

May 15, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Alicia Hill, and I am the Chapter Chair for Moms for Liberty – Hays County, Texas. I am submitting this letter to share the personal and professional impact I experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

I became involved with Moms for Liberty because I wanted to advocate for parental involvement, transparency in education, academic excellence, and responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars within our public school system. Like many parents and community members, I believe citizens should have a voice in decisions impacting children and families.

Following the SPLC designation, I experienced significant reputational, civic, and organizational harm.

Within my local community, the SPLC designation was repeatedly used by activists and political opponents to discredit both Moms for Liberty and individuals associated with the organization. Community members frequently cited the SPLC designation as evidence that Moms for Liberty was a "hate group," despite the chapter's focus on education advocacy and civic engagement.

During local school board races in Hays CISD, candidates endorsed by Moms for Liberty were publicly attacked on social media because of the endorsement itself. Comments included statements such as:

- "If Moms for Liberty endorses them, I know who not to vote for."
- "M4L is a hateful,
- "SPLC calls them extremists."

In many cases, the SPLC designation itself was referenced as justification for these attacks.

The designation also negatively impacted chapter growth and public participation. Multiple individuals expressed hesitation or refusal to join or publicly associate with our chapter because they feared being labeled hateful or extremist due to the SPLC's characterization of Moms for Liberty.

Personally, I experienced reputational harm impacting both civic opportunities and my business. Negative online reviews were posted against my business referencing my affiliation with Moms for Liberty. I was also denied consideration for a potential appointment to the Texas State Board for Educator Certification after materials referencing SPLC-related information and allegations about me were circulated and relied upon during the vetting process.

Additionally, our chapter experienced difficulty opening a bank account because financial institutions flagged the organization based on the SPLC designation. The chapter ultimately had to establish banking services with an institution located more than 40 minutes away from where I reside because local options declined to work with the organization.

In my experience, the SPLC designation contributed to an atmosphere of hostility and intimidation toward parents and citizens engaged in lawful civic advocacy. Ordinary community members advocating for parental involvement and accountability in education were publicly portrayed as dangerous or hateful solely because of their association with Moms for Liberty.

Like many others involved with Moms for Liberty, I became engaged because I care deeply about children, families, education, and my local community. The consequences of the SPLC designation extended far beyond political disagreement and resulted in tangible reputational, civic, and organizational harm.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the impact these classifications have had on law-abiding citizens and community organizations engaged in lawful public advocacy and civic participation.

In Liberty,

Alicia Hill
Moms for Liberty,
Hays County, Texas

May 16, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress,

My name is Shellie Flockhart, and I serve as Vice-Chair of the Moms for Liberty, Dallas County, Iowa chapter. I am submitting this statement to document the significant personal, professional, and financial harms I have suffered as a direct result of the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as an "antigovernment extremist" organization.

I became involved with Moms for Liberty solely to advocate for parental rights and greater transparency in our public schools. My activities have been limited to lawful civic engagement, including attending school board meetings, reviewing curriculum materials, and encouraging parental involvement in education.

Following the SPLC's designation, **I experienced a marked increase in public targeting, harassment, and reputational harm.** Over the past three years, I have been personally named in at least two books, multiple newspaper articles, and numerous social media campaigns that portrayed me — and Moms for Liberty members generally — as extremists or threats to education. This designation has been repeatedly cited by media outlets, activists, and local opponents to discredit my advocacy.

The harms have been both personal and economic. As the owner of a hair salon in Dallas Center, Iowa, I lost clients and suffered direct financial damage after activists, including a local group called Annie's Foundation, publicly posted pictures of my business and urged people to boycott my services. These "cancel culture" campaigns, which explicitly referenced the SPLC label and my association with Moms for Liberty, occurred multiple times and continued over the course of several years. The sustained attacks caused measurable revenue loss to my business and damaged the professional reputation I had built as a stylist and small business owner.

In addition, the designation created serious safety concerns. I was forced to bring security to certain public events and had to implement additional safety measures that I had never needed prior to the SPLC's actions. The climate of intimidation also

affected my willingness to participate in school board meetings and community events, although I continued my advocacy despite these burdens.

The SPLC label further chilled participation in our chapter. Several prospective members expressed reluctance or withdrew entirely due to fear of similar public targeting, doxxing, or professional repercussions. This has hindered the growth and effectiveness of our organization in exercising lawful First Amendment rights.

One particularly damaging example is my inclusion in the 2024 book *Donald Trump's Army of God: Christian Nationalism in the Iowa Faith Leader Coalition* by Clifford Cook and Anise Cook. The book lists me among Iowa activists and frames my parental rights work and involvement with Moms for Liberty as part of a dangerous "Christian Nationalist" and "theocratic" agenda. This published characterization has amplified the stigma created by the SPLC designation and provided opponents with additional material to weaponize against me.

The cumulative effect of the SPLC's designation has been a sustained campaign of reputational destruction, business interference, and intimidation that has caused significant financial losses, emotional distress, and ongoing safety concerns for me and my family. What began as good-faith civic participation by a concerned mother has been maliciously reframed as extremism.

I respectfully request that you investigate the Southern Poverty Law Center's practices of labeling law-abiding citizens and parent advocacy groups, and examine the tangible harms such designations have caused to individuals, small businesses, and protected First Amendment activity.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter.

Sincerely,

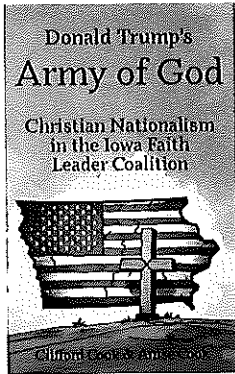
Shellie Flockhart

Vice-Chair, Moms for Liberty – Dallas County, Iowa

Dallas Center, Iowa

<https://globalextremism.org/post/project-2025-october-23rd-update/>

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/education/2025/10/14/iowas-battle-of-books-continues-even-as-challenges-from-parents-fall/86043761007/>



Read sample

Donald Trump's Army of God: Christian Nationalism in the Iowa Faith Leader Coalition Paperback – May 18, 2024

by Clifford Cook (Author), Anise Cook (Author)

2.8 ★★★★★ (9)

At the end of 2023, Donald Trump assembled an Army of God to bring him victory in the opening skirmish of the 2024 presidential election, the Iowa caucuses. These Christian activists secured Trump's path to the Republican nomination. Nonetheless, with American journalism a broken husk of its former self, Trump's claims about the Iowa Faith Leader Coalition were largely unchallenged and the stories of its members left untold.

When the authors looked behind the Coalition's facade of Christian normality, they discovered:

- David Leach, the leader of an anti-abortion terrorist network

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S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of
Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Alexandra Bougher, and I am the Chapter Chair for Moms for Liberty Bergen County, New Jersey, as well as a New Jersey Ambassador for the organization. I am submitting this letter to share the personal and professional impact I experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

I started my chapter because I wanted to defend parental rights and ensure that my children and others were safe from political indoctrination, age-inappropriate sexual content, and the growing culture of activist-driven ideology within our schools. Like many parents across the country, I became involved because I believed parents deserve a voice in their children's education and future.

