



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

DEFENDING LIFE

in the courts and the public square since 1989



Alexandra Snyder

Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past year, we at Life Legal have contested the abortion establishment as never before—through a multi-pronged program of litigation, advocacy, and education.

> We have been battling the “progressive” push for abortion tourism in states like California—and promoting the actual progress of pro-life education—through a means entirely new to us. When Governor Gavin Newsom used his own campaign funds to put up blasphemous baby-killing billboards in less-than-abortion-friendly states, we considered carefully, then responded with a pro-life billboard campaign of our own. Yes, other worthy organizations have long sponsored pro-life billboards. But ours gave a new twist to the tactic by offending the sexual libertinism that lies at the bottom of the abortion culture.

Our campaign is ongoing—and you can learn the details on page 4.

> Like many savvy members of the pro-life movement, we have long observed the increasing use of abortifacient chemicals by the child-killing industry. We also saw that the importance of these feticidal pharmaceuticals would advance exponentially after the fall of *Roe v. Wade*—because the pro-aborts would be looking hard for a superficially easy way to evade sensible laws in pro-life states.

We didn't just stand by and watch the spread of this child-hating drug culture, however. Instead, this year, we have done what we could to hobble the death cult company that manufactures the most widely used abortifacient chemical on the market. We brought a lawsuit against Danco Laboratories—and we won!

Moreover, our victory was only the beginning of our determined opposition to chemical abortion...!

> As part of our never-ending defense of pro-life activists who directly save lives by intervening at murder mills, we came up against a federal judge who actually tried to establish a new rationale, separate from the pretext applied in *Roe v. Wade*, for recognizing prenatal homicide as a constitutional right. We and our associates argued strenuously against the judge's insane idea—but also realized that it was no more insane than the “emanations” and “penumbras” propounded in *Roe*. You can read more about this madness in this report on page 5.

The purveyors of murder in the womb are trying hard to replace *Roe* with some new nihilistic nightmare. We have worked hard, and are still working hard, to stop them...!

At the same time, we have been soldiering on with our daily work—in keeping with our motto: “No case is too small.” We hear almost every day from pro-life activists who need to be defended from unjust prosecution and from vicious pro-abortion maniacs. We hear almost as often from frantic people trying to save loved ones from a cruel program of starvation, dehydration, and medical murder.

When we face the new challenges of the post-*Roe* world, or the intimidating tasks that come to us day by day, we are always mindful of our dependence on supporters like you. And we offer prayers that you will continue to support us in 2024.

The pro-life landscape after *Roe* is coming into increasing focus. We have won unprecedented victories, and we are sure we can win even greater ones—with your help!

Yours for the value of every human life,

FIGHTING FOR LIFE



FROM COAST TO COAST

113 cases nationwide • 2,314 people represented



Of Billboard Battles and Abortion Tourism

After the fall of *Roe v. Wade*, everyone involved in the pro-life movement must have noted the rage of abortion advocates. However, no one should assume that all pro-aborts received the end of *Roe* as bad news. A few of them inhaled deeply and caught the scent of opportunity. One of these was Gavin Newsom, Governor of California.

Under his insistent direction, the state government enacted a slew of laws designed to uphold, enhance, and enrich the California abortion industry. These statutes did not only target babies conceived in the Golden State. An integral feature was the intention of preying on women and girls from pro-life states. Newsom was obsessed with pitching abortion tourism—financially profitable to his abortion cartel campaign contributors and politically profitable to his own best-beloved self.

Newsom financed billboards in other states—advertisements designed to lure mothers to California for “free” (that is, taxpayer-funded) abortions. He paid for these signs from his own campaign chest. Moreover, just to convey the fullness of his sentiments, he included a blasphemous abuse of Scripture on every pro-abortion billboard.

The message consisted of one image—a troubled young woman pondering her circumstances—accompanied by the words: “Need an abortion? California is ready to help. Learn more at abortion.ca.gov...”

Followed by... “Love your neighbor as yourself: there is no greater commandment than these.—Mark 12:31.”

You get the insulting point, don’t you? Running a giant abortion tourism operation out of the Golden State constituted the very

apex of selfless charity, fully in accord with the teachings of Jesus Christ as related by St. Mark the Evangelist.

We at Life Legal couldn’t let this blasphemous affront go unanswered. We decided to respond in kind—with our own billboards.

