NTAG-SIEGEL, NANCY LUND, LIE SA N and ROBERT VOEL KER Plai¹ DI CLARA FOR Y AND IN JUNCTI'VE F ELIEF AND ٧. N@MINAL DAI "IAGES ROWAN COUNTY, NOI: H CAROLINA, i ant. Def INTRODUCTION a becomes more diverse, so also will our faith. 3. To plant se i irian 1. government is a prescription for religious discord. In chi shes, prayers at the heart of lo peyond number, citizens practice diverse faiths that lift and 1 homes, and private setting But in Their public pursuits, Americans respect the manifold both personal and cir ic lift. sectari mism and embracing mous inclusive the mes."

2. admonition to hear : compatible with the eligible Fourth Circuit's clear pre delivered at county commit

of fellow citizens by abjum

3. Row n Co willfully flout the le w, re "

ty, Nor h Carolina, on the other hand, continues to knowing and arly violating the constitutional hights of local citizens by chaning

liberty guarantee of the First Am endment nor permissible unger the

Carolina, many counties have taken the Fourth Circuit's

lent, those counties have adopte I policies that require involved

ognizing that sectarian legislative prayer practices are

oner meetings to be nonse ctarian

¹ Joyner v. Forsyth Cnty.

³ F.3d 341, 345 (4th Cir. 2011) (holding country's sectarian grayer practice unconstitutional) is firt. denied, 132 S. Ct. 1097 (2012).

meetings of its Board of Commissioners with Christian player. Since Note that the same state of the sa

4. This case is bround to purpose and to 42 U.S.C. § 11 to challenge the constitutionality of Defendant I country's practice of delivering section prayer at meetings of its Board of Community oners. Plaintiffs Nancy Lund, Lie Mag-Siegel, and Robert Voelker (collectively, "Plaintiffs") to any this laws uit to visidicat the property of the Constitution of North Carolin.

JUR DICTION

- 5. This action is broug pursu at to 42 U.S.C. § 1933, the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and Article I, §§ 13 and 1 ft I Constitution of North Carolina. This Court has sall let-mater jurisdiction over the fede contitutional claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 at 1343(a) (3) and supplemental jurisdiction over the state constitutional claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 167(a).
- Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 a 2202. Plaintiffs' action for njunc his real f is authorized by the foregoing statutes and by Rul 55 of the Federal Rules of Civil Prophilists.

ENUE

7. Venue is proper in the Court Firsuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 1

P | RTIES

8. Plaintiff Nancy Lur de la long lime citizen and resident of war ounty, North Carolina. She has been active in the Rowal County community or year. example, she serves as a volunteer tutor and be a liment of for the Literacy Council. The lateracy has taken an

interest in a lamer our issues before the Rowan County Foard of Comm atten I a null iber (f Board meetings since 2004. For example, L und ha on May 7, 1012; May 21, 2012; Jan lary 7, 2013; Heb uary 4, 2013; a each of the se meetings, Lund was subjected to off cial sectarian continue at and and meetings to fellow local is such of in telest.

s, promp : her to led Boar | meetings (;13. At pruary 18 Luṇd

Lu nd objects to and it offended by the Board's sectaring the practical because it affiliates the County with one particular faith, Christianity, and his message plat the County and its Commissioners havor adperents of that thath. As Lund not subscribe to the religious beliefs pare moted by the phayers, the prayers from the community and the local process. At meetings, spanish feels properly and to partic spate in the dectarian prayers.

Christia in d does e her fee | |x| cluded

County, No, ith Carolina. She has been active in the community for year party or example the has been a volu steer at The Faithful Friends, a local animal shelter. She is Tikve h syn gogu in Davidson, Nor h Carolina. As a retired middle 1 libraria is with the Rowen County-S alisbury School System, she is very interested in edical This interes has led her to attend a rumber of Board meetings since has led her to attend a rumber of Board meetings since has led her to attend a rumber of Board meetings since the April 11, 201 2, Board meeting at di more recently, the March 4, 2, and menting up. She intends to Intimine attending meetings in the future, especially when some local set will be considered.

member to the Kol a nal fund

11. Montag-Siegel object; to and is offended by the High sectoring because they promote religious belief; to which she does not substitute pausing I to excluded at meetings and from the community. She feels that the pre-

the ounty and ne Board favor C is tians and that non-Cl ristins, like he are latsiders. In addition, at me ags, such as the april 16, 2012, and Marc 14, 1013, meetings, hontage Siegel felt perced into articipating in the Financi's sectarian prayers, which are not in accordance with here wish fait.

