

Internet: [www.adfmedia.org/home/contact](http://www.adfmedia.org/home/contact)

## AT A GLANCE

### **What is Alliance Defending Freedom?**

Alliance Defending Freedom (formerly Alliance Defense Fund) is an alliance-building legal ministry that advocates for the right of people to freely live out their faith.

### **Who leads Alliance Defending Freedom?**

President, CEO, and General Counsel Alan Sears. Mr. Sears' biography is included in the media kit.

### **Who are the founders of Alliance Defending Freedom?**

- **The late Dr. Bill Bright**, *Campus Crusade for Christ*  
[www.cru.org](http://www.cru.org)
- **The late Larry Burkett**, *Crown Financial Ministries*  
[www.crown.org](http://www.crown.org)
- **Dr. James Dobson**  
Founder and Chairman Emeritus, *Focus on the Family*:  
[www.family.org](http://www.family.org)  
Chairman of the Board and President, *Family Talk*:  
[www.myfamilytalk.com](http://www.myfamilytalk.com)
- **The late Dr. D. James Kennedy**, *Coral Ridge Ministries*  
[www.truthinaction.org](http://www.truthinaction.org)
- **The late Marlin Maddoux**, *"Point of View" radio program*  
[www.pointofview.net](http://www.pointofview.net)

### **When was Alliance Defending Freedom launched?**

January 31, 1994.

### **How many people are employed on the Alliance Defending Freedom team?**

Alliance Defending Freedom employs a total of 148 full-time team members at its Team Resource Center in Scottsdale, Ariz., and at Regional Service Centers nationwide.

### **How many attorneys are on the Alliance Defending Freedom team?**

Alliance Defending Freedom currently employs 44 attorneys. Nearly 2,200 allied attorneys serve nationwide.

### **What is an Alliance Defending Freedom allied attorney?**

Allied attorneys include lawyers who have been trained at or qualified for the Alliance Defending Freedom Legal Academy, which is described on another page of this media kit; attorneys employed by allied organizations; attorneys who have received grants from Alliance Defending Freedom for their cases; all graduates of the Blackstone Legal Fellowship (described on another page of this media kit) who have a license to practice law. As of June 2012, allied attorneys have provided more than \$141 million in pro-bono/dedicated legal service.

### **How many victories has Alliance Defending Freedom had at the U.S. Supreme Court?**

Alliance Defending Freedom has had a role in 38 victories at the nation's highest court.

### **How can I learn more about Alliance Defending Freedom's financial status?**

Alliance Defending Freedom has been a member in good standing of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) since 1995, the first year Alliance Defending Freedom became eligible for membership. ECFA is an accreditation agency dedicated to helping Christian ministries earn the public's trust through adherence to seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship. ECFA's Standards of Responsible Stewardship focus on board governance, financial transparency, integrity in fund-raising, and proper use of charity resources. For more information about the ECFA, click on the logo below.



# ABOUT ALAN SEARS

## **Alan E. Sears, Esquire**

*Alliance Defending Freedom President, CEO, & General Counsel*



**Alan Sears** serves as president, CEO, and general counsel of Alliance Defending Freedom, an alliance-building legal ministry that advocates for religious freedom to uphold justice and preserve the right of people to freely live out their faith. He leads the strategy, training, funding, and litigation efforts of Alliance Defending Freedom that have resulted in various roles in 38 victories at the U.S. Supreme Court and wins in

more than three out of four cases litigated to conclusion. Under his leadership, Alliance Defending Freedom has funded more than 2,300 grants and legal projects for allied lawyers and organizations, and Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys have successfully defended marriage as the union between one man and one woman in over 40 cases nationwide.

Since the launch of Alliance Defending Freedom in 1994, Sears has provided strategic leadership in the training of more than 1,600 lawyers through the one-of-a-kind Alliance Defending Freedom Legal Academy, which is designed to equip attorneys to more effectively defend religious freedom, the sanctity of life, and marriage and the family. These attorneys have reported more than \$141 million in pro-bono/dedicated time. Sears' visionary efforts have also resulted in the graduation of more than 1,200 outstanding law students—representing more than 140 law schools—from the unique Blackstone Legal Fellowship program. This in-depth summer internship program helps equip these students to assume leadership positions to shape the future of law. Today, Alliance Defending Freedom has nearly 2,200 allied attorneys.

