

Pro-Life Waco

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Dear Mr. Dickson:

I commend you and your numerous colleagues for reaching out in unprecedented ways in Lubbock on behalf of babies and moms threatened by the return of abortion.

Lubbock and my hometown of Waco are miles apart but have close connections to the law firm of Olson and Olson, which provides legal counsel to the City of Lubbock. The conclusion I draw from information below is that Olson and Olson can reasonably be seen as an abortion advocate rather than unbiased legal counsel.

The Olson and Olson law firm of Houston has deep roots in Waco. The principal founder of the firm was William Olson, who was born in Waco in 1918 and graduated from Baylor Law School in 1950. William's great niece by marriage is Kris Olson of Waco. Kris is a key leader of the Texas abortion industry. Kris Olson was a longtime board member of the Planned Parenthood affiliate in Waco. In 2010, the Planned Parenthood affiliates of Waco, Austin, and Dallas-Fort Worth merged to form Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas. Kris Olson was the first Board Chair. The now-open Planned Parenthood center in Lubbock is owned and managed by Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas.

An even more troubling connection is Art Pertile who plays a key role for Olson and Olson advising the Lubbock City Council. Art Pertile was the City Attorney for Waco when the City Council developed a scheme to stop our engagement with moms coming to Planned Parenthood for abortions at 1927 Columbus Ave in Waco. Under the legal guidance of Art Pertile, the Waco City Council passed sweeping constraints on assembly and speech in February of 2004. The ordinance banned groups from assembly in all school zones. If upheld in courts, the ordinance would ban our sidewalk counseling outreach to abortion-minded women because Planned Parenthood was located within a school zone.

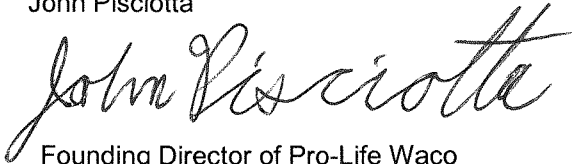
Through the legal work of the American Family Association, we were able to challenge the city ordinance in federal courts. The City of Waco ordinance was struck down in 2006 by a Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals decision declared the statute an unconstitutional violation of first amendment right to assembly and free speech.

As City Attorney, Art Pertile was at the center of crafting this unconstitutional ordinance. Art Pertile's unconstitutional overreach in service to Planned Parenthood was financially costly and an embarrassment to the City of Waco.

I have sent copies of several articles showing that Art Pertile was not a respected constitutional scholar in the eyes of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Art Pertile acted as a protagonist for Planned Parenthood in Waco and is capable of doing the same in Lubbock.

With friendship and concern for Lubbock and West Texas,

John Pisciotta



Founding Director of Pro-Life Waco

Pro-Life Waco

began in August of 1996 with a one-page newsletter mailed to 25 pro-life friends.

Pro-Life Waco

is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation as designated by the IRS.