

Exhibit: 12L



60<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Celebrating The John Birch Society's Epic Journey



The John Birch Society

770 N. Westhill Blvd. • Appleton, WI 54914





# Celebrate Our Epic Undertaking!

## Schedule of Events

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Join members, staff, and supporters of The John Birch Society in Appleton, Wisconsin for two days of celebrating our 60th Anniversary! October 5th and 6th will be a weekend to remember. You'll rekindle old friendships, take tours, meet staff, reflect on 60 successful years, and learn about our future.

### Friday, October 5, 2018

10:00 am - 4:00 pm JBS Open House  
770 N. Westhill Blvd., Appleton, WI 54914 • 920-749-3780

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm FreedomProject Open House  
750 N. Hickory Farm Lane, Appleton, WI 54914 • 920-749-3793



Dr. Duke Pesta

#### FreedomProject Presentations at FreedomProject 3:00 pm - 4:45 pm

Dr. Duke Pesta — *FreedomProject Overview:  
Eight Years Later*

Dr. Duke Pesta — *Partnerships and Projects*



Katie Petrick

Katie Petrick — *FreedomProject Media:  
Promoting Education by Engaging Culture*

Dinner on your own

#### Dessert with Dr. Duke and John F. McManus

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm *Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel,  
333 W. College Ave., Appleton, WI 54911 • 920-733-8000*



John F. McManus

John F. McManus — *Remembering Our Founder  
Robert Welch*

Dr. Duke Pesta — *Campus Chaos: How Your  
College Student Can Survive the Liberal Onslaught*





**Buy your tickets** and make hotel reservations today!  
**Space is limited!** Call 800-527-8721 for tickets and  
call 920-733-8000 to make hotel reservations.

## Saturday, October 6, 2018

*Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel, 333 W. College Ave.  
Appleton, WI 54911 • 920-733-8000*

**JBS Symposia 9:30 am - 4:15 pm** *(Lunch on your own)*

**James F. Fitzgerald**

*Honoring Our Law Enforcement Heroes*

**William F. Jasper**

*Highlighting 40+ Years of Investigative Journalism*

**Paweł Chojecki**

*Poland Longs to be Free!*

**Alex P. Newman**

*President Trump and the New World Disorder*

**Paweł Chojecki**

*Making Poland Great Again*

**Rep. Dorothy Moon**

*Protecting Our Constitution:  
How State Legislators Can Interpose*

**Rep. Matt Shea**

*Using the Constitution to Stand in the Gap*

**Lori Watt**

*You're Never Too Young for Estate Planning*

**The Machinations of the Deep State in a Trump World**

*A Panel Discussion With Arthur R. Thompson, William  
F. Jasper, & Alex P. Newman*



James F. Fitzgerald



William F. Jasper



Paweł Chojecki



Alex P. Newman



Rep. Dorothy Moon



Rep. Matt Shea



Lori Watt



Arthur R. Thompson

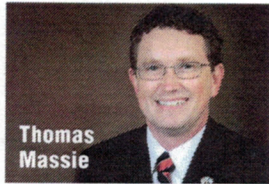
To order tickets and for additional event details, visit [www.JBS.org/JBS-60th](http://www.JBS.org/JBS-60th).



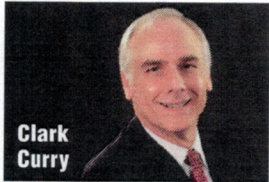
# JBS 60th Anniversary National Council Dinner

6:00 pm — 9:30 pm

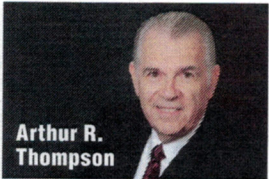
Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel, 333 W. College Ave. • Appleton, WI 54911 • 920-733-8000



**Congressman Thomas Massie**  
*Exposing the Swamp*



**Clark Curry**  
*Reflections from the  
Chairman of the Board*



**JBS CEO Arthur R. Thompson**  
*We Are Rebuilding the  
Republic: How JBS Has  
Globalists on the Run*

Come celebrate 60 years with  
The John Birch Society!

\$25 per person for Friday Dessert and Saturday Symposia.

\$100 per person for 60th Council Dinner.

*(Chicken Cordon Bleu or Filet Mignon)*

\$120 per person for Full Event. *(Dessert, Symposia and Dinner)*

\$2,000 table sponsor for 60th Council Dinner.

