

Text of Mark Geitzen's letter dated May 8, 2017, that was sent to Wichita Mayor Jeff Longwell and all members of the Wichita City Council.

Dear Mayor Longwell, and the Wichita City Council; Lavonta Williams, Pete Meitzner, James Clendenin, Jeff Blubaugh, Bryan Frye, and Janet Miller:

Every business day since Mother's Day, 2004, until Friday, April 28th, when the newly revised City Sign Code was first enforced, the Kansas Coalition for Life (KCFL) has displayed various kinds of 1st Amendment Signage, along with a Memorial Cross display at the intersection of Kellogg Drive and Bleckley Streets, near the former Tiller Abortion Facility, now called South Wind.

In doing so, KCFL Volunteers, assisted by their 1st Amendment signage, have saved the lives of more than 514 unborn babies who would otherwise have been put to death by abortion. The 514 associated mothers were simply given a choice, and were spared the grief and heartache of knowing that they killed their own child. Most of these now appreciative mothers, would not have known about the life-giving choices available to them, without seeing the KCFL signage located near the abortion facility.

During every minute, of every hour, for the past 13 years, during which the KCFL signage and crosses have been on display, they have been properly set, tended, maintained, and picked up in the evening, in complete accordance with the strict legal parameters set forth in case law, for 1st Amendment Signage on public property. No one's pathway is ever blocked. Public safety is never compromised. There has never been interference with public utilities, and the general public has not been inconvenienced in any way by the KCFL on-site 1st Amendment signage. Furthermore, no signs or crosses have ever been abandoned on-site, thereby creating an eye-sore.

Also, during the past 13 years, NOT ONE City-of-Wichita sign-related complaint or citation has been issued, that stood up in court, even at the lowest levels of court.

In the same way, because 1st Amendment protections are superior to the City Sign Code, not one of the many direct legal challenges launched from the abortion facility, in opposition to the various types of KCFL 1st Amendment signage, has been successful in court, over the years, due to Court precedents which protect and define the meaning of the 1st Amendment to the United States Constitution.

In rewriting Section 24.04.010 of the Wichita Code, many, if not most, of the U.S. Supreme Court 1st Amendment protections were ignored by the City of Wichita. The new Sign Code is written as if the City has the power to deny basic Constitutional rights to the ProLife side of the abortion question.

Since KCFL has always operated in strict accordance with existing applicable law, a properly updated City Sign Code should have had no practical effect on KCFL's 1st Amendment Signage. But to the contrary, the new Sign Code improperly disqualifies 100% of KCFL's on-

site 1st Amendment Signage, including the KCFL Memorial Cross Display, ALL KCFL verbal signage with no pictures, ALL KCFL pictorial displays, and ALL displays containing a combination of words and pictures. Even sidewalk chalk messages, completely protected by the 1st Amendment, are now against the law in Wichita.

The KCFL displays that were found to be illegal by the City of Wichita on Friday, April 28th, had been in continuous use in Wichita since 2004, and had survived numerous legal challenges over the years, based on 1st Amendment protections for signage that is accompanied by a person willing to be continuously present with the signs and displays.

The only type of 1st Amendment signage still permitted under the newly revised and unconstitutional City Sign Code, is hand-held signs, which are not normally used by KCFL volunteers. Hand-held signs prevent on-site KCFL volunteers from doing their job, which is to offer printed materials to, and to communicate with, the incoming abortion-bound cliental.

Hand-held signs are best suited for protests and pickets, but KCFL is not on-site at Kansas Abortion facilities to protest or picket. We are on-site to offer help and real choices to abortion-bound women.

In the interest of upholding your oath of office, to uphold the Constitution of the United States, I am asking each of you, the Wichita City Council members, to immediately suspend the use of the blatantly unconstitutional newly revised Wichita City Sign Code, and to embargo it until the erroneous portions of it are changed to be compliant with the U.S. Supreme Court's opinion on what is included in 1st Amendment rights.

Thank you for serving our community on the Wichita City Council, and thank you too, for taking the time to consider this request.

Respectfully submitted;

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