- Nor Carolina He has been active in the Rowan County community for lears. For example, Voe cer has at ded Board meetings on March 5, 2012; A wil 2 2012; Ar il 16, 012; May 7, 2012 January 2013; February 4, 2013; and March 4, 2013 In particular, he has blosely followed the E d's consideration of educational is sues, in bluding its recent debate on the new Row in County blisbury School Administration building. Vicely a rintends by continue at ending Boal meeting (1) follow local issues of interest to him.
- each of the Boa diffuserings he has attentied, Voellier has been subjected to official sectarial prayer. He objects to and is offended by the Board's sectorian player fractice beet use it affiles the County with conseparation of the faith, Coristian inity, and and sectorial massing get that the county and sectorial sectorial process and community and the local political process. At the lings, the also feels prestured to sectorial participate in the sectorian prayers because all Continuous descriptions. At the lings, the also feels prestured to sectorial participate in the sectorial prayers because all Continuous descriptions. All the lings and the invocation is improbable followed by the Pladge of All giance, for thick Voelker feels strongly that he needs to stantil.
- 14. Tring the public comments portion of a recent Boar meeting, Joelker expressed his a recent about the Boar I's sectarian prayer reactive and proposed a non-sectarian prayer that the Board could instead use to open its meetings. He proposed this non-sectarian

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member who will do so. The Board agergiver all spically leads the Pledge of Legia although, an occusio, a sea Boy St. Tre op Legial lead the pledge ecitation.

B parc me note is alway and dur r ; invocation and p ge and get a ally their heads during the prayer

The against or the June 6, 200 and Augu t 2008, mer tings a not access be only However, the military for the emechants (attached 1 to as Exhibit B) in firm which elice to typical pattern of Carl to Drown, Involving on, and Post of Allegiance.

nila , i most audie the members in attendance stand for the invocation 24. a is duing the brayer. pledge and bo iii ieir

S ctaria Prayers at Board Meetings

bm | | by ember 5, 20 7, through the present, nearly every Board meeting in it buation 4 Spe fically, 139 of 143 Board meetings opened with sect tin p griod Put a other way, 97% of Board meetings in the past f ve-a atur s ectar in pra s. half years lav

ore Wec fical y, all the sectarian prayers delivered by Floatd members tian it h by nding with one or more references to Jesus Christ or other b and doctri le control iffic for thrist unity. Though a name of the control of the in respect "in sus' name," "in the name of Jesus the Christ," "i he following sec name of J such in the nowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," "in the name of J way o salva ion," 'h Christ's name, for His sake," "in the name of Jesu d Left of Lords," " the name of Jesus and for the sake of His king dom The ough Jesus Thrist our Lord," "in the name of our Risen Lord,

for

dissenting (c) 图 who belie 'e i example, held sure, a pra lyea 🤇 5 At two hee! the audier ce lill March 19 20 11 name." While!

inity e ces Jusus is cetarian."). t ref y ir n m

⁴ A "sect ria pray has ben de hed as one that "uses ideas or images identified v ha 1. . It lee v. Veism 1, 505 U.S. 577, 588 (1992). See also id. at 641 Scal ing sectari n pra ir as one "specifying details upon which men and w bene lo ent, a mnipc int Creator and Ruler of the world are known to diffe f Chris "); . wner, 653 F. 3d at 364 (Niemeyer, J., dissenting) (" s, then Compission r Coltrain (who is no longer a Board member) aske

a moment silence or prayer for our meeting" rather than eciti wo le tings were ald on June 4, 2012, and August 20, 2012. In additic and to vember 5, 2, 12, Coltrain prayed "in His holy name" and "in you, oly inti onsider Col ain's prayers "in His holy name" and "in your Holy r for all poses of the Complaint, Plaintiffs counted only those prayers hat ist, on the "Stylor" as clearly Christian.

