



December 22, 2015

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
U. S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

Re: Arlington Baptist College
Title IX

Dear Assistant Secretary:

I am the highest ranking official of World Baptist Fellowship, an association of independent Baptist churches. World Baptist Fellowship elects all of the members of the Board of Trustees of Arlington Baptist College in Arlington, Texas. The college has as its ministry the preparation of men and women for Christian life and ministries, both lay and professional, through studies in Bible, general education, church vocations, and practical service; integrating faith and learning in the context of a Christian World View.

The college seeks an exemption under Title IX (20 U.S. Code Section 1681 (a)(3) from compliance with Federal regulations pertaining to sexual orientation contrary to the Bible as understood and taught by the college and its published religious statements on sexual conduct condemned by the Bible. This religious position of the college is contrary to 20 U.S. Code Section 1681 (a) reading “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” The word “sex” as interpreted would subject the college to legal action should it deny admission or discipline, including removal from the college, any individual whose conduct is contrary to the religious position of the college as it relates to matters of sex and marriage.

The basis for this request for exemption finds support in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, decided on June 26, 2015, by the Supreme Court of the United States. Justice Kennedy in writing for the majority states, to wit:]

“Finally, it must be emphasized that religious, and those who adhere to religious doctrines, may continue to advocate with utmost sincere conviction that, by divine precepts, same-sex marriage should not be condoned. The First Amendment insures that religious organizations and persons are given proper protection as they seek to teach the principles that are so fulfilling and so central to their lives and faith, and to their own deep aspirations to continue the family structure they have long revered.” (emphasis added) 135 S.Ct. at 2607.



World Baptist Fellowship

3001 W. Division
Arlington, Texas 76012

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The college is one of those “religious organizations” identified in Justice Kennedy’s quote.

Accordingly, Arlington Baptist College respectfully requests an exemption from Title IX.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Charles Bartlett".

Rev. Charles Bartlett
President

World Baptist Fellowship

JSS:klg

Cc:
D.L. Moody, President
Arlington Baptist College

J. Shelby Sharpe
Attorney at Law