Following the SPLC designation, I experienced serious personal consequences due to my association with Moms for Liberty.

I was removed from my position as a Girl Scout leader in part because of my public posts and advocacy regarding the SPLC and related issues. The stigma attached to the SPLC designation created an atmosphere where simply expressing my views or participating in lawful civic advocacy became grounds for social and professional punishment.

My name and reputation were also publicly dragged through the mud within my community. I received hostile and threatening emails from my town's mayor, and social media posts targeting both me and my children became increasingly aggressive and threatening in nature. The public hostility escalated far beyond political disagreement and created real fear and emotional distress for my family.

More alarmingly, I was also the victim of a swatting incident in my own town after a local resident saw my chapter listed on the SPLC website. This incident created serious concern for my family's safety and demonstrated how dangerous and inflammatory these public labels can become when ordinary citizens are targeted for their political or parental advocacy.

In my experience, the SPLC designation contributed to a broader culture of hostility and intimidation surrounding parents engaged in education advocacy and public debate. The label created an environment where ordinary citizens standing up for their children were increasingly treated as dangerous or hateful simply because of their association with Moms for Liberty and participation in local civic engagement.

I am a mother and community volunteer who became involved simply because I wanted a voice in our children's education and future. I never imagined that advocating for parental rights and transparency in schools would lead to public targeting, reputational harm, threats, or concerns for my family's safety.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the role the SPLC's classifications have played in contributing to hostility, intimidation, and public targeting of law-abiding citizens and community groups engaged in lawful civic advocacy and public debate.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Alexandra Bougher
Park Ridge, New Jersey

16 May 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Lisa Ann Adams and I am a Chapter Chair with the Moms for Liberty Plymouth County Massachusetts chapter. Moms for liberty, (slide 67 attached) was specifically identified or listed by the SPLC, within the Massachusetts Police Training, which trains officers state wide **"municipal, MBTA, environmental, UMass, campus police officers, and deputy sheriffs performing police duties and functions"** I am submitting this letter to share the impact experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

I became involved with Moms for Liberty because here in the State of Massachusetts, our parental rights have been limited and we are seeing more control of our children's first amendment rights our rights as parents in regards to our children's physical health, mental health and education.

Following the SPLC designation, I experienced the following impacts:

- During local elections candidates who were members of Moms for Liberty were called out on social media as belonging "to an extreme hate-group that has been profiled by the Southern Poverty Law Center. This is a very disturbing group."
- While attempting to start a chapter in Norfolk County in 2024, people who were ready to stand with Moms for Liberty stood down due to relatives and friends being officers and were given the annual police training cited above.
- Overall, many colorful names have been called and accused of hating certain demographics none of which is true, have had to go to the police on 2 occasions due to social media threats, of which their justification will be citing the SPLC.
- In 2025 we were meeting in Plymouth MA, there is a whole thread on reddit "Wherever they show up, we'll outnumber them- we'll protest and drive them

off...back under their rocks where they came from!" This behavior has had a negative impact on parents and students having a voice.

- All of the above examples are the ripple effect of a very loud voice from the SPLC which the left of the state (majority) hold as a guiding resource of truth, making it dangerous to stand for our parental rights.

In my experience, the SPLC designation contributed to a broader culture of hostility and intimidation surrounding parents engaged in education advocacy and public debate. The label created an environment where ordinary citizens standing up for their children were increasingly treated as dangerous or hateful simply because of their association with Moms for Liberty and their participation in local civic engagement.

Like many others involved with Moms for Liberty, I am a mother, veteran, business owner and community volunteer who I became involved with simply because I wanted a voice in our children's education and future.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the role the SPLC's classifications have played in contributing to hostility, intimidation, and public targeting of law-abiding citizens and community groups engaged in lawful civic advocacy and public debate.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Lisa Ann Adams

Hanover, Massachusetts

Antifa

- **Antifa** refers to a decentralized network of far-left militants that oppose what they believe are fascist, racist, or otherwise right-wing extremists
 - frequently conduct counter-protests to disrupt far-right gatherings and rallies.
 - often wear black clothing, ski masks, scarves, sunglasses, and other material to conceal their faces
 - use improvised explosive devices, other homemade weapons, and resort to vandalism.
 - members organize their activities through social media, encrypted peer-to-peer networks, and encrypted messaging services such as Signal
 - have been increasingly active in protests and rallies over the past few years



Antifa



Moms for Liberty

- **Moms for Liberty (MFL)** is a conservative "parents' rights" organization, that has emerged as a visible player in U.S. education politics.
 - national organization that oversees dozens of semi-autonomous county chapters; amounting to about 103,000 members across 278 chapters in 45 states.
 - engaged in local school board politics and elections across the country.
 - at the forefront of the conservative movement targeting books that reference race and gender identity and electing right-wing candidates to local school boards nationwide
 - designated MFL as an "anti-government extremist" group.
 - members use parents' rights as a vehicle to attack public education and make schools less welcoming for minority and LGBTQ+ students



Super Happy Fun America

- **Super Happy Fun America** is a right-wing, Massachusetts-based group which first drew national attention for organizing a 2019 Straight Pride Parade in Boston.
 - based in Lexington MA, group likes to consider themselves to be the re-founding fathers.
 - right-winged civil rights organization focused on defending the Constitution, opposing gender madness and defeating cultural Marxism.
 - developed a 10-point plan to save America.
 - group boasts about 400 "card-carrying" members.
 - leaders founded the group in 2019 and incorporated it as a MA



5/16/2026

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Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Samantha Fett and I am a former chapter chair, and current co-chair of Moms for Liberty, Warren County, IA and a State Representative. Warren County Iowa Moms for Liberty was specifically identified and listed on the SPLC. I am submitting this letter to share the personal impact I experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

I first entered public service as a school board member in the Carlisle, Iowa public school district, where I saw firsthand how parents were increasingly being pushed aside in decisions that directly impacted their children. That experience opened my eyes to the growing disconnect between families and the systems meant to serve them. I joined Moms for Liberty because I believed parents deserved a stronger voice—someone willing to stand up for transparency, academic excellence, and the fundamental right of families to guide their children's education. My involvement was rooted in service, not politics, but the backlash that followed made my race for State House far more **difficult, contentious, and personally damaging** than it ever should have been.

