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CONTACT: Mark D. Weinstein
Executive Director of Public Relations
[937-766-8800](tel:937-766-8800) (o)
[937-532-6885](tel:937-532-6885) (m)
Mweinstein@cedarville.edu
[@cedarvillenews](#)

Legal Counsel Pivots to Serve Two Organizations

CEDARVILLE, OHIO -- John E. Hart, Esq, General Counsel at Cedarville University for the past nine years, has accepted the newly created position of General Counsel with the Center for Christian Virtue (CCV), Ohio's largest Christian public policy organization based in Columbus.

Hart's new role with CCV, however, will not take him completely away from his alma mater and his current position at Cedarville. Instead, Hart will split his time between the two organizations, providing each with legal service and guidance. Hart will spend 80% of his time with CCV in Columbus and 20% at Cedarville University.

In his role with CCV, Hart will use his experience to guide CCV and other faith-based organizations in the areas of religious freedom and liberties. He will make presentations to churches and schools on how to protect their ministries, and many of these schools and churches are where Cedarville University currently recruits students.

The new work structure begins July 1.

To compensate for Hart's limited availability, Cedarville will hire a new, full-time, university counsel to address its many legal projects.

According to Hart, the new role is consistent with the reason why he pursued a law degree almost 40 years ago. He has practiced law in the Dayton region since graduating from the University of Dayton Law School, specializing in the areas of private religious universities and religious liberty.

"I am grateful and excited for this opportunity to continue serving God in such a time as this by advocating for and protecting children, schools, and churches, as well as other ministries and individuals," said Hart. "Through the grace of God, and by serving with CCV, I am confident that we will be able to accomplish kingdom work that benefits all of our Ohio constituents, and paves a path for others to follow."

Hart has served on numerous community boards, including the National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA), and he was a participant in the Legal Services Review Panel of National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU).

John is a founding member of the Principal 1 Consulting Group, a consulting organization focused on governance, compliance, and advising on law enforcement training, internal investigations, and employment matters. He also served on the Greater Dayton Volunteer Lawyers Project, the Christian

Legal Society chapter at the law school, and is currently serving on the boards of the Forge Leadership Network and Dayton Christian School.