



FACT SHEET

Tree of Life Christian Schools v. City of Upper Arlington

ABOUT THE CASE

In January 2011, ADF filed a lawsuit against Upper Arlington, Ohio, when city officials refused to allow Tree of Life Christian Schools to apply for zoning approval after it purchased the former America Online/Time-Warner building. The lawsuit challenges a zoning regulation that prohibits schools within the zone but permits daycare facilities and other similar uses. If approved, the building would allow the school to double in size and to consolidate its inferior and overcrowded campuses holding approximately 660 students in the Columbus area. The school would also provide more than 150 new jobs to the city, as well as tax revenue greater than what has been realized from the vacant site in many years.

STATUS AS OF 2014-04-28

ADF Senior Legal Counsel Erik Stanley will present oral argument at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 29, 2015.

WHAT IS AT STAKE?

Whether the government can discriminate against religious organizations in its zoning laws.

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ABOUT Alliance Defending Freedom

Alliance Defending Freedom is an alliance-building, non-profit legal organization that advocates for the right of people to freely live out their faith.

ABOUT Erik Stanley

Erik Stanley serves as senior legal counsel with Alliance Defending Freedom, where he is director of the Church Project and Pulpit Initiative. He has focused his practice on appellate law, free speech, traditional family values, pro-life, and religious liberty constitutional law. Stanley has filed, briefed, and argued numerous trial and appellate cases on constitutional issues throughout the United States. Stanley graduated from Temple University School of Law in the top five percent of his class. He is a bar member of Florida, Kansas, Arizona, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Supreme Court, and numerous federal district and appellate courts.