

To: Interested Parties
From: Accountable.US
RE: Conservative Kingpin Leonard Leo Orchestrated Abortion Pill Challenge
Date: March 21, 2024

On March 26, the Leonard-Leo-backed Supreme Court will hear arguments in the most significant reproductive freedom case since Dobbs. In *FDA v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine (AHM)*, the fate of the abortion pill hangs in the balance.

Despite mifepristone's decades-old approval by the FDA, conservatives are laser-focused on eliminating access to abortion, making it clear that overturning *Roe* was just the beginning. And the usual right-wing suspects are the driving force behind this latest effort by the anti-choice movement.

Research from Accountable.US outlines the role that Alliance Defending Freedom, a right-wing legal group infamous for shepherding extreme, manufactured cases to the Supreme Court, in this case - propping up a dubious coalition of right-wing anti-abortion activists serving as the plaintiff.

And, of course, right-wing judicial activist Leonard Leo's fingerprints are all over this challenge. His efforts extend beyond handpicking the Supreme Court Justices poised to eliminate the last remaining option for millions of Americans.

From his deep connections to the fifth circuit judge who threw the fate of the abortion pill into legal jeopardy to bankrolling the plaintiff in this case, Leo continues to lead the anti-choice movement every step of the way and push his radical, unpopular agenda to new lengths.

Leonard Leo Has Deep Financial and Political Ties to Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk

- ["Loose cannon"](#) Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk issued a decision in Spring 2023, outlawing the abortion pill mifepristone in one of the most consequential abortion rulings in the post-*Roe* era.
- Recent reporting [revealed](#) that Kacsmaryk was likely hand-picked for this case by the defendant, AHM, who has no ties to his northern Texas jurisdiction beyond a piece of paper conveniently stating the panhandle town of Amarillo as its location.
- Kacsmaryk, a member of the Federalist Society, was appointed to the bench [in 2019 by President Donald Trump](#). Leonard Leo is widely recognized as Trump's [court whisperer](#).
- Kacsmaryk's [connections](#) to Leo's Federalist Society extend beyond membership.

- He founded the Fort Worth, TX Chapter, and at the time of his appointment, Kacsmark served as the chapter's [vice president and programs director](#).
- In fact, Kacsmark spoke at the [Louisiana Federalist Society event](#) the same day briefs were due in the abortion pill case.
- Prior to his nomination as District Court Judge, Kacsmark [worked](#) at First Liberty Institute, a right-wing legal organization. Following Trump's selection of Kacsmark, CRC Advisors, Leo's consulting firm, paid First Liberty over a [hundred thousand dollars per year](#).

Leo's Network of Republican Attorneys General Joined The Case.

- 22 Republican Attorneys General [filed](#) a brief in FDA v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine, supporting outlawing mifepristone.
- Leo's Concord Fund was the [top contributor](#) to the Republican Attorneys General Association (RAGA) in 2022, with a \$1 million donation.

The plaintiff, Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine, is nothing more than a front group for the extremist lawyers at the Alliance Defending Freedom.

- The plaintiff, [Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine \(AHM\)](#), is a [coalition of right-wing pseudo-medical groups](#), which the medical community has widely discredited for peddling conspiracies and pushing fake science with a mission to protect "the vulnerable at the beginning and end of life."
- Disclosures from AHM suggest it doesn't appear to actively fundraise from the public, and this lawsuit appears to be purely a project of [Alliance Defending Freedom](#) (ADF).

Using his \$1.6 billion financial windfall, Leo bankrolled the coalition at the center of the challenge.

- [Tax documents](#) and [reporting](#) suggest that Leo may have deployed nearly \$10 million from Marble Freedom Trust, which houses his \$1.6 billion slush fund, to back AHM through its member organization, The American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG).
- AAPLOG seemingly leads AHM, as its CEO served as [the first board chair and signed paperwork](#) at the group's inception.

The Dark Money Trail

Marble
Freedom
Trust

\$153.8M

Schwab
Charitable
Fund

\$9.25M

Catholic
Association
Foundation

\$1M

American
Association
of
Pro-Life
OBGYNs

Leo's plan to outlaw abortion nationwide remains clear: **fund right-wing organizations to make dubious legal arguments to overturn laws he doesn't like and then stack the courts with right-wing judges who rule in his favor.**

Next week, it's the abortion pill. But make no mistake - Leo will continue his push his agenda to eliminate reproductive rights until American policies are in line with his **extreme, right-wing vision.**