The past year, which we have called “America’s Year of Decision,” has been one of intense activity, capped off by the Supreme Court ordering the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals to rehear our case against ObamaCare. Read more in this Year-End Partners’ Report, a highly refined list of 2012’s many legal actions, campaigns, achievements, and honors.

We began 2012 anticipating the United States Supreme Court’s decision on the constitutionality of ObamaCare and, through God’s amazing Grace, end the year with new hope for our pivotal case against it.

Liberty Counsel filed the first private lawsuit against this overt federal power grab on March 23, 2010, the same day President Obama signed it into law, exactly 235 years to the day after Patrick Henry delivered his famous “Liberty or Death” speech in Richmond, Virginia. The High Court breathed new life into our case, Liberty University et al v. Geithner, with its November 26th order remanding it to the appellate court located in Richmond, Virginia!

Liberty Counsel has continually been at the forefront of the historic battle to stop this government takeover of the nation’s healthcare system, and we end 2012 with the most significant case against ObamaCare in the nation. Our case’s new prominence shocked the pundits and was at the top of the news cycles for several days. To God be the glory!

Beyond our historic ObamaCare litigation, we have won many highly significant victories over the past year. We won precedent-setting victories in defense of the Gospel, forced the Attorney General of the United States to stop his outrageous campaign against pro-life Americans, and yet again confronted and turned back the ACLU’s misguided attempts to strip the Ten Commandments and other expressions of our nation’s Judeo-Christian heritage from public display.

This year has also been one of strategic growth and expansion in the midst of the deepening Obama recession. Liberty Counsel and our sister organization, Liberty Counsel Action, a 501(c)(4) grassroots and public policy group, teamed up with Liberty Action PAC, our new political action committee, to exert a major influence on the historic 2012 elections.

As you review the scores of legal actions and other culture-changing activities Liberty Counsel undertook in 2012, please realize that we could not have succeeded at any level without the faithful support of thoughtful, patriotic Americans like you! Yet lifted by your prayers and financial gifts, we look forward to even more historic and impactful efforts throughout the pivotal year ahead.

While we face many challenges to our liberty, lives, and families, we are committed to remain faithful and press forward. We thank you for your prayers and support. We were born for “such a time as this” and are pleased to stand with you at this crucial time in history!

Mathew D. Staver, Founder and Chairman

Anita L. Staver, President
Religious Freedom

- Obtained a favorable ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court on our lawsuit against ObamaCare and will now argue at the court of appeals the employer mandate and the Free Exercise of Religion claim regarding the abortion funding mandate.
- Won a 3-0 precedent-setting victory at the court of appeals for Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) Good News Clubs after a Minnesota school district restricted the Christian club from meeting because it did not want its Christian message. Now the Good News Club is bringing the Gospel to elementary students immediately after school.
- Resolved many cases involving Child Evangelism Fellowship in multiple states where school districts formerly discriminated against the Good News Clubs in terms of use of the facilities, time of use, fees, and announcements or advertisements.
- Obtained court-awarded sanctions amounting to more than $100,000 at both the trial and appellate court levels against a Florida attorney who repeatedly filed frivolous and hostile pleadings in an anti-Christian lawsuit against Jews for Jesus.

Sanctity of Human Life

- Filed the nation’s first private lawsuit against ObamaCare in 2010, challenged the individual and employer mandates, became the first to argue the case at a federal court of appeals, and filed two briefs before the United States Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has now directed the court of appeals to rehear our suit against the employer mandate and the Free Exercise of Religion claim over forced abortion funding.
- Soundly defeated U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder’s politically motivated lawsuit against a pro-life sidewalk counselor when the federal court dismissed the suit after two years of litigation. The court chastised the Department of Justice for conspiring with the abortion clinic and filing the case without any evidence, which resulted in the Department of Justice having to pay $120,000.
- Successfully defended Mississippi’s Personhood Amendment at the state Supreme Court against the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, and other pro-abortion groups.

