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**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Erica Greeley, Director of Strategic Policy Planning  
Ph: 202-962-0322 x14 / Email: [egreeley@ncna.org](mailto:egreeley@ncna.org)

**Government Action Leads to Threats to Democratic Values**

**NCNA Issues Statement on New Regulations of the Combined  
Federal Campaign**

**Washington, DC** – The board of the National Council of Nonprofit Associations (NCNA), one of the largest national nonprofit associations in the U.S., issued a statement condemning the actions of the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) as a threat to the core values and traditions of the nonprofit sector and our nation’s democratic practices. CFC director Mara Paternoster confirmed that nonprofit recipients of the CFC funds are required to check their employees against constantly updated blacklists from the State, Justice, and Treasury Departments. The American Civil Liberties Union is playing a lead role in launching a coalition and actions against this requirement. Today, NCNA joins the rallying cry to halt this practice.

Michael Weekes, chair of the NCNA board stated “Although we support efforts to protect nonprofit agencies from unknowingly supporting terrorists or their sympathizers the actions taken by CFC are misguided and undemocratic.”

NCNA believes that the requirement endorses the practice of blacklisting individuals based upon association, assumes guilt on the part of charities for associating with particular individuals, and requires charities to police the associations of their employees. These practices violate basic rights.

Audrey R. Alvarado, Executive Director of NCNA stated “the long standing tradition of the nonprofit sector is its unique role in bringing together diverse interests through the power of association. The CFC requirement is in direct conflict with this principle. This requirement is antithetical to what countries around the world look to as a model of

democratic civil society and further contributes to a climate of fear, intimidation, and suspicion”.

Implementation of the CFC requirement compounds the problem. Implementation is based on information and practices that are deeply flawed. The lists lack formal oversight and are notoriously riddled with error, wrongly listed individuals have no protections or procedures for removal and nonprofits may be required to violate employee’s right to privacy in order to match employees to names on the list

Alvarado expressed particular concern that, “many groups were not aware of this requirement when they signed the CFC certification. In addition, there is some question as to whether the Office of Personnel Management, which houses the CFC, has the legal authority to change the eligibility for the program.”

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Questions or Comments – please contact:

Erica Greeley, Director Strategic Policy Planning

[egreeley@ncna.org](mailto:egreeley@ncna.org)

National Council of Nonprofit Associations

1030 15 Street, NW, Suite 870

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202-962-0322

Fax: 202-962-0321

Go to [www.ncna.org](http://www.ncna.org) for a complete copy of the statement

The National Council of Nonprofit Associations is a 501(c)(3) membership-based organization with a mission to advance the vital role and capacity of the nonprofit sector in civil society and support and give voice to state and regional associations of nonprofit organizations. As a credible voice and champion for the nonprofit sector, the National Council of Nonprofit Associations (NCNA) represents a network of thirty-eight state and regional associations of nonprofits serving over 22,000 charities nationally. NCNA supports state associations by building their capacity to serve nonprofits at the state and regional level and remain informed of federal and state level policy issues affecting the nonprofit sector. The support provided by NCNA to state associations of nonprofits helps nonprofits receive cutting edge training and technical assistance, advocate for sound public policies at the state and national levels, and promote the merits and impact of nonprofits broadly.

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