

ALLIANCE DEFENDING FREEDOM

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# MINISTRY ALLIANCE



## **Benefits of Membership and Scope of Services**

As an ADF Ministry Alliance member, you will receive:

- Legal review of bylaws and policies that relate to protecting your ministry's religious liberty;
- Direct access to attorneys to answer your questions about protecting your ministry's religious liberty;
- Consultation for legal issues involving your ministry's religious liberty (prior to litigation);
- Legal representation in cases ADF determines involve your ministry's religious liberty (threats to religious liberty in areas such as employment, land use, tax exemption, facility usage, government mandates or unconstitutional regulation, volunteer requirements, equal access to government property or benefits); and
- Specialized resources such as webinars and newsletters tailored to protecting the religious liberty of religious ministries.

ADF Ministry Alliance is not an insurance program and Alliance Defending Freedom is not an insurance company. ADF will typically represent ADF Ministry Alliance members in all litigation related to protecting the religious liberty of a religious ministry. However, ADF cannot guarantee legal representation in every situation and does not provide casualty payments for a lawsuit. Any legal representation undertaken by ADF is without cost to Ministry Alliance members.

Some religious ministry legal matters involve administrative tribunals such as zoning boards and tax agencies. ADF normally does not appear as legal counsel before administrative agencies or administrative tribunals. ADF will assist in finding local counsel for administrative phases of legal matters that fall within the ADF Ministry Alliance scope of services, but we cannot guarantee that local counsel representation will be free of charge.

### **ADF does not provide legal representation for the following:**

- Intra-ministry, inter-ministry, or denominational disputes;
- Allegations of child abuse or criminal prosecutions unrelated to religious liberty;
- Tax advice, tax audits or investigations that do not relate to religious liberty;
- Start-up and filing requirements (e.g., 501(c)(3) applications, sales tax exemption applications, corporate filings);
- Advice regarding corporate structure or general liability issues not related to religious liberty;
- General advice regarding government contracts or grant agreements;
- Drafting business contracts such as rental agreements or vendor contracts; or
- International legal matters or compliance with international law.
- Land use cases will generally only be approved if discrimination or unequal treatment is present.

ADF has the sole authority to determine whether a request for advice or representation falls within the scope of services offered.

## **Alliance Defending Freedom Statement of Faith**

ADF Ministry Alliance members should be in general agreement and be able to certify that their ministry's statement of faith (or similar document) does not materially conflict with the following statement of faith and the Alliance Defending Freedom Doctrinal Distinctives.

Based on our adherence to the inspired, infallible, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God in Scripture, we profess with the Christian Church throughout time and around the world the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## **Alliance Defending Freedom Doctrinal Distinctives**

Also, based on this confession, we are committed to honoring God by obeying the two Greatest Commandments, loving God and loving neighbor, and based on that commitment and derived from the inspired, infallible, inerrant, and authoritative Word of God in Scripture, we profess the following as necessary for living the gospel:

- We believe in the spiritual unity and equality of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- We believe that the Lordship of Christ requires us as disciples to seek to conform our actions, thoughts, and desires in obedience to Him.
- We believe God creates each person with an immutable biological sex — male or female — that reflects the image and likeness of God.

- We believe God designed marriage as a unique conjugal relationship joining one man and one woman in a single, exclusive, life-long union, and God intends sexual intimacy to occur within that relationship.
- We believe God endows all human life with inherent dignity, and it must be respected and protected from conception to natural death.
- We believe that God has endowed all humans with the natural, pre-political, and inalienable right of religious freedom to believe, pursue truth, and live within ordered liberty such that no political government may justly infringe upon it.
- We believe that God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, calls all of us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Him and that, in exchange, He promises us abundant life.