



FACT SHEET ***Howe v. Burwell***

ABOUT THE CASE

In January 2015, Alliance Defending Freedom filed a lawsuit against the Obama administration on behalf of a pro-life Vermont man after he lost his private health plan due to Obamacare and was forced on to the state exchange. Under Obamacare, every health insurance exchange plan in Vermont requires individuals to directly pay a “separate payment” to cover elective abortions. The man is in critical need of health insurance coverage but does not want to compromise his beliefs. The lawsuit also challenges secrecy clauses within Obamacare which forbid Americans from being told prior to enrollment whether the plans they would purchase on an exchange will include abortion coverage and a hidden separate payment for abortions. The clauses also forbid Americans from being told how much of the premium is a federally mandated abortion surcharge that pays exclusively for other people’s elective abortions.

STATUS AS OF 2015-04-08

ADF Senior Counsel Casey Mattox will present oral argument at the U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont in Burlington, Vt., on April 9, 2015.

WHAT IS AT STAKE?

- Whether Americans have the freedom to participate in health insurance coverage that does not violate their faith or pro-life beliefs.
- Whether the government will be permitted to exercise raw, coercive power over the conscience and convictions of every American who needs healthcare.

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ABOUT Alliance Defending Freedom

Alliance Defending Freedom is an alliance-building, non-profit legal organization that advocates for the right of people to freely live out their faith.

ABOUT Casey Mattox

Casey Mattox serves as senior counsel with ADF. His litigation efforts focus on sanctity of human life issues, including waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayer dollars by the abortion industry. Prior to serving with ADF, Mattox litigated for the Christian Legal Society Center for Law & Religious Freedom, as well as the Rutherford Institute, and clerked for Justice Champ Lyons of the Alabama Supreme Court. Mattox earned his J.D. from Boston College Law School and is a member of the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and numerous federal courts.