Throughout my first term at the State House and my work with Moms for Liberty, I experienced harassment, threats, and public targeting that created real concerns for my personal and family's safety. The SPLC designation was repeatedly weaponized against me, harming my reputation and straining relationships in my community, even though the label was politically motivated and completely disconnected from the truth about our mission. What made the situation even more damaging was the way **local news outlets continued to run stories referencing my name alongside the accusation that I was affiliated with a "hate group."** Articles in outlets such as *Iowa Capital Dispatch* and *News From The States* repeatedly discussed the SPLC designation in connection with Moms for Liberty, and even when they did not accuse me personally, the repeated pairing of my name with the phrase "hate group" created a harmful and misleading narrative that opponents eagerly exploited.

The most damaging attacks came from **false online claims amplified through social media**, including a widely circulated post on the “Burn Book” section of the “Bitches Get Stuff Done” website. That post labeled me as a **“Former Stripper, Moms for Liberty Fanatic, Devil in Disguise,”** a claim that was entirely fabricated. I filed a complaint as a State Representative with the Ethics Board because this “group,” is an authorized lobbyist group in Iowa. According to *Iowa Capital Dispatch*, the Iowa House Ethics Committee **unanimously reprimanded the organization** for publishing this false information, confirming that the allegations about my profession and associations were untrue and unsupported by any evidence. The reporting shows that the group admitted they had no proof and had relied on an unverified “tip,” yet the false claim spread rapidly online and was shared across social media platforms, where it took on a life of its own. [Iowa Capital Dispatch](#)

Even after the Ethics Committee reprimanded, the misinformation continued to circulate online, and local activists and political opponents used it to attack my character and credibility. This included from a State Senator at the time, Senator Claire Celsi that put out on her social media about the claims. [Post here.](#)

Social media posts repeated the false claims, often pairing them with the SPLC designation to create a narrative that I was somehow tied to extremism—despite the complete lack of evidence. These posts were shared in community groups, activist pages, and comment threads on local news stories, creating an echo chamber of misinformation that was nearly impossible to correct once it spread.

Local officials, media outlets, activists, and even some community members used the SPLC designation and these false claims to discredit my work, distort my intentions, and intimidate parents who simply wanted a voice in their children’s education. The constant drumbeat of mischaracterizations created hesitation about participating publicly in school board meetings, civic events, and community forums—not because I lacked conviction, but because the hostility and targeted narratives became exhausting and, at times, unsafe. Perhaps most discouraging was seeing how the designation discouraged others from joining or supporting our chapter; good parents who cared deeply about their kids were suddenly afraid of being targeted themselves or having their names dragged through the media the way mine was.

Despite all of this, I remained committed to standing up for families, but there is no question that the SPLC label, the false online claims, and the way they were amplified by local media were used as political weapons that made my campaign and my service significantly more **challenging, damaging, and unnecessarily contentious** than they ever should have been.

In my experience, the SPLC designation contributed to a broader culture of hostility and intimidation surrounding parents engaged in education advocacy and public debate. The label created an environment where ordinary citizens standing up for their children were increasingly treated as dangerous or hateful simply because of their association with Moms for Liberty and their participation in local civic engagement.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the role the SPLC's classifications have played in contributing to hostility, intimidation, and public targeting of law-abiding citizens and community groups engaged in lawful civic advocacy and public debate.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Samantha Fett

State Representative

Iowa House District 22

Carlisle, IA

May 16, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's
Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Rebekah Esko, and I am a member of the Howard County Maryland Moms for Liberty chapter. I am submitting this letter to share the personal impact I experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

I became involved with Moms for Liberty because I wanted to protect parental rights and transparency in education.

The SPLC designation had a negative impact on me and my family.

My 6th grade son's English teacher pulled up the SPLC website as a part of instruction in class. She showed the students groups like the KKK on the SPLC website. Then she told the students there are groups like that in Maryland. She showed them that Moms for Liberty was listed as an extremist group on the SPLC website.

My son was shocked. He knows I'm a member of Moms for Liberty. He came home and asked me "Is Moms for Liberty an extremist group?" I said no and asked him who told him it was. He told me about his English class and the SPLC website with the KKK and Moms for Liberty on it. We pulled up the website together and talked about it.

He was upset that his teacher and now all his classmates think that Moms for Liberty is like the KKK. We both felt like we couldn't speak up because the teacher and school had already decided Moms for Liberty was an extremist group and if we spoke to the school about it, they would be prejudiced against us based on the SPLC label for Moms for Liberty.

Knowing that the schools are teaching people that Moms for Liberty is like the KKK, I was worried about being publicly involved with Moms for Liberty. I felt that the SPLC's unfair and inaccurate designation could affect my reputation if I even upvoted or commented on Moms For Liberty's posts on social media. Even though I strongly believe in the mission of Moms for Liberty to support parental rights and transparency in

schools, I did not wear or carry things that had the label of Moms for Liberty to avoid being seen as the type of person who would agree with the KKK.

Protesters harassed people trying to attend meetings of our Moms for Liberty Chapter. We ended up having to hold meetings other places because of all the harassment when we held them at public libraries, including hecklers interrupting so much that it was hard to hear the meeting.

<https://www.thebanner.com/education/k-12-schools/moms-for-liberty-howard-county-boo-k-removal-TSJHK5JPYVBBPP3P7IZRFL4SSQ/>

One local school board candidate, Trent Kittleman, asked to have her name removed from the Moms for Liberty roll before running for school board candidate because any mention of the organization had become politically toxic. The SPLC designation certainly contributed toward that. Her previous relationship with Moms for Liberty was publicized anyway and used against her. In the end, she did not win the election.

<https://baltimorefishbowl.com/stories/trent-kittleman-helped-launch-moms-for-liberty-in-howard-and-now-seeks-school-board-spot/>

I am a mother who became involved in Moms for Liberty simply because I wanted a voice in my children's education and future. SPLC has created a hostile environment for people like me. I am still hesitant to publicly speak out, but it is important for members of Congress and federal officials to understand the harm that SPLC has caused to regular moms and families who care about their kids and education.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the role the SPLC's classifications have played in contributing to hostility, intimidation, and public targeting of law-abiding citizens and community groups engaged in lawful civic advocacy and public debate.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Rebekah Esko

Maryland

May 17, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Becky Lew-Hobbs, and I am the Chapter Chair with Moms for Liberty of Wake County NC. Our chapter was listed by the SPLC on their "hate map" in June of 2023 (Exhibit A). I am submitting this letter to share the personal and professional impact that I and our members experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's (SPLC) designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

I became involved with Moms for Liberty in the fall of 2021 because forced school closures adversely affected my children's access to education and the public school's system's beratement of parents; treating parents as an adversary. I have continued to advocate for transparency in education and parental rights.

