

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014

CONTACT:

Luis Gonzalez

(323) 960-3500

[MediaRelations@ChurchofScientology.net](mailto:MediaRelations@ChurchofScientology.net)

## **Voice for Humanity: Defending the Rights of Parents to Protect their Children**

*In commemoration of World Humanitarian Day, the Church of Scientology honors civil rights attorney Allison Folmar, who is defending the rights of parents to protect their children from harmful psychiatric drugs.*

In honor of World Humanitarian Day, the Church of Scientology published a video August 17, featuring Constitutional and civil rights attorney Allison Folmar who practices in the Greater Detroit metropolitan area.

Folmar received a call in the middle of the night. The Michigan Department of Human Services had ordered the daughter of Maryanne Godboldo be removed from her home, claiming the mother had refused to give her daughter controversial antipsychotic medication. This led to a 12-hour standoff at Godboldo's home, including police, SWAT, helicopters, even tanks.

“I got called in to represent her,” says Folmar. “Her daughter had not had any problems until she was given the drug. This mother had a *right* to take her child off. It was harming her child. It was killing her child.”

But to properly defend the woman, Folmar needed more information and expertise. Psychiatric medication was not a subject she was familiar with.

“I certainly did not know the hazards of and the side effects of these drugs,” she says. “But then I got a call from real help—CCHR. We had facts, we had statistics.”

Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) is a nonprofit charitable mental health watchdog established by the Church of Scientology in 1969, and dedicated to eradicating psychiatric abuses and ensuring patient protection.

“I was educated on the drugs to know what the side effects are. They (the pharmaceutical companies) are not going to tell you that,” she says. “And CCHR didn’t just drop the information, you know. They were *there*. CCHR stepped up truly, I mean, it was like they had our back.”

The judge ruled the order removing 12-year-old Ariana from her mother’s home was unconstitutional. All Criminal charges against Godboldo were dropped and she and her daughter were reunited.

“We’re changing laws right now so that families never have to experience what my client experienced,” says Folmar, “so that a family never has to be broken. And that’s what human rights is about. That’s what the advocacy of CCHR is about.”

---

With headquarters in Los Angeles, California, CCHR International guides a global human rights advocacy network of some 200 chapters across 34 nations. CCHR Commissioners include physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, lawyers, legislators, government officials, educators and civil rights representatives.

---

Inspired by the words of L. Ron Hubbard, Founder of the Scientology religion, that "a being is only as valuable as he can serve others," Scientologists wholeheartedly support this and other humanitarian and social betterment programs. Participation and collaboration in these initiatives is invited and welcomed from all who seek to improve conditions for themselves and others.

For more information, visit the Scientology website at [www.Scientology.org/how-we-help/voice-for-humanity](http://www.Scientology.org/how-we-help/voice-for-humanity).



I practice in the Greater Detroit metropolitan area.

In commemoration of World Humanitarian Day, the Church of Scientology honors attorney Allison Folmar, defending the rights of parents to protect their children from harmful psychiatric drugs.