



April 27, 2017

House Speaker Paul Ryan  
1233 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan,

In the most recent presidential election, I endorsed and supported the candidacy of Donald J. Trump for President based primarily on his promise to defund Planned Parenthood.

In January of this year, you made a similar promise to defund Planned Parenthood.

As you are aware, Planned Parenthood is the largest provider of abortions in the U.S. and are responsible for about one-third of all abortions that take place in the U.S. Planned Parenthood organizations received over \$520 million Federal tax dollars just last year alone.

On behalf of the majority of Americans that oppose the tax funding of Planned Parenthood due to their heavy involvement in the morally reprehensible business of abortion, I urge you to keep your promise to the American people.

Planned Parenthood Federation of America and five of its affiliates have recently been referred to the Department of Justice for criminal investigation and prosecution by the House Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives and the Senate Judiciary Committee.

These criminal referrals alone should be reason enough for the House to have a sense of urgency when it comes to keeping your promise to defund Planned Parenthood.

Unfortunately, there are other reasons to defund Planned Parenthood that are a matter of life or death – not only for babies in the womb, but for their mothers as well.

To date, Operation Rescue has documented 42 medical emergencies at Planned Parenthood abortion facilities since January 2016, that have required ambulance transport of patients to local hospitals for care and treatment that Planned Parenthood was not equipped to provide. It is important to note that our list is not comprehensive. The actual number of women injured at Planned Parenthood abortion facilities is expected to be much higher.

In addition, we have uncovered and documented one patient death within the past year. On June 30, 2016, Cree Erwin-Sheppard received a first-trimester suction aspiration abortion at Planned Parenthood in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She died three days later at her mother's home in Battle Creek.

An autopsy revealed that sometime during the abortion at Planned Parenthood, Cree received a 4 cm full tissue perforation of her uterus, which caused internal bleeding. She was sent home without having been treated or informed of this life-threatening injury. Cree's brother, Tyler Sheppard, has since become

involved in trying to expose the truth about the lack of skill and care Cree received at Planned Parenthood. He has informed us that before she died, Cree expressed regret and remorse for her decision to seek an abortion at Planned Parenthood.

It is a tragic fact that Cree Erwin-Sheppard is not the only woman to die from a botched abortion at Planned Parenthood.

For example, in 2012, Tonya Reaves died from internal bleeding caused by a uterine perforation during a sloppy abortion at a Chicago Planned Parenthood abortion facility. The Planned Parenthood doctor responsible for Reaves' abortion waited over five hours to call for emergency assistance, but by then, it was too late to save her life. Planned Parenthood paid out \$1.5 million to her surviving son to settle a wrongful death lawsuit brought by her heart-broken family.

I am enclosing photographs of Cree Erwin-Sheppard and Tonya Reaves so you can appreciate the grief of their families at the loss of these beautiful young women. Please realize that these are only two examples out of many.

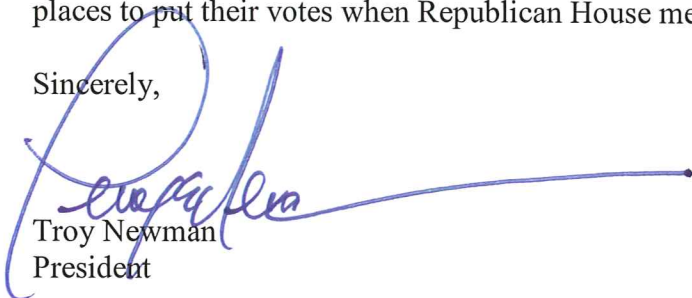
It is simply unconscionable for Federal tax money to continue to go to this organization that has caused so much human suffering and loss of life in violation of the moral consciences of the majority of U.S. citizens – not to mention the criminal conduct Planned Parenthood is accused of committing.

It is frustrating for pro-life supporters to see the Congressional foot-dragging over the defunding of Planned Parenthood, especially in light of the promises made by President Trump and you.

Planned Parenthood must be defunded in the next Continuing Resolution, in keeping with your promises. We can accept no more excuses for delay.

We do not want to lose our confidence in Congress' ability to act, but if the CR does not contain a provision for the defunding of Planned Parenthood, we will urge our supporters to begin looking for new places to put their votes when Republican House members stand for re-election in two years.

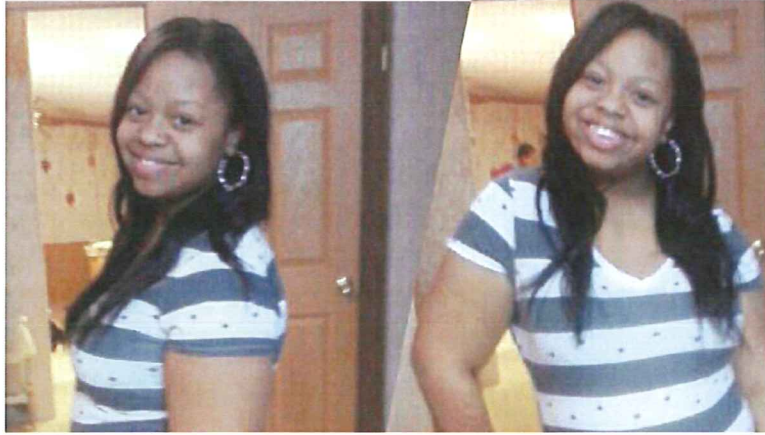
Sincerely,



Troy Newman  
President

*Enclosures*

## *Cree Erwin Sheppard*



Cree, pictured with her son, Logan, who was left motherless because of Planned Parenthood.

## *Tonya Reaves*



Tonya Reaves young son, Alvin, was also left motherless by Planned Parenthood.