Christ," "Jesus our Savior," " my Lord ar d S. hior s na ne," da, j Savior, Jesus (hrist."

- Many of the payers delive ed ard nee 27. В $\frac{3}{2}$ doctrine and tenets to an even greater exten-P ex mp , tl delivered at Board meetings since November 20 11:
 - a. Father, we thank you for your fract and you gle evening as we conduct the business! R war Co have your will as a relates to ell thou bu den and County have today. As we get radius o cilebi ste !!! thank you for the Argin Birth, we'd like to thank we'd like to thank ou for the resurtation. Bleat one way to sa vatt pin, and that is Jewes (thris I life Jesus. Amen. December 3, 2007 (emphass 3 add ad)
 - b. Lettus pray. Our I beavenly Fattler, the will never unless your life is in us. You saved we and you can the recipients of your immeasurable meach and glod wolld. Because of our salvation upwould our My defrated, we cann be destroyed, and we won't be denis vecause we're soing to live forever with Film. We confess on a sins and very lik year, for forgiveness, and we thank you for you? blessings. I ask sou to be with Ro yan County this evening, and and there thing! sale of His Kingden. Amen. June 2, 30 308 (em phas)
 - c. Oul Heavenly Father, we will never be veriforget til is in us. We are the recipients of your im near male. can't be destroyed and we won't win devised, becker to oe he salvation through the Load Jesus Christ I ask you to be with us is visione of he business of Rowar. County this evening, and continue in blass every friends, and our homes. I ask all the et ings in friends families f Jesus, Amen. May 18 2019 (emphas is ad lied).
 - Le us pray. Fath ; I pray that all ay re of e all u, 1 er, are in Jesus and He in you. I pray that they may betone why u, that they pray believe that you sen d. Le us pray. Fath, I pray tha all ay re of early Jesus to save us firm our sins. May the hange artifairs a m righteousness, be made perfect in hollines and be presented, who e de lent spirit, soul, and body irr proachable at the coming of our Cor I Je us will continue to blass this nation, because with out in the ings, we don't have any hope. I ask all the se things in the man me of Je us. I len. 1 stober 5, 2009 (Emphasi's ad/led).

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> incorporated Christian s l √a e llo invocations have been iw⊪n∥

you to be with us this We /. V 🎒 also like to as you to oblife the citizens of Rowan Chi e Mias season, we'l like to for the Cross at Calv my, and re i hillieve that ther is only all de things in the name of 1/ 33 :

If that we are 1 of alive s wild ghe holy calling. We are Ve the richest peor e in the Joan Christ, we connot be as conduct the buliness of the Vie ne of Jesus and for the |||dde||#|a

🏴 hot alive unless vour life ve a rac The can't be defeated, we lin luttoom, our families, ou

st. 19 1 pray, Father, that you

- e. I leave the Father, we give you thanks for the many, many blesses as that you give and every day, especially during this time of the year well in we clebrat b irth e reyour Son, cur Savior, who can e to s how us how we sho it interact with o ther In the benefit of each other. As serva its for this community the or missioners to really precice that principle so that we had have a pos e ffect on the lives of the citizen's of the county, for your honor n ame Ge pray. Amon. Decembe: 13, 2/110 (comphasis acided).
 - y please help nd glory. In Je
- f. Let us pray. Holy Spirit, open our heaters to Christ's teaching spread His message amongst the people we know and love three red words in everyday lifes. In Jesu's' name I pray. All (emph | sis added).

and enable i gh the applyir r. March 7.

