

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

RILEY BENJAMIN,

Plaintiff,

v.

NICOLE COLBERT, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 1:23-cv-02315-RCL

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Plaintiff Riley Benjamin and Defendants Reverends Nicole Colbert and Jimmie Allen, and Deputy Director Jacqueline Williams (collectively, the Parties), respectfully submit the following Joint Status Report. The Court stayed litigation proceedings in response to the Parties' October 26th joint motion, and directed the Parties file a Joint Status Report on January 15, 2024, updating the Court on the status of settlement and advising of the Parties' positions on whether the stay should be extended. *See* Oct. 30, 2023 Order [24]. The Parties are engaged in productive settlement discussions and jointly ask the Court to extend the stay of litigation for an additional 60 days, until March 15, 2024, and order the Parties to file a Joint Status Report on that day updating the Court on the status of settlement and advising it as to the Parties' positions on whether the stay should be extended.

Dated: January 12, 2024

/s/ Scott Michelman

Scott Michelman (D.C. Bar No. 1006945)

Arthur B. Spitzer (D.C. Bar No. 1782046)

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN L. SCHWALB

Attorney General for the District of Columbia

Joy Holden[†]

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation
of the District of Columbia
915 15th Street N.W., Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Phone: (202) 601-4267
Email: smichelman@acludc.org

Counsel for Plaintiff

STEPHANIE E. LITOS
Deputy Attorney General
Civil Litigation Division

/s/ Matthew R. Blecher

MATTHEW R. BLECHER [1012957]
Chief, Civil Litigation Division, Equity Section

/s/ Honey Morton

HONEY MORTON [1019878]
Assistant Chief, Equity Section

/s/ Marcus D. Ireland

PAMELA A. DISNEY [1601225]
MARCUS D. IRELAND [90005124]
Assistant Attorneys General
400 6th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
Phone: (202) 702-2910
Email: marcus.ireland@dc.gov

Counsel for Defendants

[†] Admitted to practice in New York but not D.C. Practicing in D.C. under the supervision of a D.C. Bar member while application to D.C. Bar under consideration, pursuant to D.C. Ct. App. R. 49 (c)(8).