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8 Iyar 5781
April 20, 2021

Dr. Jerry Davis, President
College of the Ozarks
100 Opportunity Ave
Point Lookout, MO 65726

Dear Dr. Davis,

Greetings. My name is Rabbi Ze'ev Smason. I serve as Midwestern Regional Vice President of The Coalition for Jewish Values (CJV), representing over 1500 traditional, Orthodox rabbis in matters of public policy. I'm writing to express our support for the College of the Ozarks in its suit against the Biden administration over a directive from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) forcing all institutions to permit students of the opposite sex in the same bathrooms, dorm rooms, and dormitories.

The College of the Ozarks, as a four-year private Christian liberal arts co-educational college, has long assigned dormitories and separated intimate spaces such as showers and bathrooms based on biological sex. President Biden's directive bans your college from continuing that practice, setting policy in accordance with that practice or even telling students that they only qualify for access to dormitory and dormitory room placements based on their biological sex.

We at the CJV view this directive as an attack on the free exercise of religion based upon our Jewish Biblical beliefs, adhered to by many other traditional religious groups, your fine college certainly included. We support your stance that the government cannot and should not force schools to open girls' dorms to males based on its politically motivated and inappropriate redefinition of 'sex.'

We further commend you for undertaking a difficult effort to challenge this directive, and to support the United States' centuries-long history of respecting and providing robust protection for religious beliefs and liberties.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rabbi Ze'ev Smason".

Rabbi Ze'ev Smason
Midwestern Regional Vice President