

(AZ-06) “Who Is Juan Ciscomani?” Backup

Microsite Claims	Backup
<p>Juan Ciscomani has spent most of his adult life on the board of directors of a Christian Nationalist group called the Patriot Academy that believes we should rewrite the constitution to establish a Christian Nation and considers the separation of church and state a “myth.” The Patriot Academy trains children as young as eleven years old to use lethal force, believes we should abolish gay marriage and is against abortion with no exceptions.</p>	<p><u>Juan Ciscomani has spent most of his adult life on the board of directors of a Christian Nationalist group called the Patriot Academy</u></p> <hr/> <p>2007-2021: Ciscomani Served On The Board Of The Torch Of Freedom Foundation, The Organization Behind Patriot Academy</p> <hr/> <p>2007-2021: Ciscomani Was A Member Of Torch Of Freedom Foundation’s Board. According to Torch of Freedom Foundation’s 990 filings and website, Ciscomani served as a board member of the organization since fiscal year 2007. [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, 12/31/20; 12/31/19; 12/31/18; 12/31/17; 12/31/16; 12/31/15; 12/31/14; 12/31/13; 6/30/13 6/30/12; 6/30/11; 2/24/10; 6/30/09; 6/30/08; Patriot Academy, accessed 6/9/23]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ciscomani Worked Zero To One Hours Weekly And Was Not Paid As A Torch Of Freedom Foundation Board Member. [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, 12/31/20; 12/31/19; 12/31/18; 12/31/17; 12/31/16; 12/31/15; 12/31/14; 12/31/13; 6/30/13 6/30/12; 6/30/11; 2/24/10; 6/30/09; 6/30/08] • January 2021: Ciscomani Resigned From The Torch Of Freedom Foundation’s Board. According to his personal financial disclosure filed on May 16, 2022, Ciscomani resigned as a board member of the Torch of Freedom Foundation on January 3, 2021. [Juan Ciscomani, Personal Financial Disclosure, 5/16/22] <p>FY 2011 – FY 2019: Ciscomani Was A Director Of Torch Of Freedom Foundation. According to Torch of Freedom Foundation’s 990 filings, Ciscomani served as the organization’s director from fiscal year 2011 to fiscal year 2019. [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, 12/31/20; 12/31/19; 12/31/18; 12/31/17; 12/31/16; 12/31/15; 12/31/14; 12/31/13; 6/30/13 6/30/12; 6/30/11; 2/24/10; 6/30/09; 6/30/08]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ciscomani Worked Zero To One Hours Weekly And Was Not Paid As Torch Of Freedom Foundation Director. [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, 12/31/20; 12/31/19; 12/31/18; 12/31/17; 12/31/16; 12/31/15; 12/31/14; 12/31/13; 6/30/13 6/30/12; 6/30/11; 2/24/10; 6/30/09; 6/30/08] <p>February 2024: Patriot Academy’s Constitution Coach Branch Still Listed Juan Ciscomani As A Member Of The Board Of</p>

Directors. [Patriot Academy; Constitution Coach, Academy Leadership, accessed [2/27/24](#)]

Our Board of Directors

Rick Green, Founder and President



Juan Ciscomani

Juan Ciscomani is a 3-time alumnus and former Gov. of Patriot Academy. He is a proud first generation American citizen, having immigrated from Mexico as a young boy. After graduating Cum Laude from the Univ. of AZ, Juan served as a Legislative Assist. in the U.S. Congress. He later ran as a Republican candidate for State Representative. He is focused on servant-leadership and economic opportunity. He currently serves in a key staff position for the AZ Governor. Juan resides in Tucson with his wife Laura, and their six children.

