IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA SOUTHERN DIVISION

JAMES N. STRAWSER, et al.,)	
Plaintiffs,)	
VS.)))	CIVIL ACTION NO. 14-0424-CG-C
LUTHER STRANGE, in his official capacity as Attorney General for the State of Alabama, et al.,	,	

permanent injunction and final judgment should be granted.

I. Motion to Withdraw as Class Representative and as Class Counsel

Defendant Davis asks to withdraw because he does not want to continue to repres

the Earth, Inc. v. Laidlaw Envtl. Servs., Inc., 528 U.S. 167, 174 (2000)). "A case becomes moot only 'if subsequent events made it absolutely clear that the allegedly wrongful behavior could not reasonably be expected to recur.' " Id. (quoting Laidlaw supra). "Th

orders in this case or the Court's holding therein that the Sanctity of Marriage

Amendment, art. I, § 36.03, Ala. Const. 1901, and the Alabama Marriage Protection

Act, § 30-1-9, Ala. Code 1975, are constitutional." Ex parte State ex rel. Alabama

Policy Inst., 2016 WL 859009, at *5, *39 (Ala. Mar. 4, 2016). Chief Justice Moore

went further to state that "[t]he Obergefell opinion, being manifestly absurd and

unjust and contrary to reason and divine law, is not entitled to precedential value."

Id. at *28. Chief Justice Moore also stated that the Eleventh Circuit's finding that
the Alabama Supreme Court's order was abrogated by the Supreme Court's decision
in Obergefell "is plainly wrong." Id. at *34.

This Court is aware that Chief Justice Moore is currently suspended from his position and is facing charges before the Alabama Court of the Judiciary. However, even if Chief Justice Moore is not reinstated to his position as Chief Justice, the concurring opinions of several other Alabama Supreme Court Justices also expressed disagreement with Obergefell. Justice Bolin and Justice Parker also stated that the Order dismissing the mandamus petitions was not a "decision on the merits," indicating that the mandamus order finding Alabama's marriage statutes constitutional was still in effect. Id. at *40, *47. The failure of the Alabama Supreme Court to set aside its earlier mandamus order and its willingness to uphold that order in the face of the United States Supreme Court's ruling in Obergefell demonstrate the need for a permanent injunction in this case. It is clear that the decision by the United States Supreme Court in Obergefell does not

provide certainty that the alleged violations will not recur. Accordingly, the Court finds that as long as the Sanctity of Marriage Amendment and the Alabama Marriage Protection Act remain on the books, there continues to be a live controversy with respect to which the Court can give meaningful relief.

III. Motion for Permanent Injunction and Final Judgment

Plaintiffs move for entry of a permanent injunction based on the Supreme

Court's decision in <u>Obergefell</u>, upholding this Court's findings in its preliminary

injunction order. The parties have had ample opportunity to respond to the merits

of Plaintiffs' claims. The Court is not persuaded that the grant of class certification

or its other prior rulings should be reconsidered. Having found0.2 (v) -0 (n0 06-0.0.1(e) -0.2(or0