Following the SPLC designation, I experienced the following impacts:

- **Disparaging public comments (hate group, extremist, nazi, fascist and more) were permitted at the WCPSS School Board meetings and have continued regularly since Moms for Liberty of Wake chapter was listed on the SPLC map.** There were also times that the public commentator would turn and speak directly to me or one of members, stating we were hateful, extremist, nazi, etc. (Exhibit B)
- Disparaging comments were made by elected school board representatives. Including on October 15, 2024, WCPSS School Board Member Samuel Hershey, District 6, **referred to Moms for Liberty of Wake chapter as a hate group multiple times during his public statement period.** In addition, other members of the **WCPSS have referred to our chapter as extremist, nazi, fascist as well.** (Exhibit C)
- In most articles by the News & Observer, each time Moms for Liberty is referenced in an article, the writer also references that "the Southern Poverty Law Center labeled Moms for Liberty as an "anti-government extremist group." (Exhibit D)

- Moms for Liberty of Wake has **been harassed and threatened just for having a chapter business meeting. Some of these threats included harm to us and our guests. Because of this we cannot advertise where we are meeting or must have security.**
 - Our chapter meeting in August 2023, turned scary. We were meeting in a local bar for our summer get together and plan for the upcoming school year. The seating at this bar and restaurant is mostly outdoor seating. While we were conducting our meeting and enjoying a meal together, a group of people gathered at the road. For the 2 hours we were there, they screamed and shouted the usual name calling. When the meeting was over, we were concerned for our safety; thankfully the bar patrons walked each of us to our cars to ensure we were able to leave safely. (Exhibit E)
 - Some restaurants have refused to allow us to meet at their establishment.
- Employment has been affected:
 - **One Member, who regularly spoke up at school board meetings, was fired from her job after Moms for Liberty was placed on the SPLC map. She was doxed, people called her place of employment about her and, as a result, was dismissed.**
 - **When I was searching for a job in 2024, there were many interviews where I was asked about my involvement in the community. Once I mentioned Moms for Liberty the temperature changed in the interview from friendly to cold and distant.**
- We participated in a local community event in the fall of 2023, called the Wendell Harvest Festival. The event went well as we spoke to many in the community about some state legislation. Many had never heard of our organization. But after the event a small group of people called and harassed the Wendell Chamber of Commerce to allow us to participate. (Exhibit F) The Chamber president called me, and we spoke in detail about this. He had never had such issue and was taken aback because he and I had a working relationship for many years. Wendell is where I worked at the time, go to church, hang out with my friends, shop, etc. **But, when I reached out in 2024 to participate, they did not return my inquiries so we could not participate.**
- We have received via email and Facebook messenger **harassing name calling and veiled threats since the SPLC map.** While none seemed like a credible threat, as a result, my husband and I regularly spoke with our kids about safety and things to watch out for.
- **Because of the public name-calling at school board meetings, the media, and at our legislative events, some people would not join our chapter.** They are afraid to speak up because they do not want to be identified publicly for fear of potential harassment and potentially risking their jobs. **And, some who are members do not want to speak out at school board meetings, for fear of repercussions.**

In my experience, the SPLC designation contributed to a broader culture of hostility and intimidation surrounding parents engaged in education advocacy and public debate. The label created an environment where ordinary citizens standing up for their children were increasingly treated as dangerous or hateful simply because of their association with Moms for Liberty and their participation in local civic engagement.

Like many others involved with Moms for Liberty, I am a mother who I became involved simply because I wanted a voice in my children's education and future.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the role that the SPLC's classifications has played in contributing to hostility, intimidation, and public targeting of parents and law-abiding citizens engaged in lawful civic advocacy and public debate.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Becky Lew-Hobbs
Raleigh, NC

EXHIBIT A- SPLC “Hate Map”

https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map/?hm_year=2024&hm_state=NC

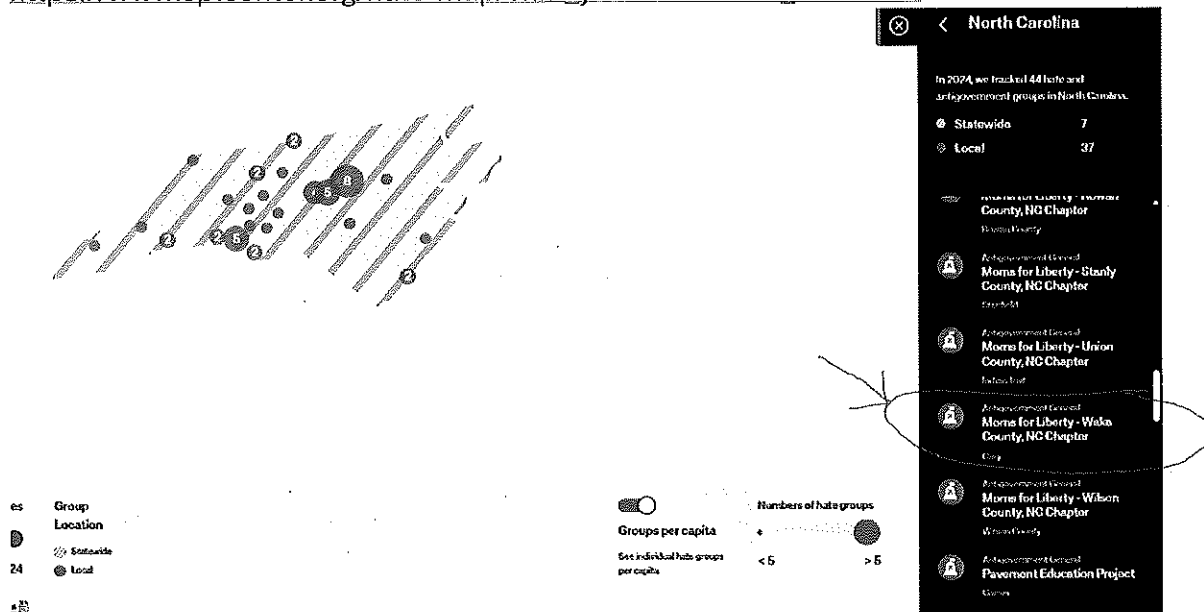


EXHIBIT B – WCPSS School Board Meeting

- YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/yGV-1Wycg4E?si=LFPo7hEX3XvM6VB0&t=4733>
- Mr. Everly: “One of these Extremist groups is Moms for Liberty ... and have a history of harassing school board” and went on further: “They are considered a hate group and extremist organization by the Southern Poverty Law Center”

EXHIBIT C – WCPSS School Board Meeting

- YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/live/RXRc1GpCw5E?si=7jmlhoR3gzJVnCfA&t=4954>
- Mr. Hershey: “members of the hate group Moms for Liberty”

Exhibit D – News and Observer

- The News and Observer is a newspaper in Raleigh NC that is owned by the McClatchy Company. These articles are also published in the Charlotte Observer
- There are several articles since 2023 but here are a few examples:
 - <https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/education/article287691225.html>
 - <https://www.newsobserver.com/news/politics-government/article289209809.html>
 - <https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/education/article294009844.html>

Last year, the Southern Poverty Law Center released a report that labeled Moms for Liberty as an “anti-government extremist group.” The organization has called the

Exhibit E – August 2023 Chapter Meeting

This picture is taken during the meeting. They had a bullhorn and were screaming names such as fascist, nazi, etc.



