

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EXPERTS TO DISCUSS INTELLIGENT DESIGN CASE AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER IN HONOR OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH WEEK

Philadelphia, PA (October 4, 2005) - As the first major national case on teaching intelligent design in public schools develops in our own backyard, the National Constitution Center will hold a forum about the case on Wednesday, October 19 at 6:30 p.m. The event is free, but reservations are required at 215-409-6700.

The intelligent design case involves the Dover school district, twenty miles from the Pennsylvania state capital of Harrisburg, which adopted a plan requiring ninth grade biology teachers to include a statement in their teaching of evolution that there are other theories on how humans emerged. Teachers are also to direct students' attention to the textbook, *Of Pandas and People*, embraced by intelligent design proponents.

The forum at the National Constitution Center will include advocates of both sides of the issue. The panel features Randall Wenger, lawyer for the Foundation for Thought and Ethics, the intelligent design advocacy group that produces *Of Pandas and People* and Jeremy Gunn, Director of the ACLU's Program on Freedom of Religion and Belief.

This program is being presented in honor of National Freedom of Speech Week. National Freedom of Speech Week, October 17-23, is a project of The Media Institute and the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation.

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ADD ONE/INTELLIGENT DESIGN

Located at 525 Arch Street on Philadelphia's historic Independence Mall, the National Constitution Center is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and its relevance to Americans' daily lives. Opened on July 4, 2003, the museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, "Freedom Rising". From June 10 through November 4, the museum is also featuring its first new traveling exhibition, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*. The Center is open seven days a week, and admission is \$9 for adults and \$7 for seniors ages 62 and up, children ages 4-12, and active military personnel. Children ages 3 and under are free. Group rates are also available.

The National Constitution Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and debates, and as a home for visiting scholars. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional debate, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6600 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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