IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA WESTERN DIVISION

Christian Employers Alliance,)	
Plaintiff,)	
v.)	Case No. 1:21-cv-195-MDT-CRH
United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, <i>et al.</i> .)	
Defendants.)))	

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Pursuant to the Court's order of August 1, 2023 (ECF No. 65), the parties submit this joint status report regarding the progress of the parties' settlement negotiations.

Plaintiff's counsel and Defendants' counsel engaged in a telephone conversation concerning settlement negotiations on August 3, 2023. Plaintiff's counsel communicated a written settlement proposal to Defendants' counsel on August 4, 2023. Defendants are currently considering this proposal. The parties propose that the Court direct the parties to file another joint status report outlining the progress of their settlement negotiations within (30) days.

Dated: August 31, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN M. BOYNTON Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

MICHELLE R. BENNETT Assistant Branch Director

/s/ Jeremy S.B. Newman

Jeremy S.B. Newman Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch 1100 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 Tel: (202) 532-3114

Email: jeremy.s.newman@usdoj.gov

Counsel for Defendants

/s/ Matthew S. Bowman

Matthew S. Bowman DC Bar No. 993261 Alliance Defending Freedom 440 First Street, NW, Ste. 600 Washington, DC 20001 Tel: (202) 393-8690 Fax: (202) 347-3622 mbowman@ADFlegal.org

Julie Marie Blake
MO Bar No. 69643
Jacob E. Reed
OH Bar No. 99020
Alliance Defending Freedom
44180 Riverside Parkway
Lansdowne, VA 20176
Tel: (571) 707-4655
Fax: (571) 707-4656
jblake@ADFlegal.org
jreed@ADFlegal.org

Counsel for Plaintiff