

Exhibit A

AFFIDAVIT OF CRAIG BANNISTER

STATE OF COLORADO)
) SS.
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER)

I, Craig Bannister, being duly sworn, hereby state the following:

- 1) I am over the age of eighteen years.
- 2) I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.
- 3) I am employed by Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado as a Press/Communications officer. Under Governor Bill Ritter, Jr., I have been employed in this capacity since the 2007 inauguration. I served in the same capacity in the administration of Governor Bill Owens.

Process for Submission and Issuance of Honorary Proclamations

- 4) As a public service, the Governor of the State of Colorado issues various honorary proclamations, photos, and letters of congratulation or recognition upon request.
- 5) I and my staff are responsible for reviewing requests for honorary proclamations and letters as they are submitted by members of the general public.
- 6) Honorary proclamation requests may be submitted via facsimile, by mail, or through the Governor’s website, at www.colorado.gov/governor.
- 7) The Governor’s office receives several hundred honorary proclamation requests every year. Nearly every proclamation that is requested is issued.
- 8) Honorary proclamation requests must be accompanied by draft language for the honorary proclamation. When a request is submitted, my staff and I review it for content.

9) If the content of the requested honorary proclamation does not seem to be problematic, or if it is similar to an honorary proclamation approved and issued in a prior year, it is approved without further review.

10) If the content of the requested honorary proclamation appears problematic, I submit it to the Director of Communications, who approves or rejects it, sometimes after consultation with legal counsel.

11) Requested honorary proclamations are occasionally rejected, although this is rare. For example, in one instance, I received a request from an individual seeking an honorary proclamation that he was of good moral character. After researching the issue, I determined that the individual had been charged and was awaiting trial for murder in New York City, and thus did not issue the honorary proclamation. Approximately five requested honorary proclamations have been rejected during Governor Ritter's administration.

12) Depending on the type of request, a letter of congratulations or recognition is occasionally more appropriate than an honorary proclamation. When this occurs, I cause a letter to be sent rather than issuing an honorary proclamation.

13) Some requested honorary proclamations are edited for content. For example, the Armenian National Committee of America annually submits an honorary proclamation request for Armenian Genocide Awareness Day. As submitted, this honorary proclamation typically contains controversial language and statements. I or my staff therefore edit the suggested language for content before approving and issuing the honorary proclamation.

14) Most honorary proclamations are not personally reviewed, approved, or signed by the Governor himself. Once approved by me or, where necessary, the Director of Communications, honorary proclamations typically receive the Governor's signature by a device called an "auto-pen."

15) After an honorary proclamation has been approved and signed, it is mailed directly to the individual or group who requested it. Alternatively, the requesting individual or a representative of the requesting group may elect to pick the honorary proclamation up in person from the Governor's office at the State Capitol.

16) In most instances, an honorary proclamation approved by the Governor's office is not promoted or accompanied by a press release.

17) Copies of honorary proclamations that have been approved and issued may be requested by members of the general public.

18) No hard copies are kept on file. To save time for anticipated future requests or in case a copy is requested by a member of the general public, I do save digital copies of honorary proclamations on my computer. For honorary proclamations that are requested on an annual basis, I or my staff typically retrieve the file from the previous year, update it with new dates and other specifics, and then save the new file in place of the previous one. Thus, additional copies of an honorary proclamation that is requested on an annual basis are only available until the next year's proclamation has been approved and drafted.

19) Hard copies of issued proclamations are not sent to the state archives, although my computer files from the Owens administration were archived at the end of Governor Owens' term. My archived computer files should contain records of honorary

proclamations issued during the Owens administration. However, because my practice has been not to retain prior years' honorary proclamations when they are requested on an annual basis, honorary proclamations issued prior to the last year of the Owens administration may no longer be available.

2007 and 2008 Proclamations

20) In 2007 and 2008, I received honorary proclamation requests for a "Colorado Day of Prayer" submitted by a private group called the "National Day of Prayer Task Force" ("NDP Task Force"). These requests had been made and approved in each of the previous years of my tenure in the Owens and Ritter administrations. Per our usual policy I approved them after reviewing the proposed language and determining that it was consistent with previous honorary proclamations.

21) As is the case with nearly every honorary proclamation request, the 2007 and 2008 honorary proclamations issued for a "Colorado Day of Prayer" followed the language suggested by their proponents.

22) In 2009, the Governor's office issued an Honorary Proclamation for a "Colorado Day of Prayer." However, the Honorary Proclamation issued in 2009 did not follow the thematic suggestions contained in that year's form letter requesting the Honorary Proclamation.

23) I did not submit either the 2007 or 2008 honorary proclamation requests for a "Colorado Day of Prayer" to Governor Ritter or to the director of communications for approval. Nor, to my knowledge, did anyone else.

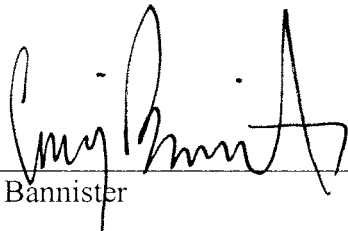
24) The 2007 and 2008 proclamation requests for a “Colorado Day of Prayer” were signed by the “auto-pen” device and mailed to the requesting party without the Governor’s involvement or knowledge.

25) The Governor’s office did not issue a press release or otherwise publicize the “Colorado Day of Prayer” proclamations in 2007, 2008, or 2009. Nor, to my knowledge, has it ever done so.

26) In order to have its requests for honorary proclamations approved, the NDP Task Force is required to follow the procedures for requesting honorary proclamations outlined on the Governor’s website. These procedures apply to all groups or individuals who wish to request an honorary proclamation, letter of recognition or congratulations, or photograph from the Governor.

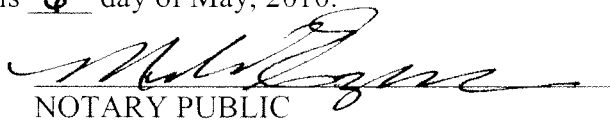
27) The honorary proclamations issued by the Governor of Colorado from 2004-2008 acknowledged the federal designation of the Day of Prayer by Congress and the President, as well as the history and ubiquity of the National Day of Prayer.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT



Craig Bannister

Subscribed and sworn before me on this 6 day of May, 2010.



NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 02-25-2019