For Immediate Release
March 8, 2024

For More Information Contact:
info@catholichealthalliance.org

Breaking: CHCLA Files Two Amicus Briefs In the United States Supreme Court Addressing Government Irresponsibility over Abortion Regulations

Washington, D.C. – Over the past week, the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance (CHCLA) filed two amicus briefs with the United States Supreme Court involving two different cases but with significant implications. CHCLA asked the Supreme Court, in both cases, to address irresponsible actions on the part of the federal government over regulations that deprive physicians of conscience rights protections and patients of the requisite knowledge of medication information to provide informed consent.

In *State of Idaho v. United States*, the Biden Administration attempted, following the *Dobbs* ruling, to use the Emergency Medical Transfer and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) to require emergency rooms at hospitals to perform abortions despite the fact that the statutory language of EMTALA specifically protects both the mother and the unborn child. As stated in the brief "EMTALA's plain language states that it protects the health of the "unborn child," just as it does the health of a pregnant woman, from being placed in "serious jeopardy."

CHCLA's brief in the Idaho v. United States case is found here:
https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/23/23-235/301908/20240229150056539_23-235%20%2023-236%20Amicus%20Brief.pdf

In *Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA*, the CHCLA challenged the FDA for failing to implement proper regulatory oversight of the abortion medication mifepristone so that complete information about the medication was not collected and made available to women, depriving them of being able to give informed consent. As stated in the brief "a

woman cannot give truly informed consent if her physician cannot inform her as to the true risks of medication abortion."

CHCLA's brief in the AHM v. FDA case is found here: https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/23/23-726/301645/20240227181908000_usscbrooks2.PPP.pdf

Dr. Steven White, President of the CHCLA and former president of the Catholic Medical Association, stated today:

"As a Catholic health care professional, I am disheartened by the efforts of our government to interfere with the delivery of health care by forcing physicians to perform unethical treatments and by denying patients access to information relevant to provide informed consent. This is inconsistent with Catholic teaching and disrespects the dignity of the human person."

Louis Brown, Executive Director of the Christ Medicus Foundation and the Director of the CHCLA Institute for Public Policy & Advocacy commented:

"Catholic health care and other faith-based care is the backbone of our country's health care system and our nation's care for the most vulnerable. The Supreme Court's decisions in these cases can restore the rule of law, ensure medical care for mothers and children, protect religious freedom and conscience rights, and help to safeguard health care access nationawide."

Joshua McCaig, the founding president of the Catholic Bar Association and CHCLA Executive Director, commented:

"These two cases together provide a glimpse of a troubling pattern, where the government disregards both appropriate regulatory oversight and unambiguous statutory language to advance policy that places a mother and her unborn child at significant risk. This approach is not only contrary to the authority delegated to these agencies and administrations, but also unconstitutionally impacts the rights of health care professionals and patients, both mothers and unborn children."

Oral argument in the *AHM v. FDA* case is set for March 26, 2024. Oral argument in the *State of Idaho v. United States* case is set for April 24, 2024.

If you would like to set up an interview with Dr. Steven White, Louis Brown, or Joshua McCaig of CHCLA, please contact info@catholichealthalliance.org.

###

About the Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance

The Catholic Health Care Leadership Alliance is an alliance of faithful Catholic organizations that supports the rights of patients and professionals to receive and provide health care in accordance with the moral, ethical, and social teachings of Jesus Christ and His Church through ongoing evangelization, education, advocacy, and mutual support. For more information, please visit www.catholichealthalliance.org.