EXHIBIT F – Wendell Harvest Festival



Amanda Cohen
October 20, 2023 · 🌐

...

Hi there folks 🤝 I'm hoping y'all can help me with something I'm working on. Recently in my town we had a Harvest Festival that was organized by the Wendell Chamber Of Commerce. They allowed Moms for Liberty of Wake County to be a vendor at this community event.

I've been reaching out repeatedly to clarify how and why this was allowed to happen given the let's say divisive nature of their rhetoric. It's been about two weeks and after several reminders I've finally received a response in which I was basically told they have no problem with the group but to send them information if I have it and they will discuss no longer allowing them to participate.

This is where you folks come in. I would be forever grateful for anyone who can help in my efforts to aggregate factual information, interactions via social media with members regarding the group and their views etc.

I'll take any and all of the links, screenshots or other forms or shareable information that anyone is comfortable and capable of sharing.

I love my little town of Wendell and plan to raise my daughter here and want this area to grow without being infiltrated by hate groups.

Please help if you can 🙏💕

Tina Descovich
Moms for Liberty
981 E Eau Gallie Blvd. Ste E #13123
Melbourne, FL 32937

May 18, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Moms for Liberty and our over 300 chapters across the United States to express serious concern regarding the widespread harassment, intimidation, retaliation, reputational harm, and suppression of civic participation that followed the Southern Poverty Law Center's decision to classify Moms for Liberty and many of its local chapters on its "hate" and "extremist" maps and lists. The organization's labeling practices have increasingly been used to stigmatize mainstream, family-centered and constitutionally protected advocacy organizations with whom the SPLC politically disagrees.

Moms for Liberty was founded in 2021. We are a grassroots parental rights organization dedicated to unifying, educating, and empowering parents to defend their parental rights at all levels of government. With more than 300 chapters and over 100,000 members nationwide, the organization is made up primarily of volunteer mothers, fathers, grandparents, and community members engaged in local education issues. Members participate in constitutionally protected civic activities including attending school board meetings, advocating for educational transparency, supporting school board candidates, speaking publicly on policy issues, and organizing community events.

Everything changed for our organization in June 2023, when the Southern Poverty Law Center added Moms for Liberty and 249 of our chapters to its Hate Map. By listing many of our chapters individually—rather than using a single listing as it does for most organizations—the SPLC was able to **Manufacture Hate** on an extraordinary scale. As of May 1, 2026, the SPLC identified 1,371 organizations as "hate groups," with Moms for Liberty chapters accounting for nearly 20% of those listings. Within its category of 618 "anti-government extremist" groups, Moms for Liberty chapters alone represent nearly

40%. When combined with other organizations advocating for parental rights, those groups make up an astonishing 53% of the SPLC's "anti-government extremist" category. The truth is that the SPLC is using mothers and parents standing up for their children and advocating for better education in their communities to **Manufacture Hate**. The impact of these designations is reflected, in part, in the letters included in this document.

Following the SPLC designation, local chapters and volunteers across the country experienced escalating hostility, threats, organized targeting, reputational harm, and efforts to suppress their participation in civic life. Ordinary parents engaged in local education advocacy were increasingly portrayed as extremists or hateful individuals simply for participating in public debate. The consequences were personal, financial, emotional, and, in some cases, dangerous.

Chapter leaders and national M4L employees reported:

- Death threats.
- Loss of income and careers.
- Doxing of members and publication of personal information.
- Harassment targeting employers, businesses, and families.
- Police protection required for chapter meetings.
- Venues canceling meetings after organized pressure campaigns.
- Members being denied participation in fairs, parades, and community events.
- Public officials and school board members repeatedly referring to parents as "hate groups," "terrorists," or "extremists."
- Organized online harassment, intimidation campaigns, and organized targeting.
- Members resigning or declining involvement out of fear for personal safety or professional retaliation.

The organization's national summit in Philadelphia in 2023 became a defining example of the environment created by this rhetoric. Protesters surrounded the venue for days, historical property was vandalized, windows were smashed, and participants required security escorts to leave safely. Law enforcement was forced to increase security and deploy additional resources due to escalating tensions.

Many chapter leaders reported that local media outlets automatically attached the "hate group" designation whenever they were mentioned publicly, regardless of the subject

matter. Public officials cited SPLC classifications during school board meetings, political campaigns, public hearings, and legislative debates. In some states, government and law enforcement training materials referenced Moms for Liberty using SPLC classifications.

The practical effect was a chilling environment around civic participation, particularly for parents engaged in local education advocacy. Many individuals described emotional distress, damage to their reputations, fear for their families, and social isolation within their communities. Some leaders withdrew from advocacy entirely. Others lost professional opportunities, community standing, meeting locations, partnerships, or volunteers. In small towns and local communities, the damage was especially severe because individuals were easily identifiable.

Equally concerning is the broader societal impact. Labeling parents and community volunteers as extremists for participating in school board debates and educational advocacy contributes to increased polarization, distrust, fear, and hostility within communities. It discourages civic engagement and undermines confidence that Americans can safely participate in public discourse without being targeted or dehumanized.

Americans should not fear harassment, retaliation, threats, or reputational destruction because they attend or speak at school board meetings, advocate for curriculum transparency, run for an elected office, support candidates, or organize around educational issues.

Additionally, the Southern Poverty Law Center directly targeted me in January 2024 preceding my Florida Senate Confirmation hearing after Governor Ron DeSantis appointed me to the Florida Commission on Ethics. The SPLC published an article reminding senators that they named my organization an "antigovernment extremist organization" just one year prior, which led to the Senate refusing to take up my name for a vote.

We respectfully request that the Department of Justice holds the Southern Poverty Law Center accountable for its dangerous tactics including the role its classifications have played in contributing to organized harassment, intimidation, and suppression of constitutionally protected civic participation.

We further request review of any reliance by federal agencies, federally funded entities, or law enforcement bodies on SPLC materials, classifications, or training resources, particularly where such reliance may have contributed to political targeting, viewpoint discrimination, or the chilling of lawful public engagement. Given the documented consequences associated with these designations, we believe serious scrutiny and oversight are warranted regarding the SPLC's influence on public institutions and civic discourse.

Specifically, we ask that the Department examine:

1. Whether these classifications contributed to organized harassment, intimidation, or suppression of constitutionally protected civic participation.
2. Whether public institutions improperly relied upon private ideological classifications in ways that affected citizens' access to public participation, public facilities, or equal treatment.
3. Whether government agencies or publicly funded entities adopted or amplified these classifications in a manner that chilled speech or discouraged lawful public engagement.
4. The broader civil rights implications when parents and community advocates are publicly stigmatized for engaging in lawful advocacy on matters of public concern.

