



Eagle Council 50

Friday, 9/23/22

2:45 pm

Speaker: Sharp, Matt, JD - Matt Sharp serves as senior counsel and state government relations national director with Alliance Defending Freedom, where he focuses on state and local legislative matters.

Since joining ADF in 2010, Sharp has authored federal and state legislation, regularly provides testimony and legal analysis on how proposed legislation will impact constitutional freedoms, and advises governors, legislators, and state and national policy organizations on the importance of laws and policies that protect First Amendment rights. He has testified before the United States Congress on the importance of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

Sharp has also worked on important cases advancing religious freedom and free speech. He has won cases upholding the rights of students to form religious clubs, invite classmates to church, and even perform a religious song at a school talent show. He authored an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of nearly 9,000 students, parents, and community members asking the Court to uphold students' right to privacy against government intrusion.

Sharp earned his J.D. in 2006 from the Vanderbilt University School of Law. A member of the bar in Georgia and Tennessee, he is also admitted to practice in several federal courts.

Title: *The Legal Landscape of Federal and State Pro-Life Policy*

Outline:

- Overview of the Current Status of State Pro-Life Laws
 - States that Protect Life
 - States that Only Protect Life in Some Circumstances
 - States that Allow Late-Term Abortions
- Legal Challenges in a Post-*Dobbs* World

- Challenges to Pre-*Roe* Laws and Trigger Laws
- Creating a Right to Abortion under the State Constitution
- The New Title IX Abortion Mandate
 - Impact on Schools and Colleges that Receive Federal Funds
 - Impact on the Affordable Care Act
- Preserving Conscience Rights for Medical Providers
 - *Paige Casey v. MinuteClinic*
 - Medical Ethics and Diversity Act

Action Items:

- Continue to strategically push for pro-life legislation in all 50 states (Red States vs. Purple States vs. Blue States)
- Support robust medical rights of conscience legislation like the Medical Ethics and Diversity Act
- File comments to all proposed rules that promote abortion or that undermine pro-life laws and policies
- File amicus briefs in state court to support litigation defending pro-life laws

Resources:

- **ADF Abortion Laws by State** - <https://adflegal.org/blog/mapping-abortion-laws-state>