Sears earned his Juris Doctor from Louis D. Brandeis School of Law. While serving in numerous positions within the government, he worked for the Department of Justice under Attorneys General William French Smith and Edwin Meese III, including service as an Assistant U.S. Attorney and Chief of the Criminal Section. Sears was also appointed as the director of the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography and served as associate solicitor with the Department of the Interior under Secretary Donald Hodel. A graduate of the University of Kentucky, Sears has continued his education with professional instruction at Stanford University, Harvard Law School, Harvard Business School, and Pepperdine University.

Practicing law for three decades, Sears is a member in good standing with the American, Arizona, California, District of Columbia (inactive), and Kentucky bar associations. He has helped fashion the language for numerous state and federal laws and has testified before committees of the U.S. House and Senate, state legislatures, and many local governments and commissions. Legislators in 20 states have adopted his legislative recommendations. Sears has assisted legislators and law enforcement officials from many countries and has spoken before committees of the British Parliament.

Sears' numerous media appearances include television interviews and features on *The Today Show*, *Nightline*, CNN, Fox News, C-SPAN, *The O'Reilly Factor*, *Oprah*, and *The Lou Dobbs Show*. He has also been a radio guest on various programs, including *The Laura Ingraham Show*, National Public Radio, *The Hugh Hewitt Show*, and *The Dennis Prager Show*. Sears has been extensively covered in national print media, including the *Washington Post*, the *Associated Press*, the *Washington Times*, the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, the *Arizona Republic*, and the *National Catholic Register*. He is a regular opinion contributor to Townhall.com and has co-authored several books, including *The Homosexual Agenda: Exposing the Principal Threat to Religious Freedom Today* (2003) and *The ACLU vs. America* (2005), both with Craig Osten. His most recent books are *In Justice* (2009) and *Trial and Error* (2011).

# SUPREME COURT VICTORIES

Since its launch in 1994, Alliance Defending Freedom has had roles of significance in 38 U.S. Supreme Court victories. These cases resulted in important wins that set national precedents on which future victories can be and have been built. A list of milestones, including U.S. Supreme Court victories in which Alliance Defending Freedom has participated, is available at [www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org/about/history](http://www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org/about/history).

**2011**

***Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization v. Winn***

The United States Supreme Court ruled that the ACLU could not use so-called “offended taxpayers” to block Arizona’s school tuition tax credit program which allows parents to choose the best educational option for their children, including religious schools.

**2010**

***Salazar v. Buono***

In a major win for America’s World War I veterans and religious liberty, Alliance Defending Freedom contributed to a U.S. Supreme Court victory allowing a memorial cross to stand in the Mojave Desert in California.

**2007**

***Gonzales v. Carhart***

The Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, upheld the nationwide ban on partial-birth abortions, ruling that the 2003 Partial-Birth Abortion Act does not violate the Constitution. Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys, along with the Christian Legal Society filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case.

**2005**

***Van Orden v. Perry***

The Supreme Court upheld a Ten Commandments display on the grounds of the Texas Capitol complex. The court ruled, in a decision by Chief Justice William Rehnquist, that the Texas display did not violate the Establishment Clause.

*More >>*

**2001**

***Good News Club v. Milford Central Schools***

Alliance Defending Freedom launched the nationwide “Equal Access Project” to build on the precedent set in the *Rosenberger* case (listed below). As a result of many allied efforts, the court held in *Good News* that student Bible clubs meeting after hours in middle schools does not violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

**2000**

***Dale v. Boy Scouts of America***

Following the precedent established in the 1995 Alliance Defending Freedom-backed case of *Hurley v. Irish-American Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Group of Boston*, the court decided that the Boy Scouts is a private organization and can exclude advocates of homosexual behavior from its leadership.

**1997**

***Washington v. Glucksberg & Vacco v. Quill***

The court, 9-0, ruled that the U.S. Constitution does not provide a “right” to assisted suicide.

**1995**

***Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia***

The high court stopped discrimination and ordered equal access when a Christian university student newspaper was denied funding provided to other groups.

***Hurley v. Irish-American Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Group of Boston***

The court, 9-0, established a national precedent in upholding the right of private organizations to freely associate or not associate with other groups.