This request is not about shielding public debate or criticism. Americans have every right to disagree on matters of education and public policy. However, there is an important distinction between disagreement and organized targeting that results in intimidation, retaliation, reputational harm, threats, and suppression of lawful civic participation. The use of ideological labeling systems to stigmatize citizens participating in constitutionally protected activity undermines public trust, civic engagement, and the principles of equal treatment under law.

Our members are not anonymous political operatives; they are mothers, fathers, grandparents, veterans, teachers, business owners, and community volunteers. Many became involved simply because they wanted a voice in their children's education and future. No American should face threats, harassment, professional retaliation, social targeting, or public demonization simply for participating in civic life.

We appreciate your consideration of these concerns and would welcome the opportunity to provide additional documentation, chapter statements, screenshots, articles, public records requests, and firsthand testimony from affected members across the country.

Respectfully,



Tina Descovich

CEO & Co-founder, Moms for Liberty

May 18th, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Rachel Wilson-Snyder, and I am a Chapter Chair with the Lancaster County, PA chapter of Moms For Liberty. Our chapter was specifically identified and listed by the SPLC on their hate map. I am submitting this letter to share the personal impact I experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

First, I want you to know that I became involved with Moms for Liberty to fight for Parental Rights after I saw neo-marxist trends in public schools diminishing respect for the sovereignty of parents.

Following the SPLC designation, I experienced the following impacts:

Local officials, media outlets, activists, or community members used the SPLC designation against me and my chapter. Here are several examples:

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/moms-for-liberty-freepa-flagged-as-antigovernment-groups-by-watchdog/article_5a3eae28-0587-11ee-ad0f-174aa788095a.html

<https://www.witf.org/2023/06/08/moms-for-liberty-freepa-flagged-as-antigovernment-groups-by-watchdog/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/821271952784289/about/>

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/a-positive-force-grandmas-for-love-in-warwick-form-as-counter-to-moms-for-liberty/article_7c0419b0-5197-11ee-b95f-f371a4ba524e.html

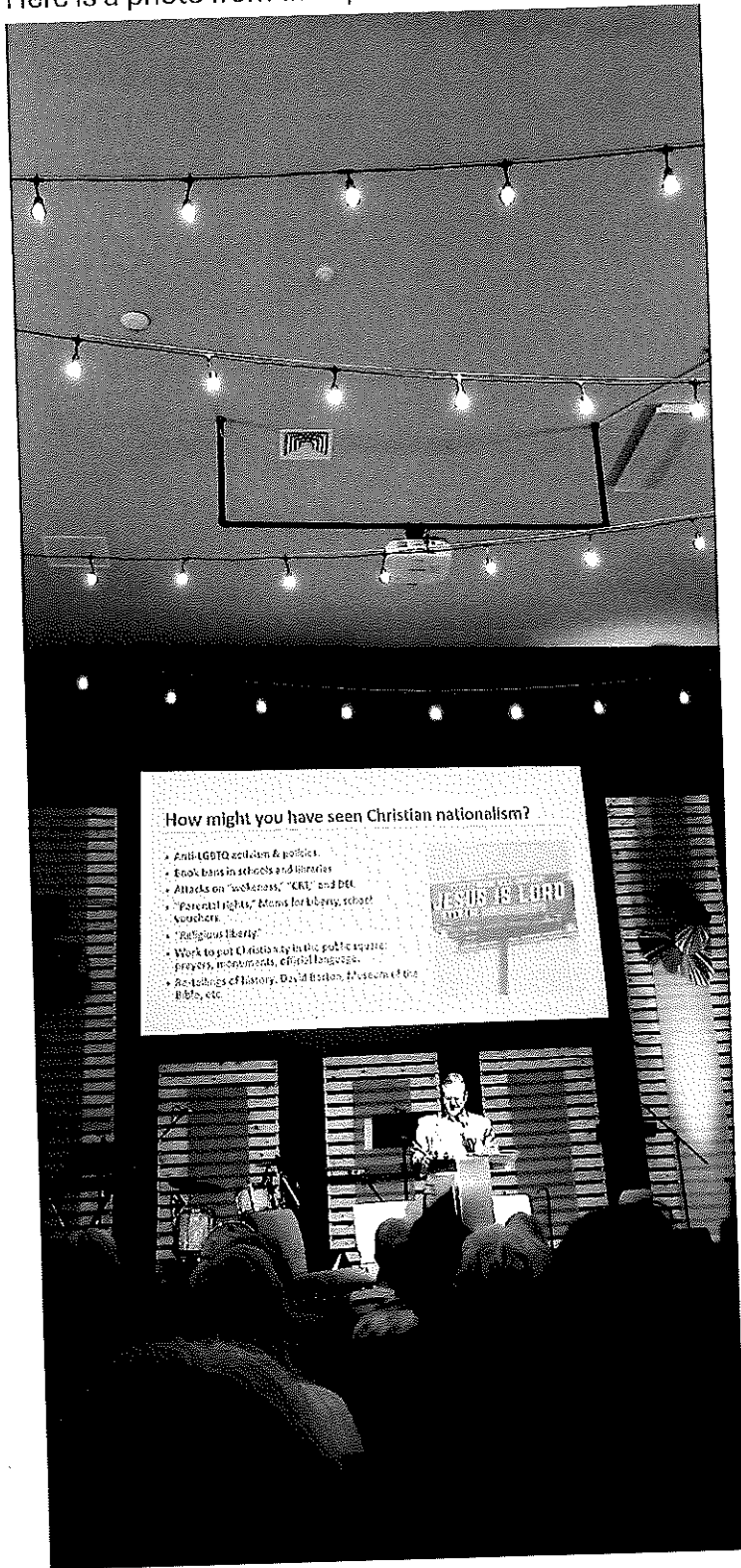
This next article highlights the impact for a local board member for simply having a meeting with another SPLC 'designated hate group' the PA Family Institute, and also references her

past associations with Moms For Liberty, beginning the article with “connections to hate groups”:

<https://www.thelancasterpatriot.com/lititz-resident-challenges-warwick-board-members-over-extremist-ties/>

After the press and local stir on social media, some local churches and pastors created a presentation on “Christian Nationalists” and toured my county, specifically naming Moms For Liberty in the presentation and discussing our local chapter’s presence at school board meetings. I was heartbroken by this development and attended a meeting myself to hear what was being said and to reach out to the pastors to correct their misperceptions and mislabeling of myself and our group. Despite me listening to their presentation and informing Pastor Greg and Pastor Lenahan that I am not a Christian Nationalist or a hate group leader, Pastor Greg immediately stated, “I don’t believe you”. Simply put, there was nothing I could say or do to defend myself or get people to listen. Their minds were made up and even an in-person, heartfelt plea from myself could not be heard over the thunderous impression left by the SPLC designation as an extremist hate group.

