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For immediate release

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Anne Arundel County Settles Riverdale Baptist Church Suit for \$3.25M
Church permitted to build student private school on its property in Lothian, Maryland

On November 18, 2010, Anne Arundel County agreed to settle a lawsuit brought by Storzer & Greene client Riverdale Baptist Church in federal court. The County agreed to pay the Church \$3.25 million and permit it to build a 400+ student school on its 57-acre property. The settlement was reached on the 12th day of an extended jury trial in U.S. District Court in Baltimore, Maryland.

After the Church purchased the property for its school, the County Council passed two pieces of zoning legislation that prohibited the use at that location. The Church filed suit, alleging that the County's actions discriminated against it and substantially burdened its religious exercise in violation of the United States and Maryland Constitutions and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000. S&G represented Riverdale Baptist Church with H. Robert Showers of Simms Showers, L.L.P.

The attorneys of Storzer and Greene, P.L.L.C. have represented scores of religious organizations in land use conflicts across the Nation. Mr. Storzer has been described by the Religion Newswriters Association as "one of the country's most experienced litigators" in religious land use law, and has successfully represented Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Native American, Sikh and other faith groups in RLUIPA and First Amendment matters.

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