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NEWS

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Catholic Bishops' Pro-Life Chairman Says Supreme Court Decision Continues Cruel Precedent of Prioritizing Abortion Business Interests Over Women's Health and Safety

On June 29, the Supreme Court of the United States announced its decision in an abortion case out of Louisiana, *June Medical Services v. Russo*. The Court ruled 5 to 4 to strike down the Louisiana law that requires abortion doctors to have hospital admitting privileges. The intent of the Louisiana law was to protect a mother and her child in event of complications that might arise during the abortion.

Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City in Kansas and chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee for Pro-Life Activities issued the following statement:

"Abortion violently ends the life of a child, and often severely harms women. Abortion becomes even more destructive when basic health and safety standards are ignored, and profit margins are prioritized over women's lives. **As Catholics, we condemn abortion as a grave injustice that denies the fundamental human right to life.** Yet even as we seek to end the brutality of legalized abortion, we still believe that the women who seek it should not be further harmed and abused by a callous, profit-driven industry.

"The Court's failure to recognize the legitimacy of laws prioritizing women's health and safety over abortion business interests continues a cruel precedent. As we grieve this decision and the pregnant women who will be harmed by it, we continue to pray and fight for justice for mothers and children."

"We will not rest until the day when the Supreme Court corrects the grave injustice of *Roe* and *Casey* and recognizes the Constitutional right to life for unborn human beings. And we continue to ask all people of faith to pray for women seeking abortion, often under enormous pressure, that they will find alternatives that truly value them and the lives of their children."