Here is a photo from their presentation:



And here is a link to the video: <https://youtu.be/-K5Wh2H6UeI> There is extensive, slanderous, and lengthy commentary regarding Moms For Liberty Lancaster PA by Reverend Lanahan around 1 hour and 4 minutes into the video.

I continued to attend events, school board meetings, and to speak to others but it became clear that others in my community were shying away from me because of the extremist label. I thought that speaking with people would help clear this up but they did not respect my input about my beliefs or my actions when compared to what the SPLC said about me and our organization.

The designation discouraged others from joining, supporting, or participating in your chapter. For example, school board candidates were told to withdraw or not pursue endorsements with our chapter. Candidates would reach out to me privately and say how much they agree with privately and support our work privately, but they could not seek endorsement or even do things as simple as being seen sitting next to me in public.

In my experience, the SPLC designation contributed to a broader culture of hostility and intimidation surrounding parents engaged in education advocacy and public debate. The label created an environment where ordinary citizens standing up for their children were increasingly treated as dangerous or hateful simply because of their association with Moms for Liberty and their participation in local civic engagement.

Like many others involved with Moms for Liberty, I am a mother who became involved simply because I wanted a voice in our children's education and future. I believe strongly in respectful civic dialogue, and I hope my experience helps ensure that individuals can participate in public life without fear of mischaracterization.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the role the SPLC's classifications have played in contributing to hostility, intimidation, and public targeting of law-abiding citizens and community groups engaged in lawful civic advocacy and public debate.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Rachel Wilson-Snyder
Chapter Chair
Moms For Liberty - Lancaster County, PA

5/15/2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Julie Mauck: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Julie Mauck, and I am the founding chapter chair of the Oconee County, Georgia chapter of Moms for Liberty. I am submitting this letter to share the personal and professional impact I experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization and the broader hostile climate that developed around parents involved in parental rights advocacy.

I became involved in Moms for Liberty during the COVID-19 period because I believed parents should have a voice in decisions affecting their children, including education, school policies, transparency, and parental rights. I never expected that participating in local civic issues would result in attacks on my livelihood, reputation, and personal safety.

After becoming publicly involved in parental rights advocacy and later speaking at a local library board meeting in Oconee County, Georgia, I experienced firsthand how activist organizations, public labeling campaigns, and coordinated false accusations can be used to intimidate, isolate, economically damage, and silence ordinary citizens engaged in lawful civic participation.

In my view, the Southern Poverty Law Center's public designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization contributed significantly to the hostile environment surrounding parents involved in these issues. Once Moms for Liberty was publicly labeled in that manner, ordinary parents and community members were increasingly treated not as citizens participating in public debate, but as legitimate targets for professional retaliation, reputational attacks, and public intimidation.

Almost immediately after becoming publicly associated with Moms for Liberty, I began experiencing hostility and retaliation. As debates surrounding masking policies, parental rights, and education intensified, activists in my community began targeting me professionally because of my public advocacy. I had worked in real estate for approximately twenty years, yet people who had never been clients began posting false and

damaging online reviews against my business. The harassment became so extensive that my Google business account was ultimately removed entirely, significantly impacting my professional presence and reputation.

The situation escalated dramatically following a public library board meeting in July 2023. Although I attended the meeting as a private citizen speaking during public comment, activists immediately began organizing pressure campaigns against me afterward. Individuals contacted my real estate broker and falsely portrayed me as hateful and discriminatory in an effort to damage my professional standing and force my removal from the brokerage.

The accusations made against me were false and materially misrepresented my comments and intentions. Despite the existence of video recordings documenting exactly what occurred, activists continued repeating these accusations publicly and professionally. My broker informed me that because of the pressure and controversy being directed toward him and his business, he would no longer continue holding my real estate license.

Under Georgia law, a licensed real estate agent cannot legally practice without working under a broker. As a result, I temporarily lost the ability to work in my profession. This caused direct financial harm, loss of business opportunities, professional instability, emotional distress, and significant uncertainty for my family. It was devastating to realize that simply participating in public debate on community issues could jeopardize my career and ability to earn a living.

What happened to me was not limited to criticism or disagreement. I effectively lost my ability to work in my profession because of a coordinated campaign of false accusations and public targeting that followed my involvement in Moms for Liberty and my public advocacy on behalf of parents and children.

The consequences were immediate and severe. I lost income, business opportunities, professional stability, and my sense of security. My professional reputation was damaged publicly, my business was targeted online, my Google business account was removed, and I became the subject of intimidation and harassment. The message being sent was clear: if you publicly speak out on issues involving parental rights, children, or education while associated with the SPLC designated 'hate group' Moms for Liberty, your livelihood may be targeted.

In my view, the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization contributed directly to the hostile environment that made this type of retaliation possible. Once Moms for Liberty was publicly labeled in that manner, activists and media outlets increasingly treated ordinary parents not as citizens

participating in public debate, but as legitimate targets for professional punishment and public hostility.

The SPLC's framing did not stay confined to political rhetoric or online commentary. It helped create a broader climate where accusations, intimidation campaigns, reputational attacks, and efforts to interfere with employment became normalized against parents associated with Moms for Liberty. In my case, the consequences were not theoretical. They affected my career, my business, my family, my emotional well-being, and my ability to earn a living.

I believe Americans should be deeply concerned when ordinary citizens can effectively lose their jobs or livelihoods simply because they participate in local government, speak at public meetings, or advocate for children and parental rights while associated with an organization publicly labeled as "extremist" by a nationally recognized group like the SPLC.

In addition to efforts aimed at my employment, an ethics complaint was filed against me with the Georgia Association of Realtors. The complaint repeated false accusations about my conduct and attempted to portray lawful public speech, unrelated to any real estate transaction, as an ethics violation. Even though my comments were made in my private capacity as a citizen at a public meeting, the complaint moved forward and forced me into a lengthy and stressful defense process.

The experience was deeply disturbing because it demonstrated how professional organizations and complaint systems can be weaponized against citizens based on political or ideological disagreement. The process itself became punitive regardless of the ultimate outcome. The pressure, reputational damage, financial strain, and uncertainty created an environment where it became clear that the objective was not merely disagreement, but intimidation and silencing.

The harassment extended beyond my employment and professional licensing. Following media attention surrounding the controversy and litigation, I became the target of ongoing intimidation online and through anonymous communications. I received disturbing messages, including messages referencing photographs and aerial images of my home, creating serious concerns about personal safety and the safety of my family. The cumulative effect of these actions was emotionally exhausting and frightening.

Because of the false statements and coordinated efforts to interfere with my livelihood, I ultimately filed a lawsuit against the individuals and organizations involved: JULIE MAUCK v. ATHENS PRIDE, INC. et al. The lawsuit alleged defamation, tortious interference with business relationships, and deceptive trade practices connected to the false accusations and coordinated pressure campaigns directed at my employment and reputation.