g. Let us pray. Lord, we confess that we have not loved you will m ind and strength, and that we have r of loved one another as # have a so neglected to follow the guida ree of the Holy Spirit, and have allowed s enter i to our lives. Forgive us for what we've been and by your spirit, direct of we she I be. In Jesus' name I pre y. Anthen. I ugust 1, 2011 (emp.) sis added).

all our heart. hrist loved us.

h. Let us pray. Merciful God, although you mide all people in you that we flive with deep division. Although you sent Jesus to be Soll or of the world confest that we treat Him as our own personal God. Although the are one, and body de Christ is one, we fail to display that unity in our worship, our mission, our fellowship. Forgive our pride and arrogance, heal our spills, and renew vi sion For the sake of your Sor, our Bayion, the Lord Jesus Charles, Amen. Oct 3, 201 (emphasis added).

image, we con

Let us pray. Father we do thank you felt you love, merey, and you grace. We the you fo I this time of the year when we relebiliate the birth of Jenist. Lord re alize that the most important hing was not His birtia, but His death that ma way follows to have life, and have it more abundantly. We pray will would be with to day; "sive us grace and mercy. Lord, give is wisdom in the dissions that we i to mal &. I pray that you would help up, Go, I, to guide this could in a way that would see fit. Lord, we thank you for it. In Fesus' name, Amen. December 19, 2 (e mph sis added).

Lest us pray. Our Heavenly Father, who will hever even forget what we are not a unless your life is in us. We have been blessed to be the recipients of in meet urable grace. We can't be defeated, we can't be destrough, and we can denied because we are going to live for ever with you tarough the salvation of J Christ Lord, be with us today and provide us with your sufferne guidance wisdon as we conduct the business of Rowan County. And, as the pick up the County we wil sproclaim His name above all numes, as the only way to emrinal life. I ask in the Dame of the King of King's, the Lord of Lords, Jesus Chillst. March 5, 2 (e mph ¹sis added).

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k.	$ L _{!}$	u	s pray.	- Dro	1 17	ا ال	⊥ lo	κ to	the	world fe	strength or encouragement, but we will protect and guard that which
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											d Savior, Amen. May 21, 201
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publicly p	roc	ir.	ied to	()	San P		1 2	l im	e of	ffering (ristian prayers. For example, ther
F	J.				it ita	1 2 1 1 1 1	1.0	ηi, T,	1		t ·
Commissi	one E		arl Fo						neu	rs statio	"I will continue to pray in Jesus
COMMINSSI	VINI ,		GIT TO	. J	R 6 1 1.	ا را ایلانچ	griov. β		1104	75 Statio	1 will commute to play in sesti

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name. I am not r	er ect	I need all the help I can get, and ask for guidance 1 y de ins
from Jesus is the	t st	and Rowan County, can ever hope David Wh mt, U:
Sectarian Openir	ray	s at Community Meetings Need to 5 , WBTV (Feb. 201: 20
AM),	attr	'salisbury.wbtv.com/news/news/7144 clu-sectarian-c ng-p rs-
commissioner-me	at gs	ed-stop. And Commissioner Jim Si vvrote in an er btai by
the press, "I will	outim	to pray in JESUS name I volum to be the first to be to
this cause and	if /or	Commissioner Mitchell] will go my lin time for the meeting, I
will go again!" I		
32. De	e lari	s sectarian prayers have promoted visiveness in light in C
Most recently, for	ir tar	, the March 5, 2012, Board meeting tured many div
and exchanges re	at 1g	sectarian prayer during the public dussion portion le m g.
For example, Ro	ra C	nty resident, Shakeisha Gray, was just collect by audience in the property of the state of the s
expressing oppos	ic 1 tc	ne Board's use of sectarian prayers. dec: Rowan C y Bc of
Commissioners	M ;dia	Archive, March 5, 2012, 17:00-49:33, lilab at
http://www.rowar	xc inty	2.gov/GOVERNMENT/Commission cliaArchive.asj
		CLAIMS FOR RELIEF
	<u>Es</u>	blishment Clause Violation (42 U.S. § 1983)
33. Pla	n ffs	-allege and incorporate by reference of the precedin agra for
this Complaint as	\mathbf{f}_{\perp} ally	et out herein.
34. By	D fer	unt's conduct alleged above, Defenda nas violated, an cont ng

to violate, Plaintings rights under the Establishment Clause of Pirst Amenda

Constitution and the south senth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

