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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SECOND ROUND OF SHAM CRIMINAL CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST DAVID DALEIDEN

*On the eve of Planned Parenthood losing its taxpayer funding, its political cronies file bogus felony charges against the journalists who exposed Planned Parenthood's criminal actions*

**Rancho Santa Fe, California** – March 29, 2017 – Yesterday, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra announced that David Daleiden and Sandra Merritt have been [charged](#) with fourteen felony counts of unlawful recording and one felony count of criminal conspiracy. At issue is the series of undercover videos released in 2015 of Mr. Daleiden's meetings with abortion providers and fetal tissue procurement company executives. These videos exposed Planned Parenthood's criminal practices of selling fetal body parts for profit, performing partial-birth abortions, and delivering premature babies to obtain valuable baby body parts.

[Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund](#) is currently defending Mr. Daleiden and his organization, the Center for Medical Progress, in lawsuits brought by Planned Parenthood and the National Abortion Federation for the same alleged unlawful recording. In addition, FCDF previously defended Mr. Daleiden and Ms. Merritt in a lawsuit for an alleged unlawful recording brought by StemExpress. FCDF [beat that suit](#). Charles S. LiMandri, FCDF's President and Chief Counsel, commented:

“These bogus charges are nothing more than a calculated distraction on the eve of Planned Parenthood losing its taxpayer funding. It is highly unusual for criminal charges to be brought at the same time as a civil lawsuit. If this were anything but a publicity stunt, then the Attorney General – a zealous pro-abortion politician as a former Democrat Congressman with 100% rating from Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice America -- would have left this to the civil courts.”

FCDF has connected Mr. Daleiden with excellent criminal defense attorneys to represent him in this matter, and expects to provide substantial assistance in his defense. Mr. LiMandri commented:

“There is no question the law supports David and Susan. We expect these politically-motivated charges to eventually be dropped, just like the baseless Texas criminal charges and the StemExpress lawsuit. In fact, it should be only a matter of time before responsible government officials bring charges against StemExpress, the National Abortion Federation, and Planned Parenthood.”

*Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) public interest law firm that funds the defense of conscience rights and religious freedom by providing protective legal services at the trial court level to persons whose religious liberty and free speech rights have been attacked. Located in San Diego and led by experienced trial attorney Charles LiMandri, FCDF assists individuals and organizations nationwide with pro bono legal services.*

**FCDF President and Chief Counsel Charles LiMandri is available for commentary.**  
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