

Father-Son Cruz Team to Speak at Summit



Father-Son Team of Senator Ted Cruz and Pastor Rafael Cruz Added To Featured Speaker Line Up at The Family Leadership Summit

Urbandale, IOWA – The FAMILY LEADER, in conjunction with Citizens United, Heritage Action, and The National Organization for Marriage, is pleased to announce the addition of U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz from Texas and his father, Pastor Rafael Cruz, to the speaker line up at The FAMILY LEADERSHIP SUMMIT on Saturday, August 10th in Ames, IA. The Summit will start at 10 a.m. and conclude at 7 p.m. Tickets will go on sale July 1.

“The work of the Family Leadership Summit to fight for conservative values and promote strong families is making a positive impact across our country,” Sen. Cruz said. “My dad and I are honored to be included in this year’s summit and are looking forward to it.” The purpose of The FAMILY LEADERSHIP SUMMIT is to educate and mobilize the conservative base regarding worldview application and issues that impact the family. The Summit will provide Iowans the opportunity to hear top conservative national leaders, gathered in one place, cast their leadership vision.

Ted Cruz was elected as the 34th U.S. Senator from Texas in 2012. A passionate fighter for limited government, economic growth, and the Constitution, Cruz won a decisive victory in both the Republican primary and the general election. Cruz's election has been described by *The Washington Post* as "the biggest upset of 2012...a true grassroots victory against very long odds." In the Senate, he currently serves on the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; the Committee on Armed Services; the Committee on the Judiciary; and the Special Committee on Aging.

Pastor Rafael Cruz was born in Cuba and immigrated to this country over 55 years ago to flee an oppressive communist regime. He fought in the revolution and was imprisoned and tortured. He fled to Texas penniless and not speaking a word of English. Today Rafael Cruz is a pastor at a church in Dallas and serves as the Director of Purifying Fire Ministries ministering in the U.S., Mexico, and Central America. He is also a professor Bible and Theology and the president of Kingdom Translation Services.

Bob Vander Plaats, President & CEO of The FAMiLY LEADER said, "We are thrilled Senator Ted Cruz and his father, Pastor Rafael Cruz, are pairing up together to join the speaker line up for The FAMiLY LEADERSHIP SUMMIT. Senator Cruz's bold and principled leadership is a welcome change in our current political climate. And Pastor Cruz's bold courage to flee Cuba to come to America thoroughly embodies the spirit of the American Dream. Iowans are in for a real treat to be able to hear this pair of American heroes."

Confirmed to speak at the Summit include former Senator Rick Santorum, businessman Donald Trump, and author Dr. Del Tackett. Invited speakers include Governor Sam Brownback, Governor Bobby Jindal, Governor Rick Perry, Senator Rand Paul, actor/radio host Stephen Baldwin, Penny Young Nance, Senator Jim DeMint, Senator Marco Rubio along with many others.

Additional press releases will be sent as speakers are confirmed.

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