The SPLC also published an article specifically discussing the Oconee County library controversy and publicly named me multiple times in connection with those events. I was never contacted for comment or given an opportunity to respond before publication. In my opinion, this type of one-sided public framing intensified the hostility and legitimized the public targeting directed toward me and others involved in parental rights advocacy.

I am not a political operative or extremist. I am an ordinary American citizen who became involved in community issues because I cared about children, families, and parental rights. Yet because of that involvement, I experienced professional retaliation, public humiliation, financial harm, reputational damage, intimidation, and fear for my personal safety.

The damage caused by these campaigns is not theoretical. It affects employment, professional licensing, business relationships, emotional well-being, reputation, family security, and the willingness of Americans to participate openly in civic life. In my case, these efforts directly interfered with my ability to work and provide for my family.

Despite these experiences, I chose not to withdraw from public life. Instead, I obtained my own broker's license and started my own brokerage company so that similar pressure campaigns could not again be used to remove my ability to work. However, many ordinary citizens facing this type of intimidation do not have the resources or ability to do the same.

I respectfully ask that investigators and public officials examine the broader role organizations such as the SPLC have played in fostering hostility, intimidation, reputational targeting, and economic retaliation against law-abiding parents and community advocates. Americans should not face professional punishment, public targeting, or threats to their livelihoods because they participate in public debate or advocate for issues affecting children and families.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Julie Mauck
Watkinsville, Georgia

References

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<https://www.dailysignal.com/2024/06/24/exclusive-trans-activists-tried-get-georgia-realtor-fired-crime-trying-protect-kids-now-shes-suing/>

Georgia Court of Appeals. "Julie Mauck v. Athens Pride, Inc. et al." 2025.

<https://law.justia.com/cases/georgia/court-of-appeals/2025/a25a1072-0.html>

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Southern Poverty Law Center. "Pride Month: Public Libraries in the Crosshairs." June 18, 2024.

<https://www.splcenter.org/resources/hatewatch/pride-month-public-libraries-crosshairs/>

Oconee County Observations. "Critics, Supporters of Watkinsville Library Policies Clash at Meeting." July 2023.

<https://www.oconeecountyobservations.org/2023/07/critics-supporters-of-watkinsville.html>

Unknown said...



Thanks for the excellent write-ups about what's going on in the county. It feels like local journalism is slowly drying up behind paywalls or ceasing to exist altogether in some areas, so your work is appreciated.

One thing that may have been missed about Julie Mauck is that Moms for Liberty is considered an extremist group by SPLC. It feels worth noting when their members show up to meetings like this.

<https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/moms-liberty>

Seth Burnette

7:16 AM

The Daily Signal. "Interview with Julie Mauck, Coalition for Liberty, and Counsel." YouTube video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KL79ZtZHV1I>

Standing Up To Cancel Culture – Interview with Julie Mauck and Peter Barwick. "YouTube video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1tw4jrCo-DQ>

Sunday, May 17, 2026

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Personal Impact Statement Regarding the Southern Poverty Law Center's Designation of Moms for Liberty

Dear Federal Officials and Members of Congress:

My name is Rosalind Hanson, and I am the Chapter Chair of the Moms for Liberty Montgomery County, Maryland chapter. Our chapter has been specifically identified or listed by the SPLC. I am submitting this letter to share the personal impact I experienced following the Southern Poverty Law Center's designation of Moms for Liberty as a "hate" or "extremist" organization.

I became involved with Moms for Liberty in the spring of 2023, when the Montgomery County Public Schools district in Maryland revoked parents' fundamental right to direct the upbringing of their children. I wanted to have a voice with the sea of parents who felt violated and disregarded by our local government when the school district took away parents' right to opt out of the curriculum that conflicted with their deeply held religious beliefs. Parents filed a lawsuit against the district to reinstate the opt-out, and the case was heard in the United States Supreme Court. In June of 2025, the Supreme Court sided with parents in *Mahmoud v. Taylor*.

Following the SPLC designation, I experienced the following personal impact:

In my 2023 child custody case, my child's father directly weaponized the SPLC's designation of Moms for Liberty in sworn discovery responses to argue that my increased involvement in my child's education and faith made me potentially unfit to have primary educational custody. I was petitioning the court for a custody change so we could meaningfully explore educational alternatives to public school. This single label portrayed me as a dangerous radical simply for exercising my rights as a parent when conversation failed.

Attached as Exhibit A is an excerpt from my child's father's discovery answers (Interrogatory 22). He explicitly states that since our divorce, my involvement "has become significantly more extreme," citing my role as Vice Chair of the [redacted] chapter of Moms for Liberty, which he ties directly to the SPLC's extremist label. The clear implication, accepted into our custody proceedings, was that being an "everyday mom" involved with Moms for Liberty should be considered in determining whether I am unfit to have primary educational custody of my own child.

Thankfully, we reached a custody agreement through mediation that preserved my meaningful role in my child's life. However, had mediation failed, a judge could have relied on this egregious attack and the SPLC's inflammatory label to strip custody from a fit mother who has done nothing but advocate for her child's best interests. The mere presence of the "extremist" smear in the court record created a real risk of irreparable harm to my parental rights, my reputation, and my relationship with my child.

In my experience, the SPLC designation contributes to a broader culture of hostility and intimidation surrounding parents engaging in education advocacy and public debate. The label creates an environment where ordinary citizens standing up for their children are increasingly treated as dangerous or hateful simply because of their association with Moms for Liberty and their participation in local civic engagement.

Like many others involved with Moms for Liberty, I am a mother who became involved simply because I wanted a voice in our children's education and future.

I respectfully request that federal officials examine the role that the SPLC's classifications have played in fostering hostility, intimidation, and public targeting of law-abiding citizens and community groups engaged in lawful civic advocacy and public debate.

Thank you for considering these concerns.

Rosalind Hanson

Bethesda, MD

Exhibit A:

22. If you contend, Ms. [REDACTED] religious or political views have changed since the time of the divorce, please state which views have changed and how they allegedly have changed.

RESPONSE: Ms. [REDACTED] involvement in political and religious life has become significantly more extreme since the time of the divorce. During the time we were married, I don't recall her having strong political opinions, she did not participate in political rallies and did not join groups closely affiliated with political parties. She did not attend mass regularly or do readings during mass, she did not teach CCD, she did not visit religious sites, she did not regularly read the Bible, and there was certainly never a plan [REDACTED] to attend Catholic school. Since the divorce, she became Vice Chair of the [REDACTED] County chapter of a group called "Moms for Liberty," which is among conservative groups listed as an anti-government extremist entity by the Southern Poverty Law Center. It has [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] She now attends mass regularly, has taught CCD, taken [REDACTED] religious "field trips," and is insistent that [REDACTED] attend Catholic school.