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Liberty Counsel dramatically expanded its impact on American public policy in 2012. We give God glory for encircling us in His economy, which allowed Liberty Counsel to add strategic new organizational assets, greatly increase our media outreach, expand service to a large number of new partners and supporters, and generally increase our influence in both the nation’s courtrooms and the court of public opinion! **In early October, we filed a critically important case** challenging a new California law that bans any counseling to diminish or eliminate same-sex sexual attractions. We argued in federal court in Sacramento that the “change therapy” law, SB1172, should not be allowed to go into effect on January 1, 2013. Liberty Counsel’s long history of pro-family advocacy in California includes our case against same-sex “marriage” heard at the California Supreme Court in 2008. **At top left, Liberty Counsel Founder and Chairman Mat Staver** is shown arriving at the California Supreme Court with our clients and the necessary security guards. **Also at top left, Liberty Counsel President Anita Staver** is shown with the literal mountain of motions, pleadings, and other related court documents we prepared for that battle. **At bottom left, Mat Staver** is shown in his role of emcee and convening sponsor of The Awakening 2012, an annual event that has become one of the nation’s leading conferences for conservative leaders and citizen activists. **At center top and bottom, Mat Staver is shown addressing the annual convention of the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC) and the Values Voter Summit.** Liberty Counsel is a title sponsor of the VVS event and is counted among the leading organizations of the modern conservative movement in America. **At center left, Anita Staver addresses the second annual Women Impacting the Nation (WIN) Women’s Conference.** At **center right**, the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem are shown, as seen on our Liberty Ambassador Counsel tours. **At bottom right, Liberty Counsel’s colorful yard signs were seen on lawns across the nation during the historic 2012 election.**
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Parenthood, and the Center for Reproductive Rights, thus allowing citizens the right to vote to amend the state constitution to protect human life from the moment of conception.

- Partnered with Personhood USA around the country to defend Personhood initiatives that define human life from the moment of fertilization.
- Defended the Oklahoma Personhood Amendment against Planned Parenthood.
- Filed a significant amicus brief in the Alabama Supreme Court in the case of Ankrom v. State of Alabama, tracing through history the protections afforded to unborn children in a case involving chemical endangerment of unborn children who are exposed to illegal drugs in utero.
- Filed a major amicus brief at the federal court of appeals in San Francisco in support of Arizona’s law that bans abortion after 20 weeks. The brief overviews the legal and historical evidence that children in the womb are human beings and must be afforded legal protection.

The Family

- Defended the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) against an initiative led by liberal U.S. Senators that would have overturned the law defining marriage as being between one woman and one man.
- Took on the very important defense of a Massachusetts pastor against a federal lawsuit by a foreign group called Sexual Minorities of Uganda (SMUG) represented by a radical leftist law firm partially financed by liberal billionaire George Soros. SMUG is attempting to use international law claiming “crimes against humanity” because the pastor spoke in a foreign country against homosexuality and pornography.
- Filed an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court defending broadcast decency laws against a lawsuit filed by broadcast networks that sought the right to broadcast indecent programming. The High Court ruled on the networks’ “vagueness” challenge but did not rule on the constitutionality of decency standards. Ultimately, the Supreme Court allowed the decency restrictions to remain in the law.
- Filed suit and prosecuted an appeal against New York Governor Cuomo and New York City Mayor Bloomberg for violating the New York Open Meetings Law by deliberately locking the public out of closed-door meetings to pass a same-sex marriage law. The New York state constitution and other laws guarantee transparency and the right of citizens to participate in open government.
- Filed suit in federal court on behalf of minors and their parents, counselors, and counseling organizations challenging the new California law (SB 1172) that bans any counseling to diminish or eliminate same-sex sexual attractions in minors. The law demands that all mental health professionals affirm same-sex attractions as normal and forbids minors and their parents from receiving counseling that does not comply with the state’s view on homosexuality.

