

# **EXHIBIT 9**

December 8, 2015

**VIA EMAIL ONLY:** tlanghofer@adfllegal.org

Mr. Tyson C. Langhofer  
Senior Counsel  
Alliance Defending Freedom  
15100 N. 90<sup>th</sup> Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Re: Violation of First Amendment Rights

Dear Mr. Langhofer:

NC State has reviewed the matter presented in your letter of December 2, 2015, involving Grace Christian Life (GCL) and the application of the university's solicitation regulation, REG 07.25.12, to this group. Upon NC State's review of this matter, no First Amendment rights were violated and the regulation was correctly applied in this instance. Moreover, NC State's solicitation regulation is constitutional and is in compliance with applicable law.

In regards to GCL, on multiple occasions NC State's Associate Director for Student Centers observed a representative from GCL approach numerous individuals not only to engage in a conversation about religion, but to also distribute cards and other materials with information about GCL and related religious topics. Because the group's representative was passing out written material to passersby, NC State's solicitation regulation applies.

Under the regulation, groups wishing to conduct non-commercial solicitation must contact the university's Student Involvement Office to obtain a permit for such solicitation. As provided in the regulation, Student Involvement will issue a permit for the group's solicitation, subject to reasonable time, place, or manner limits. The permitting process is applied consistently to all groups conducting solicitation, without regard to the content or viewpoint of the solicitation. The Associate Director expressed concern to various University officials and Ms. Ann Pearce, Director of the Chaplains' Cooperative Ministry, of which GCL is a member, in hopes that they could work with GCL in order to educate them about NC State's solicitation regulation and help with their compliance when conducting similar actions. NC State remains willing to work with GCL in order for them to obtain the necessary permit for conducting similar future solicitations.

Furthermore, NC State's solicitation regulation is constitutional and does not infringe on First Amendment rights. As provided above, NC State's permitting process for all types of solicitation is subject to reasonable time, place, or manner limits, without consideration of the content or viewpoint of the solicitation. Accordingly, NC State's solicitation regulation complies with applicable laws.

NC State periodically reviews its policies and practices to ensure compliance with federal and state laws as well as University policies. The university appreciates your dedication to upholding First Amendment rights, and will consider your suggested revisions in its continued review of the related policies and regulations. The university's interest in the full expression and exchange of ideas between groups and individuals with differing views will remain a hallmark of NC State and a core value which we will continue to protect and preserve.

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Sincerely,



Shawn C. Troxler

Assistant General Counsel

Xc: Dr. Michael Mullen, Vice Chancellor and Dean of Academic and Student Affairs