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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE COVENANT OF THE GODDESS EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER RECENT SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

Anaheim, CA., JUNE 29, 2022: The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruling reversing Roe vs. Wade eliminated an established right that has been an essential component of women's rights and liberty for half a century. This step backward for women's rights has destroyed more than the right to legal abortion for all individuals with uteruses. It has also revealed the court's decisions are based on the principles of a religious minority.

The SCOTUS abortion decision was spearheaded by Christian Nationalists using their ideological worldview and the Bible and several other recent rulings have also chipped away at the separation of church and state. It has shattered public trust in a court that once led us in securing individuals' rights and liberties. Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-CO) has said, "The church is supposed to direct the government, the government is not supposed to direct the church." The Court's decisions are a direct and obvious shift in a direction and represent a major threat to our Pagan and Wiccan communities.

The Covenant of the Goddess (The Covenant) is acutely concerned about human rights, women's equality, and the separation of church and state. At the core of our organization, we believe that each person has equal rights to liberty, an individual's

right to religion or spirituality of their own choice, and the right to make the best choice for their bodies.

The Covenant expresses its concern for our community members, appreciating that people are feeling a range of emotions and have different needs. This is a serious time when all Pagans should not have to worry if and when their rights may be subjugated based on another person's religious beliefs.

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About The Covenant of the Goddess

The Covenant of the Goddess (CoG) is one of the largest and oldest Wiccan organizations. The Covenant was founded in 1975 by representatives of many Craft traditions who felt a need for a national organization that could work to secure for Witches and Pagans the same legal rights as those enjoyed by followers of other religions. The Covenant is incorporated as a non-profit religious organization in California, though it has grown to be an international organization. It is an advocacy organization that seeks to foster cooperation amongst Wiccans and Witches; secure legal protection; provide education through outreach and nurture its members through dialog and community.

For more information about this subject, please email Janine Nelson, Public Information Officer for the Covenant of the Goddess at PIO@cog.org.