

THIS WEEK IN CONSCIENCE & JUSTICE

By: Ajeeya Watson, CJC Intern & Branson Fellow of Washington Adventist University

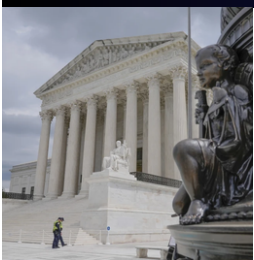
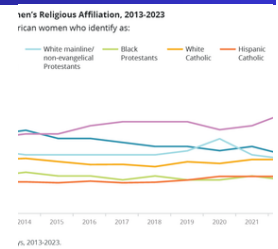


Thirty years on, Becket Fund for Religious Liberty seeks to protect nation's 'first freedom'

Who fights for religious liberty? The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty is a non-profit law firm built to defend religious freedom for people of all faiths. Thursday, May 23rd marked 30 years of defense. Within this time, they have won 11 Supreme Court cases that enabled believers to live and work in accordance with their faith. For example, *Burwell vs. Hobby Lobby* protected family businesses from being forced to choose between violating their beliefs or paying "crippling" fines.

Understanding Religion, Partisanship, and Women Voters Ahead of the 2024 Presidential Election

Did you know that in all recent presidential elections, women have consistently shown up to the polls at higher rates than men? 68.4% of eligible adult women voted in the 2020 presidential election, compared with 65% of eligible adult men. PRRI issued an analysis of women's religious and partisan affiliations and considers how American women view, President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump, by race, education level, age, and religious affiliation.



Supreme Court finds no bias against Black voters in a South Carolina congressional district

On Thursday, May 23rd, The Supreme Court resulted in a 6-3 decision in which the conservative majority held that South Carolina's Republican-controlled legislature did nothing wrong during redistricting. The court approved South Carolina's legislature strengthening Rep. Nancy Mace's hold on the coastal district by moving 30,000 Democratic-leaning Black residents of Charleston out of the district.

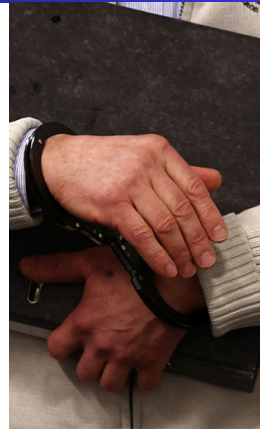


Sheila Jackson Lee reintroduces George Floyd Justice in Policing Act

Four years ago, a white Minneapolis police officer knelt on the neck of George Floyd for more than nine minutes. Witnesses filmed the encounter as Floyd repeatedly told officers, "I can't breathe." On Thursday, Democratic Representative Sheila Jackson Lee reintroduced the *George Floyd Justice in Policing Act*, which would create federal police reform.

We Fought for Deaf People on Probation and Parole in Georgia and Won

Five years ago, the ACLU sued Georgia's supervision agency for failing to accommodate the disabilities of deaf and hard-of-hearing people on probation or parole. The suit was successful, so Georgia's agency responsible for probation and parole must remove discriminatory hurdles for these individuals, for example, by providing a Deaf interpreter.



OUR PURPOSE

This newsletter aims to highlight news articles relating to religious liberty, civil rights, and social justice. The Conscience & Justice Council desires to be attuned with society so that we may change the nation by impacting one community at a time. Articles linked above are meant to provoke thought and discussion on important topics, and do not always express opinions or views endorsed by the CJC.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 CJC COVENTION



Registration Opens on June 1st

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UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 CJC COVENTION SPEAKERS



Linda Ammons
Dean Emeritus at Widener of Law



Pastor Michael Pflieger
Pastor of St. Sabina Catholic Church



Trevor H. Gardner II
Professor of Law at Washington University of Law



Amireh Al-Haddad
Public Affairs & Religious Director of Southern Union Conference



Furman Fordham II
Director of Church Ministries and Mission Development South Central Conference



Darriel Hoy
Pastor and Community Services Director Southwest Region Conference



Jay Turner
Vice Dean and Professor of Energy, Environment & Chemical Engineering at Washington University



Kevin Burton
Director of Center for Adventist Research at Andrews University

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