Summary of What Lead to the Planned Parenthood Motion

At the end of May 2011 Planned Parenthood of Mid-and South Michigan filed a civil suit in Oakland County, MI to challenge the deed restriction that thus far has thwarted the abortion provider's plans to open a 17,000 square-foot clinic in Auburn Hills, MI. This covenant deed restriction was filed over ten years ago when a parcel of land was sold to a hotel in close proximity to the building purchased by Planned Parenthood at 1625 N. Opdyke Road. Last April 2010, Lori Lamerand, CEO for PPMSM told Detroit News columnist Laura Berman, that her group sought to open a clinic in Oakland County that would "likely offer abortion services."

Ever since Planned Parenthood bought the gutted structure in November 2010 its plans to open a clinic there provoked enormous controversy and opposition from right to life advocates led by Citizens for a Pro-life Society, as well as Central Oakland Right to Life, and Michigan LifeSpan. Hundreds of concerned Oakland county residents jammed a December 7, 2010 Auburn Hills city council meeting and more recently a petition with over 11,000 names was presented to Mayor McDonald in opposition to the clinic's opening. CPLS has organized dozens of pickets at the Opdyke Road property—that have attracted hundreds of protestors. We have planned an upcoming picket of the July 9th Planned Parenthood fundraiser at the Eagle Theater in Pontiac, MI. (see www.prolifesociety.com-- and details below).

Citizens for a Pro-life Society, when researching zoning laws, water rights and easement issues, spoke with the mangers whose hotels are located close to the Planned Parenthood building. The owners of one of the hotels gave CPLS a copy of a letter that they had received from Dykema and Gossett, the law firm representing Planned Parenthood. Dykema, aware of the deed restriction, never revealed in the letter that they represented Planned Parenthood, never disclosed that Planned Parenthood was likely to perform abortions in the building and, seeking approval of the hotel owners, only disclosed that its client might open a "medical office." The deed restriction permits the building to be used for a restaurant, retail store or "office."

When the owners of the hotel discovered that the real purchaser of the Opdyke Road property was an extremely controversial group and that it was likely the building would become an abortion clinic—they sought to enforce the deed restriction—a restriction that was originally designed to protect their own property investment. Contrary to previous news reports and Planned Parenthood's own complaint, a local attorney offered his services to the owners of the hotel independently from Citizens for a Pro-life Society. The hotel's attorney notified Planned Parenthood that the hotel owners intended to enforce the deed restriction to protect their business interests. Planned Parenthood has now responded by filing a motion before Oakland County judge James Alexander. Planned Parenthood Complaint Jun 2011

CPLS director Monica Migliorino Miller states, "For us this issue over the Planned Parenthood building is about abortion. But the owners of the hotel are now forced to defend their business all because of Planned Parenthood's arrogant belief that it can just set up its killing shop wherever it wishes—even if it is to the detriment to surrounding businesses! For us, we want to make sure that Planned Parenthood never opens a clinic where innocent human beings will be put to death. We are in this fight for the long haul and we support the vigorous defense of the deed restriction to keep Planned Parenthood from setting up another place where women are exploited and their unborn children subjected to acts of unspeakable violence"