*(10 Full Event tickets & other benefits)*

## **DON'T DELAY!**

Space is limited, so order tickets today to secure your spot.

Call 800-527-8721 for tickets and 920-733-8000 for hotel reservations.





**Matthew Shea**

June 18, 2016 · 🌐



JOIN US IN THE FIGHT TO STOP RADICAL ISLAM. We are organizing the Spokane ACT Chapter. You have asked what you can do. Come to the meeting and find out.



THU, JUN 23, 2016

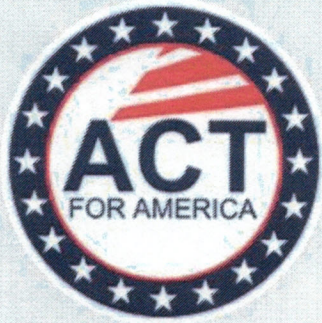
**Spokane Act for America meeting**

Spokane Valley Library, 12004 E Main Ave, Spokane Vall...

19 people interested

★ Interested





ACT For America  
Spokane Chapter  
@ActForAmericaSpokane

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ACT For America Spokane Chapter

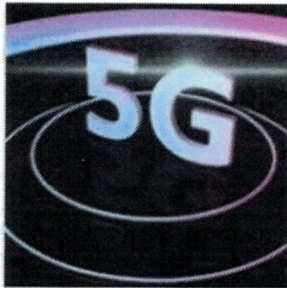
June 20 · 🌐



Matthew Shea

June 20

THE NATIONAL SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF 5G: If all the other concerns about 5G were not enough...



AMERICAN THINKER.COM

**Military Warns China's 5G Interferes with U.S. Weapons**

Painting another target on themselves.

Like

Comment

Share

**Subject:** ACT for America  
**Location:** Shari's Sullivan

**Start:** Thu 12/22/2016 6:30 PM  
**End:** Thu 12/22/2016 8:00 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer

**Organizer:** Shea, Rep. Matt  
**Required Attendees:** 'Matt Shea'

**Topics might include:**

Retrospective on our first and only A4A-Spk meeting on June 23rd.  
Retrospective on Doug's radio interview with Mike Fagan & Tim Benn in June.  
Plan our next Spokane Chapter meeting (update on VFW location).  
Review of the NW Grassroots event with Christopher Ballyn (July 14th).  
Radio opportunities.  
A4A-Spk brochures (2nd printing)  
Fund raising and expenses to date.

**Who else should we invite to this planning lunch?**

**Contact George: 509-844-4513 (mobile/text)**



**Subject:** ACT for America  
**Location:** George Conrad's home: 19004 E. 10th Lane Greenacres, WA 99016  
**Start:** Wed 8/3/2016 5:30 PM  
**End:** Wed 8/3/2016 6:00 PM  
**Recurrence:** (none)  
**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer  
**Organizer:** Shea, Rep. Matt  
**Required Attendees:** 'Matt Shea'

Topics might include:

Retrospective on our first and only A4A-Spk meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Retrospective on Doug's radio interview with Mike Fagan & Tim Benn in June.  
Plan our next Spokane Chapter meeting (update on VFW location).  
Review of the NW Grassroots event with Christopher Ballyn (July 14<sup>th</sup>).  
Radio opportunities.  
A4A-Spk brochures (2<sup>nd</sup> printing)  
Fund raising and expenses to date.

Who else should we invite to this planning lunch?

Contact George: 509-844-4513 (mobile/text)

**Subject:** Phone Conference: Act for America: John Sims  
**Location:** Phone

**Start:** Thu 11/17/2016 12:00 PM  
**End:** Thu 11/17/2016 12:30 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer

**Organizer:** Shea, Rep. Matt  
**Required Attendees:** 'Matt Shea'

He is the new director of Act for America in Washington who took Kerry French (Hooks) position. He was very nice to talk to, he wanted to talk to you about anti FGM legislation.

He said he is a stock broker and may be distracted and forget to call you, so he wanted me to attach his cell phone.

