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"...you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Acts 1:8

Dear Friends,

Thank you so very much for your ongoing prayer support and financial giving during this past year. 2015 was an encouraging year for Advocates International as we lived out Acts 1:8.

The Global Resource Teams (GRT) are more engaged than ever before. The GRT for Integrity under the Rule of Law was registered with the United Nations and continues to provide excellence through its efforts under the leadership of Latcho Popov. The GRT for the Family has been engaging with World Without Orphans (WWO) and we will be leading seminars on legal implications of adoption laws around the globe at the Global Forum for WWO in February 2016.

The AI family of Christian lawyer fellowships continues to grow. After many years of prayers, we received word just last month from South Sudan that the Christian Lawyers Association of South Sudan (CLASS) was formed and is finalizing its legal registration. Many thanks to Leah Boyd and our friends from ALARM and their efforts in South Sudan for encouraging CLASS and helping them to launch themselves. CLASS is now the 127th member of AI network. Please pray for Juma Mabor and the members of CLASS as they begin their journey. They share that:

Yes indeed, we are a new born child to the Christian lawyers community but with the capable membership that we now have, we have the potential of achieving our goals and objectives in championing justice in accordance with the biblical principles and it is our hope that your continued support and prayers will strengthen our zeal to transform the administration of justice system in our nascent country.

The regions continue to strengthen the network through their regular gatherings. In February, the 12th European Religious Liberty Forum (ERLF), co-hosted by Advocates Europe, was held in Istanbul and attended by two dozen Advocates from Ireland to Georgia, Sweden to Turkey and countries in between. In June, Advocates Asia held its first sub-regional conference at Lake Issyk Kul in Kyrgyzstan for advocates from Central Asia. In August, the 11th Advocates Africa Conference, one of the best and most encouraging AI conferences ever, was held in Cape Town, South Africa. In September, the 11th Convencion Latin Americanas de Abogados Cristianos was hosted in San Salvador, El Salvador by Acercamiento de Christiano de El Salvado in conjunction with the Federacion Inter-Americana de Juristas Cristianos (FIAJC) whose members represent fifteen countries. In October, the 14th Advocates Asia Conference was held in New Delhi, India.

After leaving India at the end of October, I was blessed to attend the Arab World Evangelical Ministers' Association conference near Istanbul, where I met with Haytham Ereifej, one of our leading

Advocates from Jordan, among many others from across the Middle East and North Africa. We mutually encouraged one another and although no specific dates have been set, we were able to set the ball rolling toward a possible Advocates Middle East Conference in the next year or two. Please pray for Haytham and his colleagues from across the Arab world as they continue to face increasing persecution and difficulties.

In addition to the work of the regions, AI continues to remain engaged in collaborative partnerships such as the Religious Liberty Partnership (RLP) and the Global Kingdom Partnership Network (GKPN). The GKPN is a partnership of church leaders around the world and AI helps to provide legal counsel through its advocates. The RLP collaborates to serve the persecuted church. I serve on the RLP Leadership Team, and our annual consultation in 2015 was held in Bangkok, Thailand in March. In 2016, the RLP Consultation will be held in the UK.

This week (December 10-12), AI Board member Roger Sherrard and Judge Paul Magnusson will be in Tirana, Albania for the annual Albanian Judicial Conference. Please pray for Roger and Paul as they continue to support the Judiciary in its efforts to be properly funded by parliament and pass needed amendments to the judicial laws. Pray for their wisdom, persuasive skills and that the Lord will go before them to be effective.

In 2016, Advocates is looking forward to greater engagement of the GRTs and encouraging and strengthening the efforts of Advocates Africa, Advocates Asia, Advocates Caribbean, Advocates Europe, Advocates Oceania and FIAJC (Advocates Latin America). As noted above, the GRT for the Family will be leading seminars at the Global Forum for the WWO in Thailand and both Ruth Ross and I will be there. Immediately following that conference, I travel to Adelaide, Australia where Mark Mudri and I will meet to encourage the LCF lawyers, as well as “pre-Christian” lawyers at the International Bar Association conference. Please pray for safe travels and for opportunities to share the Gospel Down Under.

In March, I travel to Lisbon, Portugal for the GPKN gathering, followed immediately by the RLP Consultation in Oxford, England. In April, I travel to Stuttgart, Germany where *Christ und Jurist*, in partnership with Advocates France, will be hosting a continent-wide gathering, a *de facto* Advocates Europe Conference. In June, Advocates Asia is once again planning a Central Asia Conference in Kyrgyzstan, and in September will be holding the 15th Advocates Asia Conference in Brisbane, Australia, hosted by Advocates Oceania. In October, CLF Canada will be holding its national conference on the west coast and CLS will be holding its national conference in Washington, DC. Finally, the 6th Advocates Caribbean Conference is likely to be held in Guyana in the fall.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. Thank you again for your continued prayers for the work of Advocates. Without you, we would have a much more challenging time of encouraging and equipping Advocates to do justice with compassion around the globe.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His perfect . . .

Grace and Peace,



Brent McBurney
President and CEO