Other Significant Events

- Primary sponsor and organizer of The Awakening 2012 in Central Florida with over 70 prominent speakers celebrating the theme, “Uniting Our Voices Around Shared Values: Turning Voices into Votes.” Many attendees remarked it was the best event they had ever attended.
- Expanded the Ninth Annual Day of Purity from to 9 to 37 nations and nearly 1,000 schools and obtained a City Proclamation of the Day of Purity, which educates and encourages youth to commit to sexual purity.
- Launched the Tenth Annual Friend or Foe Graduation Prayer Campaign to educate and, when necessary, litigate to ensure that prayer and religious viewpoints are not censored from graduation.
- Hosted law student interns at the U.S. Supreme Court as part of our 10-week program to train a new generation of Christian legal advocates through Liberty University School of Law’s internship, externship, and constitutional litigation clinic program.
- Launched the Tenth Annual Friend or Foe Christmas Campaign to educate, and, if necessary, litigate to keep Christmas from being censored, and expanded the “Naughty & Nice” list that catalogs retailers that recognize or censor Christmas.
- Hosted law students and other interns in our Washington, D.C., office through the Liberty Center for Law and Policy, where they worked on important national and state legislative and policy matters.
- Participated in the Fifth Annual TeenPact Judicial Program at Liberty University School of Law, a week-long program that instructs motivated teenagers in the rule of law and the importance of a Christian worldview.
- Cosponsored the Values Voter Summit in Washington, D.C., with a record crowd over 3,000 in attendance.
- Hosted the American Association of Christian Counselors World Conference with 6,500 attendees.
- Conducted many conferences to educate teachers and public school administrators on how to integrate Christian values and history into their curricula.
- Hosted thousands of activists in several states at Awake events to integrate faith and social change.
- Joined Christian women in the call to prayer when Anita Staver united with leaders in the American Prayer Initiative that urged Americans to daily intercede with prayer and fasting for our nation until Election Day, November 6, 2012.
- Hosted a training and educational tour to Israel as part of our Liberty Ambassador Counsel program with the goal of strengthening participants’ Christian faith and equipping them to be goodwill ambassadors for Israel.
- Continued to serve on a national panel of legal experts on The Commission on Accountability and Policy for Religious Organizations. The panel addressed key legal issues affecting churches and nonprofit organizations, such as the current prohibition against political campaign intervention by churches and other nonprofits. The report is now released to the public.

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Liberty Counsel Played a Pivotal Role in the 2012 Election

Liberty Counsel and our affiliated organizations did everything we possibly could to positively impact the historic 2012 election. In “America’s Year of Decision,” Liberty Counsel and our affiliates, Liberty Counsel Action and Liberty Action PAC, worked collaboratively to...

- Send over 77 million educational emails to like-minded citizens urging involvement in the vital issues of our day.
- Distribute over 240,000 Patriot’s Handbooks, reaching every public school in America, tens of thousands of churches and pastors, and well over 100,000 grassroots patriots in virtually every community in the nation.
- Make over a million pro-family, pro-life voter contacts in a massive Get-Out-The-Vote campaign concentrated in the twelve “battleground states” in the final weeks before the election.
- Speak in person to several hundreds of thousands of concerned Christian citizens, church leaders, and other interested audiences about the urgency of participating in the 2012 election.
- Distribute an uncountable but massive number of Voter Guides, Congressional Scorecards, Party Platform Analyses, and other voter materials via the Internet.
- Place many tens of thousands of Take Back America: Silence Is Not an Option Action Packs in churches and Christian nonprofit organizations nationwide.

We were unshaken in our resolve to “stay the course” in accomplishing our God-given mission throughout the historic 2012 election cycle...and gave God praise in spite of some disappointments.

U.S. Supreme Court Revives Our ObamaCare Lawsuit

On November 26, 2012, the United States Supreme Court ordered the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia, to rehear our ObamaCare case of Liberty University et al v. Geithner. You may have heard about this amazing development since it was headlined on every major and minor TV, radio, print, and online media source.

