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## SEPTEMBER 2016

**“Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize?  
Run in such a way that you may win.” 1 Corinthians 9:24**

**“Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things.  
They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.” 1 Cor. 9:25**

**Dear Friends,**

The summer Olympics in Rio just wrapped up and I'm guessing you probably watched at least one event. When an unexpected victory happened, the winner of the gold medal was almost always overcome with emotion. Many competitors gave God the glory. Those of us who follow Paul's admonition to "run in such a way that you may win," do so to receive an imperishable prize—eternal life.

Since Advocates founding in 1991, there have been seven summer Olympics—in Barcelona, Atlanta, Sydney, Athens, Beijing, London and Rio—and seven winter Olympics—in France, Norway, Japan, USA, Italy, Canada, and Russia. With 2102 medals awarded in Rio alone, that's a lot of hard work and a lot of prizes.

In the last 25 years, we've also witnessed the growth of Christian lawyer fellowships from 10 nations up to 127 nations. Likewise an amazing number that took a lot of hard work. The encouraging difference is that the 30,000 plus advocates who are a part of the AI network are following Christ and doing what they do to receive the imperishable prize.

As we continue to encourage, equip and enable advocates to do justice with compassion, it is the one-on-one relationships that make all the difference. That is one of the primary reasons that the various conferences around the globe are a critical tool for our work. This month I will be traveling to Brisbane, Australia for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australasian Christian Lawyers Conference scheduled to from September 29-October 1. This gathering also includes the 15<sup>th</sup> Advocates Asia conference and our annual Global Council meeting. Please continue to pray with us for these critical meetings.

In addition, please pray for our colleagues in Guyana who will be hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> Advocates Caribbean Conference from November 4-6, in the capitol Georgetown. We are encouraged to see how the newest Christian lawyer fellowships, like Advocates Guyana, founded only a few years ago, is already hosting their regional conference. Many will recall that the Indonesian Christian Legal Society (ICLS), founded in late 2012, hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> Advocates Asia conference in 2014.

In 2017, we are already planning for four regional conferences. First, from February 2-5, Advocates Europe will meet together in Tenerife, Spain, hosted by Foro Evangélico del Derecho (Advocates Spain). The theme of that conference will celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Second, in August, the 12<sup>th</sup> Advocates Africa Conference will be hosted by Advocates Ghana. Third, in November, the 12<sup>th</sup> FIAJC (Advocates Latin America) Conference will be hosted by ANAJURE in Brazil.

Finally, Advocates Asia will hold its 16<sup>th</sup> annual conference in the fall at a yet to be determined city. In addition, many sub-regional and national conferences are held regularly across the globe. Continue to pray with us for each of these gatherings that bring together followers of Christ and spread the Gospel—like last year’s meeting in Cape Town that saw three young Taiwanese exchange students give their lives to Jesus during the conference.

Before all of these happen, however, we will be celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a banquet in Seattle (September 21) and here in Alexandria, Virginia (October 23). For those of you who are able to join us, I look forward to seeing you. If you are not able to be with us, please continue to pray for Advocates as we seek to fulfill our mission and vision.

We are grateful for your prayers and financial support that helps Advocates International to encourage, equip and enable our sisters and brothers around the globe to run in such a way that they may win the imperishable prize—eternal life in Christ Jesus.

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

Grace and Peace,



Brent McBurney  
President and CEO

P.S. We are excited to let you know that we will be revealing our new logo very soon.