[Patriot Academy; Constitution Coach, Academy Leadership, accessed [2/27/24](#)]

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Ciscomani Said He Had Been Involved With Patriot Academy Since He Was 26 Years Old. CISCOMANI: “Thank you for bringing up Patriot Academy. This is a program that Laura and I have been involved with for gosh, since I was 26, so that’s a long time ago.” [Speech at Pima County Republican Club Meeting, 3/29/22] (AUDIO)

- **The Patriot Academy Was The “Flagship Arm” Of The Torch Of Freedom Foundation.** “Patriot Academy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the flagship arm of The Torch of Freedom Foundation. All donations are tax-deductible.” [Patriot Academy, accessed [8/11/22](#)]

that believes we should rewrite the constitution to establish a Christian Nation

New Republic: Patriot Academy Sought To “Rewrite America’s Constitution.” “Patriot Academy is engaged in a life-and-death struggle to rewrite America’s Constitution—and teaching its supporters how to defend themselves with a handgun, just in case.” [The New Republic, [1/3/23](#)]

Patriot Academy Taught Its Students That America Is On The

Brink Of “Godless Communism” And Only A Conservative Effort To Rewrite The Constitution Will Save It. “Patriot Academy’s Leadership Congress camp for young people continues not just in Texas but in state Capitol buildings across the country. A separate series of leadership congresses for veterans kicked off in 2017. Slickly produced video courses, with names like Constitution Alive! and Biblical Citizenship, allow students of any age to learn Barton’s worldview in living rooms and churches throughout America. Through it all, an undercurrent of concern carries students toward a worrying conclusion: America currently teeters on the brink of godless authoritarian communism, and only something as radical as the well-funded and rapidly growing conservative effort to rewrite the Constitution can save it.” [The New Republic, [1/3/23](#)]

and considers the separation of church and state a “myth.”

2008: Patriot Academy Called The Separation Of Church And State A ‘Myth.’ ‘Understand the Philosophy Develop a firm grasp of the Founding Fathers’ vision for America and how that vision remains applicable today In-depth and relevant focus on your rights, namely the following: The Source of your freedoms The myth of separation of church and state The right to bear arms Bill of Rights Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness’ [Patriot Academy, captured [5/11/08](#)]

July 2021: Patriot Academy Stated Its Mission Was To ‘Restore America’s Constitutional Republic By Renewing Our Biblical Principles Of Liberty Upon Which The Nation Was Built.’ ‘Patriot Academy’s purpose is to encourage, educate, and equip young leaders who share the stated mission of The Torch of Freedom Foundation: to restore America’s Constitutional Republic by renewing our Biblical principles of liberty upon which the nation was built. Applicants must demonstrate a mindset in line with this mission, a willingness to learn more about accomplishing such a mission; and a strong work ethic through preparation, fundraising, and service.’ [Patriot Academy, accessed [7/19/21](#)]

The Patriot Academy trains children as young as eleven years old to use lethal force.

Patriot Academy: “By The End Of This Course, You Will Be Able To Spot A Threat, Present Your Sidearm From Concealment And Fire Two Controlled Shots To The Vital Area On The Threat In Just 1.5 Seconds!” “In 2018, the Green Family and Patriot Academy created a multi-day intensive firearms and constitutional training event. A unique experience, taught by the experts, that you won’t find anywhere else in the nation! Our Constitutional Defense Course is a unique blend of Handgun Defense combined with Constitutional education so that you get both the physical and intellectual training. [...] Whether you have never held a gun before or you consider yourself extremely proficient with firearms, you will LOVE taking this class as you learn the basics and the little known secrets of self-defense, and

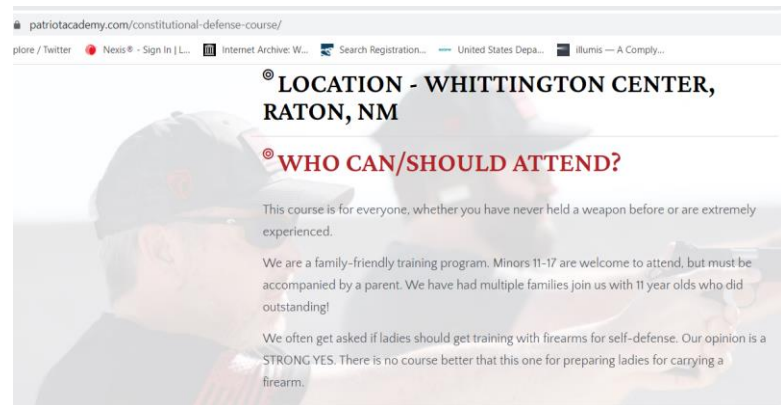
then practice until you've mastered them. By the end of this course, you will be able to spot a threat, present your sidearm from concealment and fire two controlled shots to the vital area on the threat in just 1.5 seconds! [...] At the moment, all classes are held at the NRA Whittington Center, in Raton, NM." [Patriot Academy, Constitutional Defense, accessed [6/21/24](#)]