Our display was carefully designed to mirror Newsom’s own—with some significant variations. Instead of showing a lone girl facing a terrible decision, we showed a couple, the woman frowning at the results of her home pregnancy test, the man, eyes closed, worrying over the news. The text read: “Save sex for marriage. Plan your future, not your abortion. AbortionlessFuture.com. Info@AbortionlessFuture.com.” We didn’t want even to imply acceptance of the propositions that pregnancy occurs in a vacuum, and that abortion is therefore nothing but a woman’s decision.

Over 325,000 people per week have been viewing this message since our billboards went up. Many go to the listed website or inquire at the e-mail address, where they are reminded that unmarried women undergo more than 86 percent of abortions—and where they are directed to life-affirming resources. Planned Parenthood was *founded* to disconnect sex from pregnancy, and the abortion megalith has spent billions to convince people that random sex has no consequences. Recommending true sexual responsibility—that is, chastity—saves women and men from the devastating effects of hook-up culture and saves babies from the abortionist’s scalpel.

Life Legal’s billboard campaign is just one way in which we are countering the marketers of child murder.



The Boiling Cauldron of Chemical Abortion

As pro-life states, after the collapse of *Roe*, work to enact laws that protect human life by making brick-and-mortar murder mills illegal, the abortion syndicate and its allies in government are turning more and more to chemical abortion as a way of circumventing these protections. We at Life Legal have been fighting on this front and are preparing to expand our efforts in response to the challenge.

Clearly, chemical abortion is in itself nothing new. When the Hippocratic tradition and early Christianity formulated their opposition to the murder of the child in the womb, chemicals were the principal means of inducing abortion. The Hippocratic Oath specifies a pessary—or poison-soaked suppository—as the typical abortion method forbidden to practitioners. Many New Testament scholars believe that this is one of the practices condemned as “sorcery” (*pharmakeia*) in Scripture.

Those witch doctors are still around—and their homicidal brews are being promoted as never before.

The most popular abortifacient drug on the market right now is mifepristone, a steroidal compound also known as RU-486 and peddled under the trade name Mifeprex. It is normally used in combination with another medication known as misoprostol to induce abortion. If you’ve seen the movie *Unplanned*, you may remember that this procedure was used to terminate Abby Johnson’s child before she converted to a pro-life position. The horrible pain and bleeding endured by the mother in that scene are typical reactions to the drugs, and come as a shock to women who have been assured that they can just pop the pills and become magically unpregnant. Another common shock is passing the “mass of tissue” that looks uncomfortably like the baby that it is.

As of 2020, chemical abortion accounted for a clear majority of baby-killings in the U.S.: 54 percent. But that’s nothing compared to what the impresarios of annihilation have planned. They are pulling out all the stops to make mifepristone easily available everywhere, including by mail. The Biden FDA has removed virtually every abortifacient safeguard and no longer collects data on adverse effects short of death—even though thousands of women have suffered bleeding, infections, blood clots, and other dangerous side effects.

The use of mifepristone, and of abortion drugs in general, is so fraught with danger that its French developer, Roussel-Uclaf, sidestepped the threat of U.S. lawsuits by licensing the product, free of charge, to the non-profit Population Council, which in turn licensed it to Danco Laboratories. Danco’s sole concerns are manufacturing and peddling mifepristone. It does not produce any other drugs.

Danco was especially founded to evade both boycotts and legal consequences, but its shadowy operators are not immune to the sort of legal action that is our specialty. Indeed, we have already achieved one success in this area.

In April of this year, we proved that Danco was not beyond consequences by winning a whistleblower lawsuit under the False Claims Act. Under considerable pressure, the abortifacient profiteer was persuaded to agree to a settlement of \$765,000. True to abortionist form, Danco had mislabeled the drug, which it imports from China, and avoided U.S. tariffs. Since Danco is the sole distributor of mifepristone in this country, the loss it suffered constitutes significant damage to this burgeoning branch of the child-killing industry.

Still, to us at Life Legal, this damage is only the beginning of a long-term campaign against chemical abortion.

ROE BY OTHER MEANS:

PRO-ABORTS STRIVE TO ERECT NEW CHILD-KILLING IDOL

If anything became clear after *Dobbs* was handed down in June of 2022, it's that the abortion industry has abandoned the mantra that abortion should be "safe, legal, and rare" in favor of an all-out campaign touting child-killing at any time for any reason as a public benefit. The industry's powerful allies in government, and in the federal judiciary, are twisting every possible mechanism and rationale in order to reinstate the universal abortion regime that they enjoyed under *Roe v. Wade*.