Cell Ph: (206) 715-1301



# Alliance Defending Freedom has an extremely shady network of thousands of attorneys

*ADF's network of allied attorneys and Blackstone Legal Fellows affects policy at all levels of government*

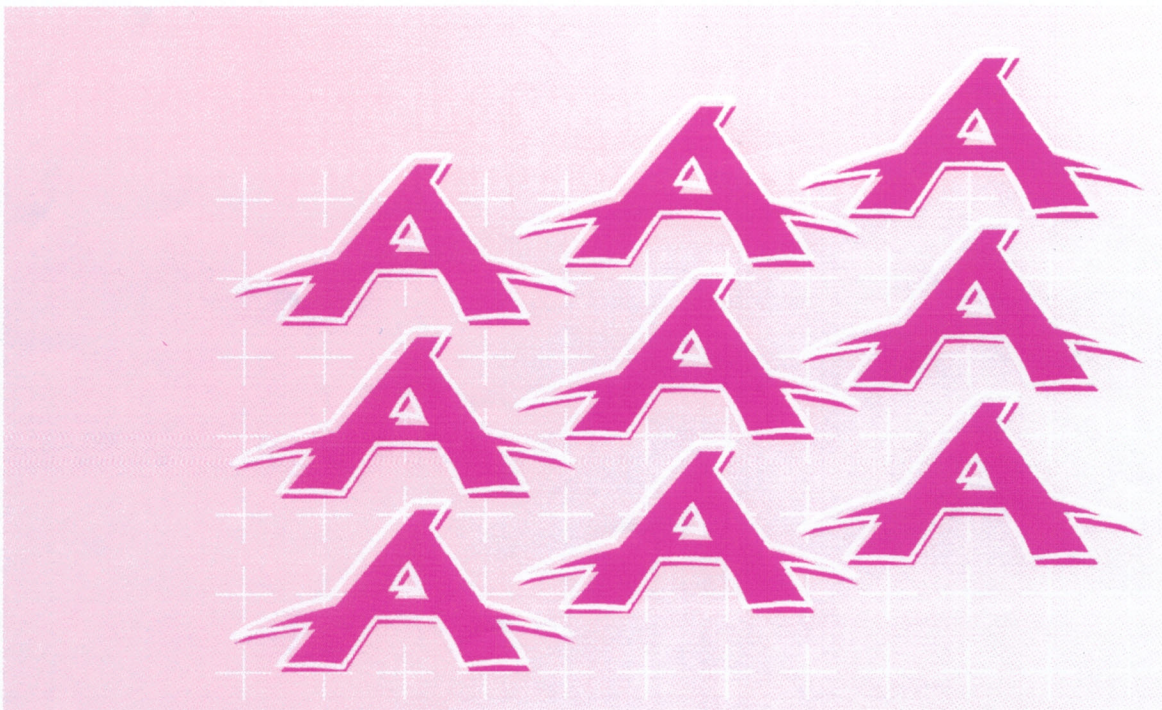
Special PROGRAMS    LGBTQ

WRITTEN BY [KAYLA GOGARTY](#)

PUBLISHED 05/14/19 4:58 PM EDT

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COMMENT



Melissa Joskow / Media Matters

**Update (5/20/19):** On May 20, Media Matters published the [second installment](#) of this two-



*current and former staff who held government positions at the local, state, and federal levels in 2018. The [full database can be found here](#)*

Extreme anti-LGBTQ group Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) is stunningly opaque about its large network of affiliated lawyers, what positions of influence they hold, and what beliefs they must agree to in order to be officially tied to the group.

ADF's lack of transparency is multifaceted. For one, many members in its network do not publicize their relationship with the organization. Additionally, on several occasions, ADF has claimed affiliations with individual attorneys or officials who have disputed their ties, or removed references to affiliations with individual attorneys or officials following reports that exposed those connections.

Through its Blackstone Legal Fellowship and allied attorney program, the number of ADF affiliated lawyers could be as high as 5,000 – and many of those attorneys also have influential positions in government, ranging from local school boards to federal agencies. This legal network is one of the key tools in ADF's arsenal that allows it to affect policies that impact LGBTQ people across the country, but journalists and the public have very little information about it.

## **ADF is one of the most powerful anti-LGBTQ groups in the country**

ADF is one of the [largest and most influential](#) anti-LGBTQ groups in the world, and it takes extreme positions on nearly every aspect of LGBTQ equality. The group has [supported](#) Russia's so-called "gay propaganda" law, [defended](#) the [discredited and dangerous](#) practice of conversion therapy, [advocated](#) against adoption and foster care by LGBTQ people, and [supported](#) policies that ban trans people from using facilities that align with their gender identity, as well as dozens of other positions that are dangerous to LGBTQ people.

