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# ON WATCH IN WASHINGTON

Intercessors for America's PRAYER ALERT

June 15, 2011

## SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE HOLDS CRITICAL VOTE ON THURSDAY

Obama [has nominated](#) former Kansas Attorney General Stephen Six as a judge on the Federal Appeals Court in Denver. Six was involved in obstructing the prosecution of Planned Parenthood on 107 criminal charges and, according to some, tied the hands of the prosecutor in the 2009 criminal case against George Tiller.

Six's ascension to state office followed a contentious and scandal-ridden political battle over abortion, which continued unabated under his administration.

The critical vote is coming up in the Senate Judiciary Committee this Thursday.

- He believes there are "no constitutional defects" in Obamacare.
- He is the former Attorney General of Kansas and was defeated in the last election for good reason. He took the extraordinary step of closing down a major criminal investigation of Planned Parenthood in Kansas.
- He demonstrably misrepresented himself before the committee, especially in terms of how he actively interfered with Planned Parenthood investigations. (Contributors: Life News, Federal Intercessors, Capitol Hill Prayer Partners)

**Offer a word of praise that this information has come to light, and pray over this hearing, and this vote. Ask the LORD to move upon the hearts of the senators in the Senate Judiciary Committee, so that the nomination of Judge Stephen Six will be cancelled and that it will not see the light of day on the floor of the Senate.**

*"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when a wicked man rules, the people groan."  
(Prov. 29:2)*

## APPEALS COURT "SKEPTICAL" OF "OBAMACARE" MANDATE

Obama's health care law received a chilly reception last Wednesday from a federal appeals court that seemed wary of approving a major expansion of government coercion over the economic activity of millions of Americans.

Acknowledging they are breaking new ground in considering this case, the three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sitting in Atlanta questioned whether there is any precedent in more than two centuries in which the Supreme Court has upheld a law that forces individuals to buy a private good or service - in this instance, the individual mandate that every American obtain health insurance.

"If we uphold the individual mandate in this case, are there any limits on Congress' power left?" said Chief INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA | Post Office Box 915, Purcellville, VA 20134 | [GetAmericaPraying.com](http://GetAmericaPraying.com)  
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[Judge Joel Dubina](#), appointed by President George H.W. Bush, who seemed most hostile to the Obama administration's defense. The other two judges, both appointed by Clinton, peppered each side with questions, but signaled their own concerns about the lack of specific precedent for upholding this type of mandate. "I want to know, going back to the first principles, is there anything out there that actually suggests that Congress can compel a private party to buy a private product on the open market if they're not disposed to do so," Judge Stanley Marcus said.

Attorneys general from 26 states, a coalition of small businesses, and private individuals brought the lawsuit challenging the law. "There is nothing in the Constitution that authorizes Congress to pass a law that forces Americans to go out and buy a product. And if this law is upheld, there are potentially no limits to congressional power," Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott said. On Wednesday, a three-judge panel for the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta seemed to share that sentiment, appearing uncomfortable with the mandate that all Americans carry health insurance or face penalties.

At the second highest federal court level, the decisions of the nation's most left-wing court, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, are overturned by the United States Supreme Court more than any other appeals court. Indeed, earlier this year, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned five of that court's decisions in less than a week. ([CBN](#); [Washington Times](#), [Christian Coalition of America](#))

**Give thanks to our Father for judges impartial to their nominating parties, standing up for "first principles." Ask the Lord to raise up more leaders willing to stand for fundamental principles, and go before this case with integrity and U.S. Constitutional understanding.**

*"Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls." (Jeremiah 6:16)*

## **CALIFORNIA: BACK IN COURT - JUDGE SHOULD HAVE STEPPED DOWN**

The ongoing battle over marriage received another hearing today in a San Francisco federal court room. This time, the focus was on the propriety of now-retired District Judge Vaughn R. Walker's decision to strike down Proposition 8, a 2008 voter-approved amendment defining marriage as between one man and one woman. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals stopped Walker's decision from going into effect while the case continues. (See last sentence in the previous article about the leftist 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court).

Shortly after retiring in February, Walker admitted in an interview to being in a decade-long same-sex relationship -- a rumor that had surfaced during the trial, and a fact that was not disclosed by Walker prior to accepting the case.

