



## ***FACT SHEET*** ***The Children First Foundation v. Fiala***

### ***ABOUT The Children First Foundation v. Fiala***

In August 2004, Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys filed a lawsuit on behalf of The Children First Foundation against the New York Department of Motor Vehicles for rejecting the pro-adoption group's application to sponsor a "Choose Life" specialty license plate as part of a state program.

### ***CURRENT STATUS OF The Children First Foundation v. Fiala AS OF 12/10/12***

In November 2011, a federal court issued an order for New York to approve the plate application but placed the order on hold until any appeals are completed. The state appealed the court's decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit. Oral arguments will take place on Dec. 11.

### ***WHAT IS AT STAKE?***

- Whether pro-adoption organizations have the right to a specialty license plate on the same terms as any other organization.
- Whether the state can censor an organization for its life-affirming viewpoint.
- Whether the state can engage in viewpoint discrimination.
- Whether free speech and equal treatment under the law still stands.

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### ***ABOUT 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.

### ***ABOUT Jeremy Tedesco***

Jeremy Tedesco serves as senior legal counsel with Alliance Defending Freedom at its headquarters in Scottsdale, Arizona. In 2004, he earned his J.D. from the Regent University School of Law. Tedesco is admitted to the State Bar of Arizona; the Supreme and District Court of Arizona; the District Court of Colorado; the U.S. Courts of Appeal for the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 9th Circuits; and the U.S. Supreme Court.