## IN THE NEWS

*“If there is a single organization most responsible for the surge in student-speech cases, it may be...ADF..., an Arizona-based network of Christian lawyers. Since 1994 the ADF has filed hundreds of cases advocating religious speech in the schools and a spokesman claims that it is ‘the driving force on this issue in the courts today.’ “*

**- TIME magazine**

*“In civil litigation cases, the ADF provides some of the nation’s top trial lawyers and First Amendment experts to work pro bono on cases that have an impact on Christians’ liberties.”*

**- Nathan Tabor, Human Events blog**

*“Christian group becomes force in major legal battles”*

**- Washington Post**

*“[Alliance Defending Freedom is a] powerful Christian legal group [indicative of] Christians flexing their muscles.”*

**- ABC World News Tonight**

*“[Alliance Defending Freedom is] ‘smart and savvy’ [and has] ‘stormed onto the legal scene to take on the courts.... ADF and its allies are changing the dynamics in the battle over faith and culture.’ “*

**- National Public Radio**

# **BLACKSTONE LEGAL FELLOWSHIP**

## *World-class law student training today for tomorrow's leaders*

The Blackstone Legal Fellowship is a nine-week summer leadership development program in law and servant ministry, the first of its kind and unlike any summer legal internship program offered in America. It is a rigorous program for exceptionally capable and highly motivated Christian law students from law schools across the nation. The Blackstone Legal Fellowship is designed primarily for law students between their first and second year of law school.

The Fellowship is named in honor of Sir William Blackstone, the noted English lawyer whose Commentaries on the Laws of England were studied by virtually every American law student until the middle of the 19th century.

Interns in the program have the opportunity to closely interact with some of the nation's top constitutional experts and are equipped with a distinctly Christian worldview in every area of life, particularly in the areas of law and public policy. The fellowship also addresses some of the challenging cultural and legal issues facing the Christian lawyer in the new millennium.

The goal: to train a new generation of lawyers who will rise to positions of influence and leadership as legal scholars, litigators, judges, and perhaps even Supreme Court justices, and who will work to ensure that justice is carried out in America's courtrooms.

The Blackstone Legal Fellowship has three specific objectives:

1. Equip Christian law students to engage the legal culture with biblical and natural law principles.
2. Give law students confidence that the foundation of law on which our country was established is rationally superior to any competing legal philosophy.
3. Profoundly influence Christian law students to take their training and knowledge into positions of influence where they can bring about needed change in America's legal system.

Admission to the Blackstone Legal Fellowship program is highly competitive. There are tens of thousands of first-year law students in America; however, only 141 students were accepted to the summer of 2012 program. Criteria for selection include demonstrated Christian commitment, motivation to engage the popular legal culture in debate over principle, national and statewide leadership potential, evidence of oral and written communication skills, and academic achievement.

Learn more about the Blackstone Fellowship at [www.blackstonelegalfellowship.org](http://www.blackstonelegalfellowship.org).

# LEGAL ACADEMY

Among the more than one million lawyers in America are thousands who believe in the issues supported by Alliance Defending Freedom. However, few have the specific training or experience necessary to handle a free-speech, religious liberty, or other matters involving constitutional law and other areas of concern.

To help recruit and train this untapped resource of dedicated women and men, Alliance Defending Freedom launched its Legal Academy—a state-of-the-art lawyer training project—in 1997. The Legal Academy sessions consist of worship and devotional activities, banquets, theological exhortation, worldview analysis, fellowship, common meals, and joyful interaction. They feature an intense course of study conducted by some of the nation’s top law school professors, litigators, and constitutional experts in the country. These experts instruct on public interest practice topics such as the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment, the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment, Equal Access law, 42 USC § 1983 actions, Family and Marriage law, legal aid to the poor, and other matters.

Past Legal Academy sessions have helped effectively equip attorneys to battle the radical homosexual legal agenda, defend parental rights, uphold the sanctity of human life, and protect religious freedom. Each academy session is four to five days in length, and the CLE segment qualifies for mandatory continuing legal education credit in most or all applicable states.

One of the unique aspects of our Legal Academy is the way it can help multiply our ministry friends’ investment in Alliance Defending Freedom. As an Alliance Defending Freedom ally, the attorney’s expenses are scholarshiped, including travel, lodging, and most meals. In return, each attorney ally who attends the Legal Academy makes a faith commitment to provide 450 hours of pro bono legal work on behalf of the Body of Christ. The goal is to fulfill this commitment over a three-year period on cases and projects related to his or her training and/or matters that forward the mission of the alliance. Attorneys whose firms will not permit a 450 hour commitment or who have extreme extenuating circumstances may qualify for a 200-hour commitment over a three-year period. Persons with the smaller commitment may fulfill it only by performing specified litigation activities and will not receive all of the benefits of a full commitment.