So far, the Biden administration's most visible efforts in favor of unlimited abortion are its deregulation and promotion of chemical abortifacients (see above) and its bizarre attempt to force emergency rooms nationwide to perform abortions regardless of applicable state laws. Life Legal has been fighting—and, to some extent, winning—on all these fronts.

However, the Biden administration isn't relying solely on its control of federal regulators to push for some sort of reanimated *Roe v. Wade*.

This year, we've been involved in the defense of pro-life activists charged under the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act in connection with a demonstration at the Washington, D.C. murder mill operated by the notorious late-term abortionist Cesare Santangelo.

The proceedings took a bizarre turn when counsel for the defense moved to dismiss one of the charges: interfering with a right. Since *Dobbs* toppled *Roe*, abortion had ceased to be anything like a constitutional right—so the charge simply did not apply.

However, the judge in the case, Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, declined to apply the current state of federal law to the perfectly reasonable motion to dismiss. Rather, she speculated that there might be some other way to establish child-murder as a constitutional right. Hey, how about the Thirteenth Amendment—which outlaws slavery? Surely, unplanned pregnancy is a form of slavery. Isn't it? Judge Kollar-Kotelly instructed both sides to prepare briefs on this point.

The judge's line of illogic is not original with her. It derives from a legal scholar at Northwestern University named

Andrew Koppelman—who has been arguing that pregnancy equals slavery since 1990. The idea has been spreading for decades, waiting for the moment when a new rationale for abortion as a "right" was desperately needed. Now the need is present—so Judge Kollar-Kotelly introduced it into the trial. She won't be alone. The full-court press is on to undo *Dobbs* and reinstate *Roe*, in effect, by other means. The crazy character

of the rationale doesn't render it harmless. The rationale in *Roe* was crazy, too, and it held this country under its blood-glutted mass for five decades.

The practical outcome of the trial was unjust. Defendants were convicted on all counts, including interference with a right. They face grave sentences. Briefs on the Thirteenth Amendment did not figure into the result, so that issue will not enter into the appeal that we are certain to make. However, the idea will surface again. Judge Kollar-Kotelly's instructions were a chilling reminder of the pro-aborts' determination to slaughter children no matter what.

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Victories in the Arena

In the struggles that ensued since the collapse of *Roe*, we strove to maintain the pro-life principles implicit in our stated mission—and to act with energy, skill, and good judgment. We won some significant victories along the way.

> *Danco qui tam* action

(see “Chemical Abortion” page 5). We provided the U.S. Attorney’s Office with information about Danco’s mislabeling of the abortion drug Mifeprex. A lawsuit was filed on January 29 under the principle that allows private parties to act on behalf of the public interest. After a confidential investigation, the Justice Department did opt to pursue Danco’s improper labeling of products and effective evasion of tariffs. Danco settled for over three quarters of a million dollars—no small expense for the manufacturer of a single drug. Life Legal’s intervention thus did real damage to the nation’s number one producer of abortifacients. We couldn’t get them on killing babies, but we could get them on not paying tariffs. Moral, if there is one: abortionists are almost doing something wrong for which they can be prosecuted or sued.

> *CMDA v. Bonta*

We joined the Alliance Defending Freedom in challenging a new law that required physicians to participate in assisted suicide even if they were opposed to the practice. We filed suit on behalf of conscientious doctors to prevent enforcement. In May of this year, California agreed to a settlement: it would no longer compel physicians to violate their beliefs. This was a win both for conscience rights and for the right to life of vulnerable patients pressured to end their lives prematurely.

> *303 Creative v. Elenis*

Life Legal filed an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of Lorie Smith, a Christian website designer who elected not to create sites for same-sex couples—which would violate Colorado anti-discrimination laws. In June, the Court held that a state may not “force an individual to speak in ways that align with its views but defy her conscience about a matter of major significance.” We entered this case because the precedent of forced speech would surely harm pro-lifers and pro-life efforts, including life-affirming pregnancy care centers.

