Joint Statement Concerning
Violence Against Pro-Life Organizations Due to
Pending Supreme Court Decision Concerning Roe v. Wade

Since the leaking of the draft U.S. Supreme Court decision concerning *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, pro-life organizations, such as churches, pregnancy care centers and other pro-life advocacy groups have become the victims of violent and disruptive attacks across our nation. These actions are being promoted by national organizations that favor *Roe v. Wade*. They are encouraging violent and disruptive attacks against various organizations due their pro-life views and opposition to *Roe v Wade*. Although none of these attacks have yet occurred in Connecticut, we are calling upon our elected and law enforcement officials to speak out strongly against any violent activities based on the upcoming Supreme Court ruling. It must be made clear to any individual or group that such actions will not be tolerated in our state.

The number of attacks having been increasing weekly since the potential Dobbs decision was leaked. Churches have been vandalized with the spray painting of vulgarities and threats, and the destruction of property and statues. Pregnancy care centers have not only been vandalized with spray painted threats, broken windows and forced entries, but also firebombed in various locations across the country. At the time of this press conference, twenty (20) Pregnancy Care Centers have been attacked. A pro-life family organization, similar to the Family Institute of Connecticut, was also firebombed in Wisconsin. The potential for violence has been increasing with national organizations, such as *Jane’s Revenge*, calling for violent actions. The Dobbs decision is a very emotional decision for many, but our public leaders must make it clear that violence is not the answer to express that emotion.
Chris Healy, Executive Director of the Connecticut Catholic Conference stated that, “so far nationally, and within our state, the press has largely ignored the rising tide of violence the leak of the Dobbs decision has created in our nation. If these attacks were against abortion centers, they would be front page stories. Our public officials must be made aware of these activities and send a clear message of disapproval”.

The Connecticut Pregnancy Care Coalition, in addition to fears raised by the growing attacks across the country, is fearful that their centers will become a target of violence due to the large amount of unsubstantiated negative comments made about Connecticut’s pro-life pregnancy centers during the debate over SB 835 in the 2021 legislative session. SB 835 incorrectly supposed deceptive advertising by pregnancy care centers in Connecticut. The legislature passed SB 835, in spite of many false, misleading, and unsubstantiated statements made about how the Connecticut pregnancy care centers operate. The Coalition worries that these false statements could result in a misguided person(s) attacking Connecticut pregnancy care centers, as has occurred in other states.

Lisa Maloney, President of the Connecticut Pregnancy Care Coalition, stated she is "concerned with the increasing violence targeting pregnancy care centers. Our centers have been helping Connecticut residents for decades find the support and resources they need during pregnancies. These acts of hateful violence put at risk not only the non-profit centers themselves, but more importantly hundreds of women, children and their families who rely on our services daily. It's our hope that our local and state officials, no matter how they feel about the pending Court's decision, will speak out against this violence and hate and help prevent this from continuing".

Background on some of the attacks on Pro-Life Organizations:

Alaska
Community Pregnancy Center Anchorage AK

Alabama
Women's Hope Medical Clinic Auburn AL

Colorado
St. John XXIII Church Fort Collins CO
Sacred Heart of Mary Church Boulder CO

Florida
Respect Life Office Hollywood FL

Maryland
Alpha Pregnancy Center Reisterstown MD
Birthright or Fredrick MD
CARENET of Fredrick MD
Michigan
St. Joseph’s Church Armada MI

Mississippi
Mt. Avery Missionary Baptist Church Columbus Mississippi

New York
Compass Care Buffalo NY

North Carolina
Mountain Area Pregnancy Services Ashville, NC

Oregon
Dove Medical Eugene OR
Northeast Portland Mother and Child Education Center
Right to Life of Oregon, Salem OR
First Image Gresham OR

Texas
Woman to Woman Pregnancy Resource Center Denton TX
Loreto House Denton TX
Trotter House Rio Grande TX
Holy Rosary Church Houston TX
St. Bartholomew and St Elizabeth Anne Katy TX

Virginia
First Care Women’s Health Manassas VA

Washington
Next Step Lynwood WA
Options 360 Vancouver WA
4 separate churches Calvary Chapel, Harbor Church, Saint Michael Parish, & the LDS
Olympia, WA

Washington D.C.
Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center

Wisconsin
Wisconsin Family Action