According to media analysts, for a period of time that day over 400 news stories per hour were being generated about our case, so we knew all the wire services (AP, Reuters, NewsWire, and others) were actively distributing the report from the Supreme Court. Then the special reports, legal analyses, and broadcast interviews began! It all added up to one of the busiest media days we have yet experienced at Liberty Counsel.

This ruling is literally an answer to prayer. It means our fight against ObamaCare can go back into full swing. It also gives Liberty Counsel the leading case against ObamaCare in the nation and offers new hope for a ruling that ObamaCare is, as we have said all along, patently unconstitutional!

At issue is the constitutionality of the “Employer Mandate” and also whether ObamaCare’s forced funding of abortion is allowable under the First Amendment’s Free Exercise of Religion Clause and the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

We feel certain God orchestrated the elaborate chain of events through the intense prayers of so many friends of Liberty Counsel. During the spring and summer of 2011, over 100,000 concerned Americans formally committed to pray for the original hearing at the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia.

Although we received an adverse decision from the three-judge panel, their ruling that they could not address the merits of our lawsuit until a “tax” was actually paid through ObamaCare paved the way for the Supreme Court to place us in the strategic situation in which we now stand.

This may well set the stage for the case to return to the High Court in 2013 – even before the ObamaCare law’s full implementation in 2014. We give the Lord thanks for the answered prayers of our many partners and can’t wait to see what He has in store for our landmark case against ObamaCare!

The Amici Book for Mat Staver’s oral argument at the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in May 2011 (shown in photos) eventually contained the names of over 100,000 dedicated prayer partners.
Additional Outreaches

- **Liberty Counsel Action** is a 501(c)(4) sister organization. This increases our ability to engage in issue advocacy and lobbying legislators and other elected officials. LCAction.org.

- **Liberty Action PAC** is affiliated with our sister organization, Liberty Counsel Action, and engaged in voter mobilization during the 2012 election cycle. We are now strategically positioned to greatly impact future election cycles and fully engage the 1.44 million supporters of Liberty Counsel's family of ministries. LibertyActionPAC.com

- **Liberty Ambassador Counsel** connects hundreds of thousands of Americans with the nation of Israel. Includes tours of biblical sites and special briefings by leading Israeli political, military, and academic leaders. AmbassadorCounsel.com

- Launched **New Revolution Institute** to provide training to educate and mobilize citizen activists in order to advance our nation’s core values and celebrate its first principles.

- Launched the **Liberty Counsel Connect** website to link all of the Liberty Counsel entities and provide updates and interactive news. This “unified portal” allows easy access to the websites of our various ministry outreaches. LibertyCounsel.com

- **New Revolution Publishers** is designed to produce books and educational material on American history, the Founding Fathers, first principles, and Christian citizen activism.

Other Significant Ministry Projects or Affiliations

- Entered into a strategic partnership with the **National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference**, the largest Hispanic organization in the country comprised of 40,118 Evangelical Hispanic churches. Mat Staver now serves on the NHCLC Board of Directors and is its Chief Legal Counsel. Liberty Counsel sponsors the **Life Directive**, which is one of seven major directives of the NHCLC. Liberty Counsel serves as the legislative and policy arm of the NHCLC.

- The **Freedom Federation Social 2.0 Internet platform supports events, blogging, and social networking. The FF Mobile smart phone application with GPS capability to locate events is included. FreedomFederation.org.**

- **Women Impacting the Nation (WIN)** is a project of Liberty Counsel to educate and equip women with the knowledge of God’s truth about issues that impact our faith, families, and freedom. WomenImpactingTheNation.org

Our Motto for 2013

A New Birth of LIBERTY

The 2012 Year-End Partners’ Report is published for the benefit of Liberty Counsel’s friends and supporters. Additional copies of this report may be obtained by writing to the address listed. Feel free to reproduce its contents for inclusion in a civic flyer or a church bulletin. Thank you for your interest in Liberty Counsel’s vital work and for your continuing prayer and financial support!