Patriot Academy: "We Will Be Spending A Large Amount Of Our Time On Repetitive Drills, Meant To Help You Get Comfortable With The Idea Of Loaded Firearms, Keeping Firearms By Your Bed, Having A Loaded Firearm Holstered On Your Body, Etc." "Most firearms training organizations or instructors gear their training towards individuals with previous firearms experience (law enforcement, military, competition shooter, etc). The training itself is often very good – but equally as often it is too advanced for beginning shooters. Even if the class is built to "push and test" a new shooter, it often does so in a way where basic fundamentals of shooting are set aside in favor of the "cool, flashy" drills that look good on camera and sell more seats. Put simply – when beginner courses have new shooters sprinting up and down a range behind cover, taking multiple shooting positions, etc – we find that most shooters leave that class having had fun, but not having focused enough on the basics to feel completely comfortable with the information. Our philosophy with our Basic Constitutional Defense course is to prepare both brand new and experienced shooters with the fundamentals to win a self-defense encounter. This means that we will be spending a large amount of our time on repetitive drills, meant to help you get comfortable with the idea of loaded firearms, keeping firearms by your bed, having a loaded firearm holstered on your body, etc." [Patriot Academy, Constitutional Defense, accessed [6/21/24](#)]

Members Of Patriots Academy's Constitutional Defense Course Were Taught To Use Lethal Force Against A Threat. "We are standing at the firing line. The world is dust and sun and the kind of oversaturated deep blue sky possible only at high altitudes where the air is thin. Each of us stares down our own personal Bob, as the instructors have named him: a beige, featureless paper silhouette already pockmarked with holes. LaBarbera, our handgun instructor, continues his story. 'You can't tell, but he's got something in his hand. He's getting a little close, you're a little worried, you can't tell what it is. Challenge!' Our hands fly up, palms out in the universal signal for the thing we shout: 'Stop right there!' The New Mexico prairie swallows the words without an echo. 'He keeps coming, but you don't know what he has in his hand. Present!' All down the line, we hear the click of handguns freed from holsters. They point at the ground, ready to come up at a moment's notice. 'Stop or I'll shoot!' 'It's a knife!' LaBarbera shouts. 'He's still coming! THREAT!!' No words this time, just the thunder of gunfire up and down the line. I take my time aiming to ensure I hit Bob where I'm supposed to: inside what the instructors call the thoracic cavity, where all the vital organs live. I am approximately halfway through Patriot Academy's Constitutional Defense course, a five-day

program run by a right-wing organization that promises to give participants both ‘the physical training you need to be able to defend your family’ and ‘intellectual ammunition to defend the Constitution.’” [The New Republic, [1/3/23](#)]

The Patriot Academy Encouraged Children As Young As 11 To Attend, Saying, “We Have Had Multiple Families Join Us With 11 Year Olds Who Did Outstanding!” “This course is for everyone, whether you have never held a weapon before or are extremely experienced. We are a family-friendly training program. Minors 11-17 are welcome to attend, but must be accompanied by a parent. We have had multiple families join us with 11 year olds who did outstanding! We often get asked if ladies should get training with firearms for self-defense. Our opinion is a STRONG YES. There is no course better that [sic] this one for preparing ladies for carrying a firearm.” [Patriot Academy, Constitutional Defense, accessed [6/21/24](#)]



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grade A student.(1)(2) Apparently, one of his murderers was someone that he knew, a man named Aaron McKinney. There is apparent evidence of sexual relations with this young man before the tragedy as well.(3) All this information leads to the realization that the men who killed him were not just ‘white men’ who wanted to kill him because he was gay. Rather, they were men who knew him and had been involved with him on drug runs and past alleged sexual relationships.(4)(5) There is compelling proof that this was the case, and if true, it destroys the narrative of it being just a hate crime against gays.” [Patriot Academy, Patriot Press Blog, [2/18/19](#)]

and is against abortion with no exceptions.