> *Dupont Clinic*

An abortion mill in Washington, D.C., moved to establish a second location in Beverly Hills. The Dupont Clinic specializes in very late-term procedures of the sort that give even some abortionists the shudders. Life Legal teamed with local activists to keep Dupont out of the city. Senior Staff Counsel Allison Aranda helped locals navigate details as they urged officials not to turn their beautiful city into Third-Trimester Dismemberment Center West. In July, combined pro-life efforts succeeded. Dupont will not be moving in at Beverly Hills.

Life Legal won numerous additional victories for prayer warriors, protesters, and sidewalk counselors this year—interventions that never made it to a courtroom. And we have saved the lives of many threatened with starvation and dehydration in a medical context—patients whose confidentiality we are committed to respect.





Challenges in the Year to Come

New challenges are appearing in the wake of *Roe's* demise, and we need to be prepared for all of them.

2024 is an election year, and pro-abortion politicians, including the current President, are concocting more and more extreme measures designed to illustrate their allegiance to the ever-insistent abortion cartel. We've already witnessed this sort of drooling determination in Gavin Newsom, who clearly considers himself a candidate to replace Biden. He and his competitors will try to outdo the present administration in pro-abortion devotion. The obscenities they will produce cannot be precisely predicted, but many will be unconstitutional and thus subject to the sort of legal disputes that are encompassed in our mission.

The abortion lobby is using fear and deceit to introduce pro-child-murder ballot initiatives in every venue where such an option exists. The procedure was pioneered with California's Proposition 1, which passed overwhelmingly last November. The general strategy is thus established. Rather than offer an open-abortion-through-all-nine-months-of-pregnancy-and-beyond initiative, the abortionists couch their advocacy in such soothing terms as "reproductive freedom" and decision-making without state interference. They rely on compliant media to conceal the truth from a complacent public.

However, the very vagueness that enables the pro-aborts to sell their initiatives also constitutes a weakness in the event of passage, inviting legal confrontation. Life Legal vigorously opposes these initiatives and is also preparing to challenge the ones that pass.

We need to do all this while continuing the work that we've tended to since our founding. We need to defend pro-life free speech not only from the obsessive opposition of the Biden/Garland Justice Department but from state and local officials who just will not admit that the First Amendment applies to pro-lifers. We need to shield heroic street-level activists from the violence of fanatical pro-aborts. We need to preserve the lifesaving ministries of pro-life pregnancy care centers that are increasingly attacked by abortion zealots. We need to intervene when bad actors try to subject the elderly, infirm, injured, and medically vulnerable to cruel deaths by starvation and dehydration.

Over the past two years, the abortion landscape has shifted dramatically. Our mission has become more relevant than ever.

STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR GIFTS

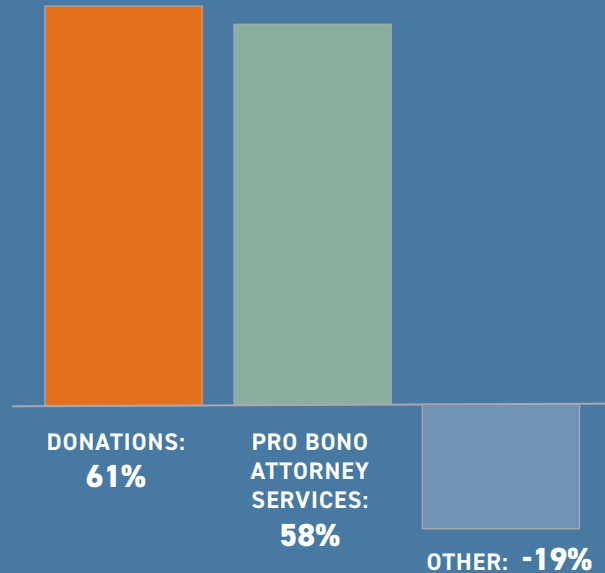
As you give you can be assured that Life Legal will be a wise steward of your gifts. The graph below reflects Life Legal’s 2022 Independent audit by Mullins P.C. Program expenses include donated attorney services totaling over two million dollars.

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

(Fiscal Year: 2022)

Donations	\$2,433,028
(Pro bono) Attorney services	\$2,336,557
Other income	-\$751,792*
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,017,793
NET ASSETS, end of year	\$5,239,942

* Includes unrealized gains and losses on investments.

