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Christian Employers and States' Attorneys General Challenge OSHA Vaccine Mandate

CEA's attorneys will also ask the 8th Circuit to immediately halt mandate's enforcement while litigation moves forward

ARLINGTON, VA — On behalf of the Christian Employers Alliance (CEA), Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) attorneys co-filed a <u>petition</u> in the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Friday to challenge the Biden Administration's vaccine <u>mandate</u>. Since the mandate applies to private employers with over 100 employees, many members of the CEA are affected by the unjust coercion of mandatory compliance with vaccination, testing, and dismissal protocols. CEA joined the case alongside the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Nebraska, Montana, Iowa, North Dakota, Alaska, New Hampshire, and Wyoming. ADF and the states will ask the court to stay enforcement of the mandate while the case is being considered.

In the lawsuit, <u>State of Missouri v. Biden</u>, CEA has joined with the States — along with private plaintiffs AAI, Inc. and Doolittle Trailer Manufacturing, Inc. — to challenge the Biden Administration's actions as unconstitutional and outside the government's statutory authority. The lawsuit does not address the COVID-19 vaccine *per se but* focuses on the government's extraordinary overreach into the lives and businesses of the American people.

"The federal government is attempting to interfere with employees' private health decisions and their religious convictions," said CEA president Shannon Royce. "Members of the Christian Employers Alliance go to great lengths to care for the health and wellness of their employees. These for-profit and nonprofit businesses also believe every person has the God-given right of conscience to do what's in the best interest of themselves and their families. They believe it violates the dignity of their employees for the federal government to force them to accept the COVID-19 vaccine against their conscience."

"Furthermore, the disruption costs associated with administering, implementing, and tracking the outcomes required by this mandate, in addition to the penalties and fines, are enough to cripple or close a business in these difficult economic times," Royce added.

<u>Christian Employers Alliance</u> is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to unite, equip, and represent Christian-owned businesses to protect religious freedom and provide the opportunity for employees, businesses, and communities to flourish.