In short, had Walker recused himself -- or ruled in favor of Prop 8 -- he would have destroyed his prospect of being in a same-sex marriage, if he so desired. Even legal ethicist Jack Marshall, who supports same-sex marriage, reluctantly admitted: "A straightforward application of the judicial ethics rules compels the conclusion that Walker should have recused himself from taking part in the [[Perry v. Schwarzenegger](#)] case" (Contributor: Citizen Link, [Scribd.com](#))

**Give thanks to God that the 9th Circuit has placed a hold on this case until the matter of Judge Walker's recusal can be resolved. Ask the Father for a righteous decision, so that the court will be able to rule in favor of the will of the people of the State of California, and not in favor of personal expediency. Thank the Lord, that when we pray, He does answer!**

*"Also I will make justice the measuring line, And righteousness the plummet; The hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, And the waters will overflow the hiding place." (Isaiah 28:17).*

## NEW DOWNGRADE THREAT TO U.S. DEBT

A third rating agency threatened to downgrade the U.S. government's credit status if Congress failed to increase the nation's borrowing limit by early August, increasing pressure on lawmakers and the Obama administration to reach a deficit-reduction deal.

Fitch Ratings said Wednesday that it would put U.S. debt on watch for a possible downgrade in early August if Congress did not raise the debt ceiling, *The Wall Street Journal* reports. Moody's Investors Service and Standard & Poor's also gave the federal government similar warnings.

Warnings that the United States is playing chicken with a debt default came thick and fast Wednesday, but in Washington politicians appeared no closer to avoiding the unthinkable. (Contributors: [GovernmentExecutive.com](http://GovernmentExecutive.com), Wall Street Journal, AFP)

**Confess to the Lord that we know that the United States sits on the edge of a potentially mighty fall. Proclaim that God is our Hope in the midst of trouble. Confess to the Father that our nation has sinned against Him in uncountable ways, and that to our eyes, it seems unstoppable. Proclaim that His authority is over all things and that our trust is in Him.**

*"I sought the Lord and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." (Psalm 34:4)*

## OBAMA'S HOMOSEXUAL YOUTH AGENDA

Obama has proclaimed "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month."

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius addressed the first ever "Federal LGBT Youth Summit," saying Obama is committed to making sure all LGBT youth 'reach their full potential."

Sebelius was introduced by Pam Hyde, an HHS administrator and open lesbian. She said Sebelius "gets us" and is "tireless" in her support: "Your federal government has finally come out of the closet in support of LGBT youth.... It's great to see so many young faces out there, all gay and proud." Speaking about the higher levels of depression among homosexuals, Sebelius said, "We know these behaviors are not the result of who these young people are [but] what's happening to them."

Secretary Sebelius also announced creation of a new federal interagency taskforce to partner the Departments of HHS, Education, Agriculture, Defense, Interior and Justice to develop strategies and programs to fight "bullying." She said the new national health law will make health care workers "culturally competent" to deal with LGBT patients and that HHS is working with the federal child welfare system to "place LGBT children in loving homes." Homosexual activist and Department of Education appointee Kevin Jennings served as moderator of the event. The U.S. Department of Education sponsored the summit. (Contributors: FRC Prayer Targets; [CNSnews.com](http://CNSnews.com))

**Ask God to help us to speak the truth in love to young people who are being affected by the "LGBT" lifestyle. Ask the Lord to protect those "bullied" by any corrupt government effort to promote sinful sexual practice among our youth. Ask the Lord to help our citizenry to stand courageously against these misguided "bullying" efforts which can only lead to God's judgment!**

*"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea." (Matthew 18:6)*

## AL QAEDA CALL FOR ATTACKS ON HOUSES OF WORSHIP

An ABC News report contains a newly released video by Al-Qaeda with specific calls for attacks on sacred places. The video encourages western Muslims to conduct individual violent jihad against sacred places and features previously released statements by Osama bin Ladin as well as Al-Qaeda media spokesman Adam Gadahn.

Gadahn encourages western Muslims to conduct attacks in their home countries as an obligation and falsely depicts the west as being at war with Islam. The video also provides guidance on how to conduct violent jihad, to operate in secrecy, to attack public figures, and to launch cyber attacks - without any specific names or targets.