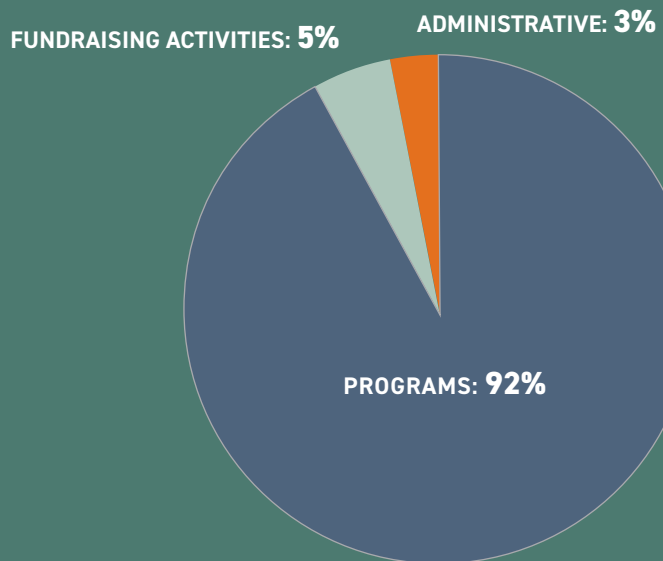


EXPENSES

(Fiscal Year: 2022)

See how your gifts go straight to saving the lives of babies.

Program services	\$3,474,589
Supporting services:	
Fundraising	\$174,672
Administrative	\$117,479
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,766,740



Life Legal Defense Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity that seeks to operate under the highest standards of financial accountability and excellence. All charitable donations to Life Legal Defense Foundation are tax-deductible as allowed by law. We are audited by an independent accounting firm each year and governed by an independent Board of Directors.



Life Legal staff: Sheila Green, Sadie Daniels, Alexandra Snyder, Catherine Short, Jered Conder, Mary Riley, Mary Rose Short, Corrina Konczal, Wendy Cravalho, Elizabeth Figueroa (missing: Allison Aranda, Diana Champion, Kathi Rogers)

Closing Statement

We at Life Legal thank you from the very depths of our hearts for standing with us in achieving the victories of the last year—and we hope we can depend on your continued support as we face the vital tasks of the future.

- > Without you, we never could have opposed Newsom2024's kill-your-baby-in-sunny-California program, actually advertised on physical billboards in conservative states, with our own sobering message that went to the core of the abortion cartel's homicidal pathology....
- > Without you, we could never could have kicked off our campaign against the growing scourge of chemical abortion by winning a litigation battle against Danco Laboratories, the U.S. manufacturer of the dangerous abortifacient mifepristone....
- > Without you, we never could have fought back against loony judicial attempts to reinstate *Roe v. Wade* by contending that pregnancy equals slavery!

And, without your future generosity, we won't be able to carry on any of these projects in the face of fast-approaching attacks from the Culture of Death.

We have strategic plans to counter the pro-aborts on all these fronts. And we are carefully allotting resources to carry on with our daily work of standing up for individual pro-life activists, upholding pro-life freedom of conscience, and saving the lives of those judged "unworthy of living" by medical bureaucrats.

We also know that pro-abortion forces are themselves preparing to expand their child-killing enterprise through abuse of power and misinformation. They're scheming even as you read these lines.

Please, as a pro-life stalwart who recognizes the value of Life Legal's mission, could you contribute \$50, \$250, \$500, or even \$1,000 toward our work in 2024?

Remember that our opponents mobilize vast sums of blood money against us. From pro-lifers who can afford to consider even greater levels of generosity, we are especially seeking gifts of up to \$5,000 or even \$7,500.

There's no way we can compete against the abortionists dollar for dollar. But we don't have to. If we can match them dime for dollar, or even penny for dollar, we can prevail.

Nevertheless, we understand the power of the Widow's Mite and would be grateful for any amount you could afford to give.

We at Life Legal pray every day for our benefactors. And we hope you pray for us.

May the God who gives strength to the just keep you and all who are dear to you safe in the coming year—and reward you as you deserve for what you've done to save his menaced children from the devotees of death!



OUR MISSION

Life Legal is a pro-life, non-profit law firm that defends life in the courtroom and the public square. We provide experienced legal counsel to save lives threatened by abortion and the withdrawal of essential medical care.

With your help, we can create a culture that values and protects vulnerable human life, especially children in the womb.

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