3 Defend	at's past and tinue to try invitions at its and of
	gs, as alleged a /e, count is a ficia folicy practice ustom,
and/or us ge for purpo	
The cus	om, practice, and of the state of the practice, and of the state of th
the const utional viola	
3 Specific	ally, Defendant invo in pra un nstit ionally filiates
Defendar with one pa	icular faith, Chri nity.
3 Defende	ut's invocation p ice h t ime urpc and ffect of moting
and adva sing one par	t cular faith, Chris lity.
3! Defend	int's invocation ractic im erly ador as one th. A
reasonab , objective	11
i i	and continues to Idorso Dani
40 Defenda	at's invocation prince fine perciper of the property of the pr
sectarian exercises a	d messages as concluded for a ling leeting of the local
governmental body, Ro	12
4 Unless	strained by this ourt, I fe did to onti to object Pl iffs to tom, policy, and outice a Pl ffs in parab harm b enying
this unco stitutional cu	tom, policy, and actice a Plan ffs in parab harm b enying
them thei fundamenta	constitutional right to be the large
legislativ prayer prac	ices and govern that control of arian ractices at monthly of
legislativ	
42 Plaintiff	have no adeque reme with the deal of their fundmental
constituti nal rights.	

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Constitut n of North Carolina Violation

- 4: Plais re-allege and incorporate the preceding paragraphs of this mplaint if full set out he rei
- Defe lant's Boald ommissioner also violates Art cle I, §§ 13 and 19 of the Continuition

 Nort Carolina, which has been had to require religious neutrality equal to the required by the U.S. astitution.

R LIEF REQ JES TED

Pl sintiffs ref fully request ne following relief:

- 1. A de light atory judgment declaring that I Defendant's custom, policy, is in practice as all sec above, virtues the United states and North Carolina Constitutions;
- At i stion preliminarily and, the real ter permanently, enjoining E encant, i office s, a gents, affiles, s, subsiquare servants, en ployees, successors, assigns, tho persons active concert or parapation with E fendant, and all other persons within the scope of Federal Rule of Civil Processors, assigns, tho persons within the scope of Federal Rule of Civil Processors, assigns, thought and or intentionally delivering or all of the Rowall County Board of Commissione
- 3. Entry judgment for laintiffs against Defendant for nominal damag of \$1;

 4. And that Defend at pay Plaint ffs reasonable expenses and attempting the pursuant of 42 U.S. 1988; and
 - 5. Such far and further elief as the Cour, seems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>Christopher A. Brook</u> Clasistopher A. Brook N Bar No. 33838 Le al Director, American C ivil Liberties Union of $\|$ North Carc lina Legal For indation Polit Office Bpx 28004 Relieigh, North Carolina 270 11 Tele ephone: (1919) 834-3466 Fe simile: (1)66) 511-1344 Er ail: cbrook@acluofnc.o g \mathbf{D} niel Mach* C. Bar No. 461652 \mathbf{D}_{\parallel} He ather L. Weaver* 3. Bar No. 495582 D A LU Program on Freedor 1 of Religion and Belief 91 i 15th Strept, NW W shington, DC 20005 : (202) 67.5-2330 T Fe :: (202) 546-0738 En ail: dmach @aclu.org h eaver@aclu.org ppearing pursuant to Lo cal Rule 83.1(d)

Cunsel for Flaintiffs

DATED: March 12, 2013

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby cer ify that on March 12, 2013, I electronically filed the foregoing Complaint with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system which will send not fication of such following counsel:

Jay Dees Ketner & Dees, P.A 121 East Kerr Street Salisbury, NC 2814 jay@ketnerlaw.com Counsel for Defendant

This s the 12th day of March, 2013.

/s/ Christop her A, Brook Christopher A, Brook

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