

May 4, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement by Paula M. Shugart, President of the Miss Universe Organization regarding commercial advertisement in which the National Organization for Marriage uses unauthorized copyrighted material:

The Miss Universe Organization (MUO) has sent a cease and desist letter to the National Organization for Marriage regarding the unauthorized use of copyrighted material from the 2009 Miss USA® television program in its recent advertisement.

MUO neither sanctions nor disapproves of the viewpoints expressed in the advertisement but cannot allow its copyrighted material to be used without permission to support the National Organization for Marriage's political agenda and fundraising efforts.

CONTACT:

The Miss Universe Organization
Lark-Marie Antón
lanton@missuniverse.com
(212) 373-4982

