## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

ETERNAL WORD TELEVISION NETWORK, INC.,

and

STATE OF ALABAMA,

Plaintiffs,

v.

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, et al.,

**Defendants** 

No. 1:13-cv-521

EWTN'S UNOPPOSED RENEWED MOTION TO EXPEDITE THE CASE AND FOR ORAL ARGUMENT

Plaintiff EWTN respectfully renews its motion to expedite consideration of its partial motion for summary judgment and its request for oral argument. As of July 1, 2014, EWTN will become subject to penalties of \$12,775,000 per year, be forced to violate its Catholic faith by participating in the government's contraceptive delivery scheme, or be forced to violate its faith by dropping insurance for its employees *and* paying approximately \$700,000 per year in penalties. *See* Dkt. 29-9 at ¶¶ 53-64. This impending deadline is creating significant pressure on EWTN's religious beliefs, its ministry, and its relationship with employees, donors, and audience. *Id.* at ¶¶ 64-65. That pressure has grown recently as EWTN engages in

the extensive and complicated preparations required to provide employee healthcare

in the coming year, and it will only increase as the deadline grows nearer. Id. at ¶

65; Newland v. Sebelius, 881 F. Supp. 2d 1287, 1294-95 (D. Colo. 2012), aff'd 542

F. App'x 706 (10th Cir. 2013) (recognizing the harm caused to the "extensive

planning involved in preparing and providing" an employee health benefit plan by

Mandate-imposed pressure and uncertainty). The continued pressure, and the

uncertainty about the future that it creates, also harms EWTN's efforts to maintain

its ministry by recruiting and retaining high-quality employees. *Id.* at  $\P$ ¶ 21, 60, 65.

To relieve this pressure, EWTN respectfully requests that this Court grant

expedited consideration to this case and schedule oral argument, or a date of

disposition, as soon as possible.

EWTN's counsel has conferred with counsel for the Defendants concerning this

renewed motion and Defendants continue to consent to expediting the case, and do

not object to EWTN's request for oral argument.

Respectfully submitted this 20th day of March, 2014,

/s/ Daniel Blomberg

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2

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on March 20, 2014, the foregoing motion and memorandum was served via ECF.

/s/ Daniel Blomberg

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