

**EXHIBIT “3”**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA - NORTHEASTERN DIVISION

HISPANIC INTEREST COALITION  
OF ALABAMA; *ET AL.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ROBERT BENTLEY, in his official capacity as  
Governor of the State of Alabama; *et al.*

Defendants.

RT. REV. HENRY N. PARSLEY, JR., in his  
official capacity as Bishop of the Episcopal  
Church in the Diocese of Alabama, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

ROBERT BENTLEY, in his official capacity as  
Governor of the State of Alabama; *et al.*

Defendants.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Plaintiffs,

v.

STATE OF ALABAMA;  
GOVERNOR ROBERT J. BENTLEY,

Defendants.

STATE OF ALABAMA)  
COUNTY OF MOBILE )

**AFFIDAVIT OF ARCHBISHOP THOMAS J. RODI**

1. My name Thomas J. Rodi. I am over the age of nineteen (19) years and am competent to give this affidavit. I have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein.

2. This affidavit is submitted in support of a Motion for Preliminary Injunction filed by the Plaintiffs in Case No. 5:11-cv-2736-CLS, styled *Rt. Reverend Henry N. Parsley, Jr., etc., et al., v. Robert Bentley, etc., et al.*

3. I am the Catholic Archbishop for the Archdiocese of Mobile. Under both Canon law and civil law, I am head of the Church in this particular geographical location. I am responsible for the spiritual health and well-being of the clergy and religious and this Archdiocese, as well as the faithful that reside in the Archdiocese of Mobile. The Archdiocese consists of the 28 counties roughly approximating the southern one-half of the State of Alabama, and includes 86 parishes and missions ministering to approximately 68,000 Catholics. In addition to these Catholics in our parishes, the Church through its Catholic Charities programs assists approximately 43,000 individuals, through our Catholic elementary and secondary schools ministers to 6,520 students, and through our parish youth religious education programs ministers to approximately 4,551 youth. These ministries are provided to all, regardless of their civil status before the law. As a denomination, the Catholic Church is committed to helping people meet their most basic needs. Catholics are called by God, as evidenced in the Scriptures, to witness the love of God through compassionate care of all God's children, as Jesus did.

4. The law which the Church is challenging attacks our very understanding of what it means to be a Christian, as demonstrated in the Gospel of Matthew:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels are with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me

drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared/or me, in prison and you visited me. 'Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'" (Matthew 25:31-41)

5. Essential to the Christian faith and the core tenants of the Catholic Church are that we preach the word of God to all that will hear, and minister to the needs of all who come to the Church for help. The Church embraces in the love of God all those who come to it, and provides for their spiritual needs through attendance at Mass, participation in religious education programs, and the administration of the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, the Eucharist, penance and reconciliation, anointing of the sick, and marriage. These ministries are provided to all without regard to national origin, and whether or not the person is a citizen, an alien with proper government documentation, or an undocumented alien. This law criminalizes the conduct of our priests, deacons and laity when they are administered to persons without proper documentation. This law criminalizes the efforts of the Church to bring undocumented immigrants into the fold of the Church.

6. In addition to these ministries, we as Catholics are called as a part of our faith to offer many other ministries which are under this law criminalized. Many of our churches house Alcoholics Anonymous or other recovery groups. Our clergy provide spiritual counseling at our churches, and counseling in preparation for marriage. These activities are prohibited by this law. Our outreach programs include pregnancy counseling, which will become illegal if provided to undocumented immigrant, and our adoption placement services will be illegal if involving an undocumented immigrant. Our operation of a home for unwed mothers will be criminalized if an undocumented immigrant was being assisted. Transportation to and from Mass or other religious

services are criminalized under this act. Our ministries also include providing apartments for senior citizens, a nursing home for adults, a refugee center, English language classes, a newspaper, adult religious education programs, campus ministries, Hispanic ministries, deaf ministry, marriage enrichment programs, and prison ministries. All of these activities represent ministries of the Archdiocese of Mobile which are made illegal under this act to the extent they are provided to persons without proper documentation. The law prohibits almost every activity of our Catholic Social Services. If it involves an undocumented immigrant, it is illegal to give a disabled person a ride to the doctor, give food or clothing or financial assistance in an emergency, allow them to shop at our thrift stores or to learn English, to provide family counseling, or to help a mother with baby food or diapers.

7. Additionally, the parochial school system is also an integral ministry of the Catholic Church and the Archdiocese of Mobile. The enrollment of undocumented students and the bringing of undocumented parents of those children into the parish church and school life causes our schools and parish clergy to violate this law. Our schools will continue to accept undocumented immigrants as a part of the Church's ministry. However, this is a source of great concern for our schools, administrators and teachers.

8. All of these described activities, which are core to the central beliefs and values of the Catholic Church, are restricted by this law which criminalizes these ministries to undocumented immigrants. The love of Christ compels us to serve our neighbor. To cease to welcome and assist a neighbor, even neighbors who are undocumented, would mean that we would cease to be a church. This law criminalizes activity which we believe is at the core of what it means to be a church. We believe that any law which causes us to be criminals by virtue of practicing the core values of Christianity is illegal and violates our constitutional right to freely exercise our faith.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Thomas J. Rodi  
THOMAS J. RODI  
Archbishop of Mobile

STATE OF ALABAMA )  
COUNTY OF MOBILE )

Personally appeared before me the undersigned Notary Public in and for said state in said county, Thomas J. Rodi, who being known to me, and by me being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he has read the foregoing affidavit and the statements therein are true and correct.

Given under my hand and official seal on this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

Laver C. Carls  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
My Commission Expires: 11/02/2013