Gadahn is quoted in the video as saying: "Muslims in the West have to remember that they are perfectly placed to play an important and decisive part in the jihad against the Zionists and crusaders, and to do major damage to the enemies of Islam, waging war on their religion, sacred places, and things, and brethren," says Gadahn. "This is a golden opportunity and a blessing."

While the Department of Homeland Security has not offered an official comment on this report, the video or its content, Christian Emergency Network's own independent Christian security experts recommend churches and religious leaders listen to the video and make a determination for themselves as to the need for increased readiness.

Responding to the Al-Qaeda video, CEN President and Founder Mary Marr says, "The video is yet another reminder that it is important to be a Ready Church one that is aware of potential threats, prepared to meet them, and ready to give an answer for the Hope we have in Jesus Christ, at any moment."

CEN recommends churches and ministries have in place a: Ministry Continuity Plan including safety and security measures, a trained church emergency team, and a plan to conduct regular emergency drills with their congregation. CEN offers training to assist a church or ministry to be ready to respond spiritually, emotionally, mentally as well as physically in a God-honoring manner to emergencies both large and small. (Contributors: [CEN](#), [ABC News](#))

**Pray that the Lord will protect our churches and places of worship from this anti-Christ led spirit. Ask the Lord to expose any attempts to harm those who seek to worship our Lord in any gathering anywhere in the United States.**

*"The God of my rock; in Him will I trust: He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my Savior; thou saved me from violence. I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies." 2 Samuel 22: 3-4*

## News from the Hill:

### Ninth Circuit Hears Idaho Bible Ban Case

Last week, attorneys [asked the Ninth Circuit](#) to overturn a ban prohibiting the use of religious texts in Idaho public schools. The Idaho Public Charter School Commission implemented the ban to keep a charter school from using the Bible in its curriculum. Opponents of the ban urged the court to consider the Bible's historical and cultural presence, as well as Supreme Court precedent approving the use of the Bible for educational purposes. In its past decision, the Supreme Court said, "the Bible may constitutionally be used in an appropriate study of history, civilization, ethics, comparative religion, or the like." The Idaho case was appealed to the Ninth Circuit after a lower court dismissed the lawsuit. If the Ninth Circuit upholds the Bible ban, opponents say the case likely will go to the Supreme Court. The ban would apply to all students in Idaho public schools and universities.

**Tennessee college requires student to submit application and pay fee before sharing beliefs.** A student is suing his college after being prohibited from sharing his faith on campus. Citing the school's "no soliciting" rule, campus police told the student that he could not share his faith or pass out literature unless he paid a fee and submitted an application weeks in advance.

<http://www.adfmedia.org/News/PRDetail/?CID=27338>

**Louisiana House of Representatives votes for Ten Commandments monument at State Capitol.**

The Louisiana House of Representatives unanimously passed a measure providing for a Ten Commandments monument on the State Capitol grounds, in recognition of the role that the Ten Commandments have played in shaping America's history and legal tradition.

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20110610/NEWS01/106100321>

**Supreme Court rejects case challenging Pledge of Allegiance**

Today, the Supreme Court [rejected](#) Michael Newdow's case challenging the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Court declined to hear Newdow's appeal from the First Circuit, which had rejected his constitutional challenge to the Pledge in November 2010. Newdow asked the court to declare unconstitutional a provision allowing students to voluntarily recite the Pledge of Allegiance each day in Hanover, New Hampshire.

**Fairness Doctrine to be removed from federal regulations**

Last week, the Chairman of the FCC announced that he supports deleting the Fairness Doctrine from federal regulations. The policy, which allowed the FCC to compel broadcasters to air opposing viewpoints on controversial issues, has not been implemented since the 1980s but has remained on the books. As long as it has been on the books, [religious broadcasters have feared](#) that if it were "revived it would be the death knell of religious broadcasting." A [letter](#) from the FCC Chairman to Rep. Upton said, "I fully support deleting the Fairness Doctrine and related provisions from the Code of Federal Regulations, so that there can be no mistake that what has been a dead letter is truly dead," and "I . . . anticipate that the process can be completed in the near future."