

THE ETHICS & RELIGIOUS  
LIBERTY COMMISSION  
of the  
Southern Baptist Convention

Ministry Statement  
Approved June 1997

## MISSION

The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission exists to assist the churches by helping them understand the moral demands of the gospel, apply Christian principles to moral and social problems and questions of public policy, and to promote religious liberty in cooperation with the churches and other Southern Baptist entities.

## MINISTRIES

1. ASSIST CHURCHES IN APPLYING THE MORAL AND ETHICAL TEACHINGS OF THE BIBLE TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

*Provide research, information resources, consultation, and counsel to denominational entities, churches and individuals with regard to the application of Christian principles in everyday living and the nation's public life.*

2. ASSIST CHURCHES THROUGH THE COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY OF MORAL AND ETHICAL CONCERNS IN THE PUBLIC ARENA.

*Represent Southern Baptists in communicating the ethical positions of the Southern Baptist Convention to the public and to public officials.*

3. ASSIST CHURCHES IN THEIR MORAL WITNESS IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

*Provide information resources that inform and equip churches for active moral witness in their communities.*

4. ASSIST CHURCHES AND OTHER SOUTHERN BAPTIST ENTITIES BY PROMOTING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

*Provide information and counsel to denominational entities, churches, and individuals regarding appropriate responses to religious liberty concerns; represent Southern Baptists in communicating the positions of the Southern Baptist Convention on religious liberty issues to the public and to public officials.*

## RELATIONSHIPS

The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission will work within the Southern Baptist Convention agency relationship guidelines approved by the Inter-Agency Council and the Executive Committee and printed in the Organization Manual of the Southern Baptist Convention.