



Fact Sheet

Planned Parenthood v. Troy Newman, Center for Medical Progress, and others

Summary

The Center for Medical Progress was founded by three pro-life activists who served as original board members: **Troy Newman**, President of Operation Rescue; **Albin Rhomberg**, a long-time California pro-life political activist; and **David Daleiden**.

On July 14, 2015, the Center for Medical Progress released the first of a series of summary videos taken during a three-year undercover investigation into the illegal sale of aborted baby tissues and organs. Those videos clearly showed Planned Parenthood executives discussing the sale of aborted baby body parts for profit and displayed admissions that abortion procedures were altered to ensure that organs were intact for harvesting and sale, in **violation of state and federal laws**.

The CMP also released interview excerpts with a former employee of the organ procurement company **StemExpress**, which embedded her inside Planned Parenthood clinics for the purpose of obtaining aborted baby tissues and organs. She revealed the most shocking of all admissions: babies were being **born alive** during abortions with their hearts still beating so that the freshest of organs could be harvested and sold for maximum profit.

As a result the U.S. House and Senate both launched their own investigations and issued **criminal referrals** to state Attorneys General and the U.S. Department of Justice in December 2016. After some delay, **federal criminal investigations** were initiated against at least five Planned Parenthood organizations and continue to be active today.

In 2016, in an effort to punish those involved in the undercover journalism and to stop the CMP from releasing additional incriminating evidence **Planned Parenthood** filed suit in United States District Court for the Northern District of California, located in San Francisco. Planned Parenthood is **seeking millions of dollars** in damages and attorney fees. That case is set for trial beginning on October 3, 2019, and is expected to run 4-6 weeks.

10 Plaintiffs

- Planned Parenthood Federation of America (national organization)
- Planned Parenthood Shasta Diablo (California)
- Planned Parenthood Pacific Southwest (California)
- Planned Parenthood Los Angeles (California)
- Planned Parenthood Mar Monte (California)
- Planned Parenthood Orange and San Bernardino Counties (California)
- Planned Parenthood of Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties (California)
- Planned Parenthood Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley (California)
- Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains (Colorado)
- Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast/Planned Parenthood Center for Choice (Texas)

6 Defendants

- **Troy Newman** – Defended by Jay Sekulow and a team of attorneys from the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ)
- **Albin Rhomberg** – Defended by Life Legal Defense Foundation (LLDF)
- **Sandra Merritt** – Defended by Mat Staver of the Liberty Counsel
- **Center for Medical Progress** – Defended by Tom Brejcha and team of the Thomas Moore Society
- **BioMax Procurement Services** - Defended by Tom Brejcha and team of the Thomas Moore Society
- **David Daleiden** -- Defended by Tom Brejcha and team of the Thomas Moore Society

1 Judge

Trying this case is Obama-appointed U.S. District Court **Judge William Horsley Orrick III.**

Interesting Facts

- The public release of the CMP videos prompted **unprecedented news coverage** and forced each of the 2016 Democrat presidential candidates to make statements, most of which initially expressed shock and discomfort with Planned Parenthood's trafficking in aborted baby body parts.
- A second lawsuit was brought against the defendants by the **National Abortion Federation**, which obtained a gag order blocking the release of additional video footage. That suit has been put on hold until the conclusion of the Planned Parenthood case.
- Planned Parenthood hired an essentially unknown company to produce a so-called "forensic" video analysis to discredit the videos. That company was **Fusion GPS**, which would later be hired by the Clinton Campaign and the Democratic National Committee to produce the fake Steele Dossier against GOP candidate and later President Donald J. Trump.
- At the time of the video releases, **Kamala Harris** served as California Attorney General. She conducted a raid on Daleiden's apartment and seized his computer equipment and undercover video files. She did so after receiving large campaign contributions from Planned Parenthood. Harris is now a Democrat candidate for President.
- As a result of the videos, the Trump Administration instituted the **Protect Life Rule**, which prohibits any organization that conducts or refers for abortions from receiving Title X family planning grants. This has deprived Planned Parenthood of an estimated \$60 million in taxpayer funding each year.
- The videos inspired efforts by Republicans to pass the **Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act of 2019**, which would provide criminal penalties for anyone that allows babies born alive during abortions to die without providing medical aid, or who commit infanticide. So far, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, an ardent supporter of Planned Parenthood, has refused dozens of times GOP efforts to bring this bill to a vote.