



2833 Smith Ave Ste 225
Baltimore, MD 21209

t 301.727.2700
f 410.602.1351
www.cjvalues.org
office@cjvalues.org

Rabbi Pesach Lerner
President

Rabbi Yoel Schonfeld
Vice-President

Rabbi Avrohom Gordimer
Chairman, Rabbinic Circle

Rabbi Dov Fischer
Western Regional VP

Rabbi Steven Pruzansky
Eastern Regional VP

Rabbi Yaakov Menken
Managing Director

16 Elul 5779
September 16, 2019

Harvey D. Fort
Acting Director, Division of Policy and Program Development
Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs
Room C-3325
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210
Submitted via FederalRegister.gov

Re: RIN 1250-AA09

Dear Mr. Fort,

The Coalition for Jewish Values represents the voice of over 1000 traditional rabbis across the United States in matters of public policy. We wish to express our strong support for the proposed rule intended to clarify the civil rights protections afforded to religious organizations that contract with the federal government. This rule will ensure that faith-based organizations are able to participate on an equal basis in providing services to the Federal Government and the American People.

We have seen and reviewed the detailed, well-researched and footnoted letter submitted to you by Stanley W. Carlson-Thies on behalf of the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance. This is a prime example of a situation where people with different faiths share common policy goals. For besides the reference to a Christian parable to support the idea of serving people without regards to their religion, a principle certainly found in both Jewish belief and practice, we share his support for this proposed rule, and support Mr. Carlson-Thies' recommendations as well.

We urge you to give his letter attention on our behalf as well, and again support the proposed rule itself.

Yours Sincerely,


Rabbi Yaakov Menken