ADF uses its [revenue](#) of more than \$50 million per year to [advance its mission](#) of "advocating for religious liberty, the sanctity of life, and marriage and family" through direct litigation, grant funding for other cases, and legal training programs. Since its founding in 1994, ADF has [played a role](#) in over 50 Supreme Court decisions, including cases regarding abortion and LGBTQ issues.

In the last few years, ADF has been involved in [several high profile court cases](#) in which it argued in favor of legal discrimination against LGBTQ people. Last June, the Supreme Court



[taken on](#) another ADF case for its upcoming term, *R.G. and G.R. Harris Funeral Homes Inc. v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, which [could determine](#) whether civil rights protections in employment extend to LGBTQ employees.

## **ADF has influence through the large network of lawyers who have completed its Blackstone Legal Fellowship**

Outside of its own staff and litigation, ADF seeks to influence the legal landscape by providing funding and training opportunities to create a large network of lawyers sympathetic to ADF's mission. ADF's [Blackstone Legal Fellowship](#) has been around since 2000, and the group reports that it "has trained more than 2,100 law students from more than 225 law schools in 21 different countries." ADF [has written](#) that the program seeks to train Christian law students "who will rise to positions of influence as legal scholars, litigators, judges, and perhaps even Supreme Court justices."

The Blackstone fellowship is a [nine-week](#) summer program that includes three weeks of training seminars and six weeks in legal internships, including in government entities. ADF says that "those selected to become 'Fellows'" at the end of the program "receive ongoing training, resources, and support through an international community," and the group [boasts](#) that its alumni "are serving on law reviews, securing clerkships, joining major firms, working in the government and nonprofit sectors, and accepting positions in academia and the judiciary."

ADF spends hundreds of thousands of dollars on its fellowship program; in 2019, expenses per person [include](#) \$6,300 in scholarship funding, several flights, lodging, and weeks of meals for its interns. But as a result, the organization reaps the benefits of fostering a large network of potentially influential conservative lawyers at the onset of their careers. ADF has [additional](#) training programs for young legal professionals or students and recent graduates "on a path to future leadership in law, government, business, and public policy."

## **ADF also has a network of more than 3,300 allied attorneys**

In addition to its training programs for law students and new attorneys, ADF [has created](#) what it calls a "powerful global network" of over 3,300 "allied attorneys." Attorneys in the network [receive](#) opportunities for funding, access to ADF's legal resources, and additional training programs; in return, allied attorneys provide [pro bono service](#) to ADF, such as litigation, amicus briefs, media work, "legal services to churches & religious non-profits," and "research assistance, legal advice, and drafting of bills for legislators, policy makers, administrative agencies, etc. relating to religious liberty, sanctity of life, and marriage & family."



LGBTQ-related matters in their localities and bring the force of a national group to their backyards. ADF [has written](#) that it “depends upon its network of attorneys and others to bring appropriate matters to our attention.”

ADF notes that its allied attorneys [must agree](#) to a statement of faith as part of their application. In the past, ADF’s FAQ page about the program [linked directly](#) to an [11-point statement](#) on its website that opposes trans identities and same-sex marriage and lumps in “homosexual behavior” and “acting upon any disagreement with one’s biological sex” with bestiality and incest as “forms of sexual immorality” that are “sinful and offensive to God.” However, after a [detailed report](#) on the program and its influence by Sarah Posner in *The Nation*, ADF said that allied attorneys “do not have to agree to the same statement of faith as employees” and removed links to the statement.

ADF specifically [encourages](#) government attorneys to join the allied attorney program. On its FAQ, ADF notes that government attorneys who are “prohibited from doing private pro bono litigation” can instead provide ADF with “legal research, educational presentations, or other types of work related to Alliance Defending Freedom mission areas.”

Between its allied attorneys and Blackstone fellows, ADF has a network of legal allies that reach across the globe and hold an unknown number of U.S. government positions.

## **ADF operates with an extreme lack of transparency about its training programs and allied attorneys**

ADF is extremely opaque about its programs and has worked to keep details about them from the public, such as removing mentions of its allied attorneys’ statement of faith after *The Nation’s* investigation. It also does not release a comprehensive list of people who participate in its programs, and many of its participants and alumni do not publicly identify their relationship with ADF. A noncomprehensive [Media Matters review](#) of allied attorneys mentioned on ADF’s website found only 300 of its reported 3,300 members, many of whom were mentioned on pages that are now archived. Additionally, it is unclear whether allied attorneys remain counted in the network for life, or whether the 3,300 number includes former allied attorneys, some of whom could have cut their official ties with the group with no public record. The number of allied attorneys could thus be larger than the 3,300 claimed by ADF.