Since 1997, Alliance Defending Freedom has trained more than 1,400 attorneys that have provided dedicated, pro-bono service valued at more than \$141 million in the legal battle to defend, protect, and affirm religious freedom, the sanctity of life, marriage, and the family.

Admission to each Legal Academy is granted only after application and acceptance. Space is limited.

For more information about the Legal Academy, visit [www.adflegal.org/join](http://www.adflegal.org/join).

# WEBSITES

In addition to Alliance Defending Freedom's main Web site, [www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org](http://www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org), the organization maintains a number of issue- or audience-specific sites:

**Media Site**

[www.adfmedia.org](http://www.adfmedia.org)

**Blackstone Legal Fellowship**

[www.blackstonelegalfellowship.org](http://www.blackstonelegalfellowship.org)

**Alliance Defending Freedom Legal Academy**

[www.adflegal.org/join](http://www.adflegal.org/join)

**University Project**

[www.speakupmovement.org/university](http://www.speakupmovement.org/university)

**Church Project and Pulpit Initiative**

[www.speakupmovement.org/church](http://www.speakupmovement.org/church)

**Community Defense Counsel**

[www.communitydefense.org](http://www.communitydefense.org)

**Alliance Alert**

[www.alliancealert.org](http://www.alliancealert.org)

**Faith & Justice Magazine**

[www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org/faithandjustice](http://www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org/faithandjustice)

[www.adfmedia.org](http://www.adfmedia.org)

# MEDIA REFERENCE GUIDE

<u>USE</u>	<u>DON'T USE</u>
•abortion, infanticide, killing of the innocent	•termination of pregnancy
•abortion advocates	•pro-choice advocates
•abortion-inducing drug; dangerous Plan B drug, which many doctors believe can cause an abortion	•emergency contraception, birth control, morning-after pill
•abortionist, abortion clinic	•health clinic, family planning center
•adultery, infidelity	•extra-marital relationship, affair, liaison
•advocates of homosexual behavior	•homosexual or gay activists
•advocating/promoting promiscuity/immorality	•sex education, safe sex, responsible sex
•anti-marriage, opponents of marriage	•pro-marriage rights, gay marriage advocates
•biological sex in reference to he/she	•“changed” sex in reference to he/she
•Christmas	•X-mas, holiday season, winter holiday/break
•convictions against homosexual behavior	•homophobia, anti-gay bias, intolerance
•creation science	•anti-evolution, anti-science, creationism
•cross-dressing, sexually confused	•transgender
•defending biblical/religious principles/convictions	•discrimination, bigotry, anti-tolerance
•demands by/of advocates of homosexual behavior, special privileges	•homosexual/gay rights, hate-crimes legislation, anti-discrimination laws
•gender-identity confusion/gender confusion	•gender identity
•“hate” crimes, so-called “hate” crimes	•hate crimes
•homosexual behavior	•homosexuality, homosexual/gay lifestyle
•homosexual agenda	•lesbian and gay civil rights movement
•killing the defenseless, premeditated murder of the helpless	•mercy killing, euthanasia, right to die, pulling the plug, compassion
•marriage protection amendment/law	•ban on gay marriage, anti-gay marriage amendment/law
•pedophile, child predator, child molester	•adult attracted to children
•pornography	•adult literature, literature for mature audiences
•preborn child	•unborn child, fetus, unwanted pregnancy
•pro-abstinence, pro-purity/responsibility	•anti-contraception, unrealistic expectations
•pro-life, pro-family, pro-children	•anti-abortion, anti- reproductive rights
•pro-life advocates, defenders of life	•pro-life protesters, anti-abortion protesters, pro-lifers
•same-sex “marriage,” marriage imitations	•gay marriage or homosexual marriage
•(leftist) sexual indoctrination programs	•sexual education programs, health education
•sexual preference/choice	•sexual orientation, genetic predisposition, gay gene
•sexually mutilated male/female, self-proclaimed male/female, biological male/female	•intersex person/male/female
•sexually oriented businesses	•adult businesses
•so-called “separation of church and state”	•separation of church and state
•special legal protections, privileged class	•equal rights, equal protections, protected class
•troubled/religious theory of evolution	•fact of evolution, scientific theory of evolution
•women considering abortion, women struggling with abortion	•women exercising their reproductive rights