2000: Rick Green Founded Torch Of Freedom Foundation, Which Laid The Groundwork For Patriot Academy. “In 1998, an enthusiastic young attorney named Rick Green was elected to the Texas House of Representatives. Representative Green was a passionate conservative, but grew concerned by the lack of understanding and adherence to conservative principles he saw in his colleagues. He quickly realized that the solution was not to change those in government, but to train up a new generation of conservative leaders. He thought, ‘Why not create a program that combines hands-on political training with instruction in true conservative principles?’ Rick shared his idea with friends and leaders, and in 2000 they formed The Torch of Freedom Foundation...the first step in realizing their vision.” [Patriot Academy, accessed [6/9/23](#)]

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2024: Patriot Academy’s Website Listed Rick Green As The Organization’s Founder And President. [Patriot Academy, accessed [1/29/24](#)]

Green Promoted Extreme Anti-Abortion Ideas, Including Comparing Abortion In The U.S. To The Holocaust And Sharing An Article Arguing Abortion Was Worse Than Slavery

Green Argued Against Referring To The “Woman’s Constitutional Right To Choose Abortion” Because It Was “Not Constitutional To Take Innocent Life.” “Why do our folks in the Texas Senate debate on Pro-Life HB 2 keep referring to the ‘woman’s constitutional right to choose abortion’ when talking

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Rick Green ✓

July 12, 2013 · 🌐

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May 7, 2013

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Rick Green

April 30, 2013

WND.COM
Why abortion is worse than slavery

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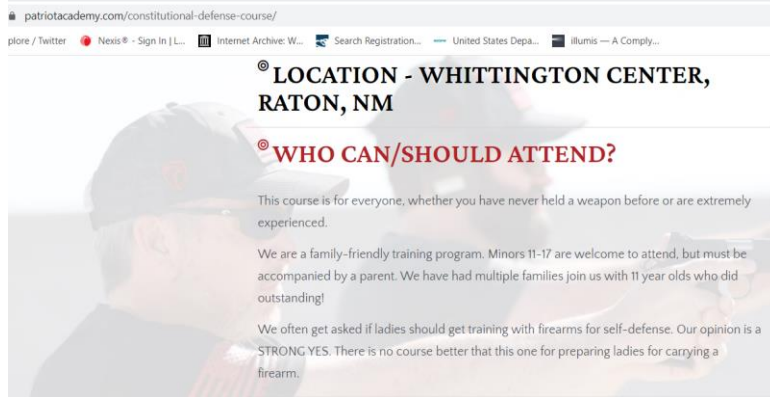
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2018: Patriot Academy Published A Blog Post Claiming Planned Parenthood Was “In The Business Of Harvesting Murdered Baby Body Parts For Sale.” ‘Yes, I added the [murder of unborn babies] language because you ‘abort’ a mission, but what Planned Parenthood does is murder – kill — unborn babies. And it’s about time we stop pussyfooting around and trying to soften the language of what they do. We also know they’re in the business of harvesting murdered baby body parts for sale. Isn’t it very funny that investigative journalism is only accepted by the left when it benefits their ends? But if those means are used against them, well, it’s deemed illegal.’ [Patriot Academy, Patriot Press Blog, [1/22/18](#)]

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Ciscomani Said That He Brought Patriot Academy To Arizona. CISCOMANI: “Thank you for bringing up Patriot Academy. This is a program that Laura and I have been involved with for gosh, since I was 26, so that’s a long time ago. But this is a program that started in Texas that Laura and I brought to Arizona and it trains young people to engage in the civic process and they play the role of a state senator, a state representative in the capitol here in Phoenix and they have to go through bills and guess what they have to do? They have to read them. They have to read the bills and we also train them on the LIFT principles. L being limited government, I being individual responsibility, F being free enterprise, and T being timeless truths. And these are the lift principles that we train young people in so they can go out and engage and that’s what Laura and have done before.” [Speech at Pima County Republican Club Meeting, 3/29/22] (AUDIO)

