

The *CVS* Case

Case Name: *Paige Casey v. MinuteClinic Diagnostic of Virginia*

Case Action: Complaint filed on Aug. 31, 2022

Significance: Whether health care professionals can practice medicine without being forced to violate their faith.



Background: Paige Casey is a licensed Nurse Practitioner in the state of Virginia who worked at a CVS MinuteClinic in Alexandria, Virginia. Because she is devoted to her Catholic faith, she cannot provide or facilitate the use of any abortion-causing drugs. For three-and-a-half years, CVS respected Paige's Catholic beliefs with a religious accommodation. But in January 2022, CVS informed her that it would no longer accommodate her beliefs, and a few months later, she was fired. There were no complaints from co-workers, patients, or supervisors, and just two days before she was fired, she received a merit-based pay increase. Virginia state law prohibits employers from discriminating against employees who decline to participate in providing abortifacients because of their religious or ethical beliefs. Alliance Defending Freedom filed a lawsuit on behalf of Paige to prevent CVS from forcing health care professionals to violate their faith.

Key Points

- CVS created a problem where none exists. It easily accommodated Paige's beliefs for three-and-a-half years, with other medical professionals ready to dispense abortion-causing drugs when customers ask.
- Under the unlawful policy, CVS would have forced Paige to prescribe and dispense drugs that end a human life. This violated her religious convictions.
- Every American should have the freedom to operate according to their ethical beliefs. Doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals are no different.

Key Facts

- As a practicing Catholic, Paige believes life begins at conception, prohibiting her from prescribing or dispensing abortifacients.
- Paige was fired from her position on March 29, 2022. She had a spotless record and even received a merit-based raise two-days prior to getting fired.
- If CVS is allowed to defy the law unchecked and punish Paige for her beliefs, other employees risk punishment, too.

The Bottom Line: Major corporations cannot defy the law by firing health care professionals who want to work without violating their faith.