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Check Our Recent Interview

David Barton with Wallbuilders- What did Christmas past look like? <http://afaofpa.org/listen>

News From Around PA

City of Philadelphia is appealing a federal court decision to the 3rd Circuit Court. Federal court blocked Philly's effort to evict the Cradle of Liberty Scout Council (COLBSA) from their HQ. On Dec. 6, COLBSA and the city filed a joint motion requesting that COLBSA get a 30-day extension to file a legal brief. In the motion, the city also requested a deadline-extension to reply to COLBSA's legal brief.

Homosexual groups file friend of the court brief in support of Philadelphia's appeal to the Third Circuit in its attempt to evict COLBSA. The parties in the brief are Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund; Mazzoni Center; Equality Forum;

Equality PA; Human Rights Campaign; Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays Philadelphia. The ACLU of PA and a coalition of 15 religious organizations, civil-rights groups and faith leaders also filed proposed friend-of-the-court briefs.

PA Ed Secretary Ron Tomalis will seek a waiver from the federal No Child Left Behind.

News from National Scene

The FBI recently released their 2011 **hate crimes report**. It found an overall 6-percent decline in hate crimes nationally from 2010-11. The total 6,222 hate-crime incidents marked the lowest figures since 1994. Pennsylvania saw a 7-percent drop in hate crimes, from 57 in 2010 to 53 the following year. Remember there are already laws against these crimes. To be labeled a hate crime the police have to get inside the head of the perpetrator to determine if the motivation for the attack was hate. If found guilty of a hate crime, there is usually 10 additional years added to a prison term.

House Republicans have increased the value of a

contract with a private law firm handling the defense of the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) that defines marriage as the union between a man and a woman. Former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) said, "Republicans should not be spending \$2 million to defend discrimination in our country." In February 2011 President Obama decided DOMA is unconstitutional and would no longer defend it; leaving the Republicans in the House no choice but to hire outside attorneys to do the job the Department of Justice should be doing. AFA of PA encourages Christians, through education, to become involved in pro-family issues in their community, state and the nation.

We are a non-profit organization that is totally dependent upon financial gifts from our supporters. You can give online here <http://afaofpa.org/donate/>

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