- **2013: Regional Patriot Academy Capitol Boot Camps Began At The Arizona State Capitol.** “The inaugural Patriot Academy occurred at the Texas Capitol in 2003 with thirty students. In 2013, regional Patriot Academy Capitol Boot Camps began in the Southwest at the Arizona State Capitol and in the Northwest at the Idaho State Capitol. Regional academies are now also taking place in the Southeast at the Florida State Capitol, the Northeast at the Delaware State Capitol, the Midwest at the Indiana State Capitol, and on college campuses in Colorado and Tennessee.” [Patriot Academy, 2020 Impact Report, pg. 3, accessed [1/30/24](#)]

2013: Juan And Laura Ciscomani Hosted Patriot Academy Arizona. “Juan Ciscomani attended Patriot Academy in 2006, 2007, and 2008. [...] Juan and his wife Laura, also an Alumnus, hosted PA Arizona in the summer of 2013.” [Patriot Academy, 2013 Torch of Freedom Impact Report, page 11, accessed [1/29/24](#)]

and served on the board for over 12 years.

2007-2021: Ciscomani Served On The Board Of The Torch Of Freedom Foundation, The Organization Behind Patriot Academy

2007-2021: Ciscomani Was A Member Of Torch Of Freedom Foundation’s Board. According to Torch of Freedom Foundation’s 990 filings and website, Ciscomani served as a board member of the organization since fiscal year 2007. [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [12/31/20](#); [12/31/19](#); [12/31/18](#); [12/31/17](#); [12/31/16](#); [12/31/15](#); [12/31/14](#); [12/31/13](#); [6/30/13](#) [6/30/12](#); [6/30/11](#); [2/24/10](#); [6/30/09](#); [6/30/08](#); Patriot Academy, accessed [6/9/23](#)]

- **Ciscomani Worked Zero To One Hours Weekly And Was Not Paid As A Torch Of Freedom Foundation Board Member.** [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [12/31/20](#); [12/31/19](#); [12/31/18](#); [12/31/17](#); [12/31/16](#); [12/31/15](#); [12/31/14](#); [12/31/13](#); [6/30/13](#) [6/30/12](#); [6/30/11](#); [2/24/10](#); [6/30/09](#); [6/30/08](#)]
- **January 2021: Ciscomani Resigned From The Torch Of Freedom Foundation’s Board.** According to his personal financial disclosure filed on May 16, 2022, Ciscomani resigned as a board member of the Torch of Freedom Foundation on January 3, 2021. [Juan Ciscomani, Personal Financial Disclosure, [5/16/22](#)]

FY 2011 – FY 2019: Ciscomani Was A Director Of Torch Of Freedom Foundation. According to Torch of Freedom Foundation’s 990 filings, Ciscomani served as the organization’s director from fiscal year 2011 to fiscal year 2019. [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [12/31/20](#); [12/31/19](#); [12/31/18](#); [12/31/17](#); [12/31/16](#); [12/31/15](#); [12/31/14](#); [12/31/13](#); [6/30/13](#) [6/30/12](#); [6/30/11](#); [2/24/10](#); [6/30/09](#); [6/30/08](#)]

- **Ciscomani Worked Zero To One Hours Weekly And Was Not Paid As Torch Of Freedom Foundation Director.** [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [Torch of Freedom 990 Filings via ProPublica, [12/31/20](#); [12/31/19](#); [12/31/18](#); [12/31/17](#); [12/31/16](#); [12/31/15](#); [12/31/14](#); [12/31/13](#); [6/30/13](#) [6/30/12](#); [6/30/11](#); [2/24/10](#); [6/30/09](#); [6/30/08](#)]

February 2024: Patriot Academy’s Constitution Coach Branch Still Listed Juan Ciscomani As A Member Of The Board Of Directors. [Patriot Academy; Constitution Coach, Academy Leadership, accessed [2/27/24](#)]

Our Board of Directors

Rick Green, Founder and President



Juan Ciscomani

Juan Ciscomani is a 3-time alumnus and former Gov. of Patriot Academy. He is a proud first generation American citizen, having immigrated from Mexico as a young boy. After graduating Cum Laude from the Univ. of AZ, Juan served as a Legislative Assist. in the U.S. Congress. He later ran as a Republican candidate for State Representative. He is focused on servant-leadership and economic opportunity. He currently serves in a key staff position for the AZ Governor. Juan resides in Tucson with his wife Laura, and their six children.

[Patriot Academy; Constitution Coach, Academy Leadership, accessed [2/27/24](#)]