Additionally, it seems that some participants in these programs are unaware of their status as allied attorneys or may have avoided publicizing it during judicial nomination processes. For example, [confirmed](#) federal Judge Jeremy Kernodle [submitted](#) answers to the U.S. Senate



request to be an ‘allied attorney’ with ADF” and first “discovered that ADF had listed [him] as an ‘allied attorney’” when he began preparing responses to the questionnaire for his nomination. Kernodle continued that he only worked with ADF on one case and was “not certain when” he first became an allied attorney.

Another [now-confirmed](#) federal judge, Kyle Duncan, [reported](#) participating in several speaking engagements for ADF but did not report his status as an allied attorney in his nomination questionnaire or in [follow-up questions](#) to the Senate Judiciary Committee. ADF, however, [previously documented](#) his affiliation as an allied attorney while Duncan served in the Louisiana Department of Justice.

Other reporting discrepancies further underscore the opacity surrounding ADF’s networks. Posner’s [report](#) in *The Nation* identified Noel Francisco, the Trump-Pence administration’s solicitor general, as an ADF allied attorney, citing two different ADF [press releases](#) explicitly stating that Francisco is one of “more than 3,000 private attorneys allied with ADF.” After publication, however, ADF “contacted *The Nation*, claiming that Francisco has never been an allied attorney.” According to the attached editor’s note, ADF called the press releases “our mistake” and claimed that its “media dept. got it wrong.” ADF promptly rewrote its [press releases](#) but did not issue corrections on either of them.

In another instance, *Media Matters* [identified](#) an attorney at a major law firm as an allied attorney based on another ADF press release, but his law firm reached out to say that was incorrect and due to a typo in the ADF press release that named him as such.

Though ADF [makes it clear](#) that government employees can join its allied attorney program, it does not publicly specify which positions might make participants ineligible to remain in the network. However, it does appear that judges may have to cut ties with the group. For example, after Jamie Anderson was appointed as a county judge in Minnesota, ADF [wrote](#) that she will “no longer participate as an Allied Attorney for obvious reasons.” Additionally, Steve Christopher’s [LinkedIn profile](#) says that he stopped being an ADF allied attorney in March 2013, the same month he became a judge in Hardin County, Ohio.

## **Understanding ADF’s influential and opaque network is key to knowing how it shapes anti-LGBTQ policy**

Between its Blackstone Legal Fellowship and allied attorney program, ADF’s network could include more than 5,000 lawyers. A [2017 Media Matters](#) review of just a few hundred of those attorneys found that at least 55 had government positions, and the number in 2018 was at least



In addition to its role in promoting anti-LGBTQ policies through the courts, ADF also directly shapes legislation at the state level, such as anti-trans ["bathroom bills"](#) and [sweeping religious exemptions laws](#) that make it easier to discriminate against LGBTQ people. Its allies sit in [federal agencies](#) and on [federal courts](#), among other influential places, and have countless ways to affect policy. Many journalists do not have the information they need to draw the connections between these decision makers and the national group driving much of the anti-LGBTQ policies in the country.

In Wisconsin, [journalists](#) and [advocates](#) have [published several](#) articles about a state Supreme Court justice-elect who received thousands of dollars for speeches to ADF and was a [Blackstone Legal Fellow](#). Journalists, policymakers, and the public need to know about ADF's network of allies in government in order to ask them how these associations affect their decision making and whether they stand by the extreme anti-LGBTQ beliefs of the group. Understanding ADF's programs and network is crucial to knowing the full scope of its influence on LGBTQ-related policies at every level of governance.

*This is the first part of a two-part investigation into ADF's network of allies in the government.*

*Additional research by Brennan Suen*

## THE LATEST

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### CNN and the NY Times' debate questions failed to touch on the reality of gun violence

 10/16/19 1:02 PM EDT


### Brian Kilmeade claims "we're going to have no doctors left if this country is run by Medicare for all"

 10/16/19 11:52 AM EDT

### Pete Hegseth accuses a "Breakfast with Friends" guest of "helping to harbor an illegal immigrant"

 10/16/19 11:40 AM EDT

### Fox's Ari Fleischer agrees with Trump that the Kurds in Syria "are no angels"

 10/16/19 11:30 AM EDT