



April 16, 2010

Office of the Mayor

RE: 2010 National Day of Prayer observance **not affected** by recent ruling of federal district court in Wisconsin

Dear Mayor,

As you may know, on April 15, 2010, United States District Court Judge Barbara Crabb, for the Western District of Wisconsin, issued an opinion striking down the National Day of Prayer statute, 36 U.S.C. § 119, as violating the Establishment Clause. (*Freedom From Religion Foundation v. Obama*, __ F.Supp.2d ___, 2010 WL 1499451). We are writing to assure you that the opinion should not disrupt your local observance of the 59th Annual National Day of Prayer to be held on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

In her opinion, Judge Crabb specifically stayed the ruling until all appeals in the case are exhausted. By her own words, then, it will not interfere with this year's observances. In addition, few expect this to be the final word on this important matter. The district court decision will likely be appealed, thus allowing the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and possibly even the United States Supreme Court to rule on whether the federal statute is unconstitutional.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Alliance Defense Fund at 1-800-tellADF (800-835-5233).

We thank you for your attention to this matter, and for your dedicated public service.

Very sincerely yours,

ALLIANCE DEFENSE FUND

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Johnson', is written over the typed name.

J. Michael Johnson
Senior Legal Counsel