



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEKLY
from
Americans for Freedom of Religion

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**Defense of the Religious Freedom of Firefighters, High School Football Players,
Navy Seals, Catholic Schools and Parishes, Right to Life Groups –
Defended Pro Bono by Law Firms of Dedicated Attorneys**

The 1ST amendment to the US Constitution definitively protects the conscience rights and free exercise of faith of all Americans. Each year, however, the denials of 1st amendment religious freedom become more numerous, unmistakable, and severe. The increased vandalism and destruction of statues, shrines and churches parallels an increasing intolerance for believers and their right to worship, let alone bring their faith into the public square of ideas as was intended by our founders. Founding father John Adams said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

Americans whose religious freedom is denied can contact multiple law firms, mostly supported by donations, which focus on defending their conscience rights as well as their right to openly live their faith in schools, communities, work, the military and the larger public square.

For example, First Liberty Institute of Plano, TX successfully defended Coach Kennedy, a school football coach fired by his school district for taking a knee after football games to pray, silently and alone, on the 50th yard line. Over time players from both teams voluntarily came to join Coach Kennedy in silent prayer. After 7 years of court action the Supreme Court's opinion was that Coach Kennedy and all public-school teachers may engage in brief personal prayer in public view of others, including students.

Another example is the lawsuit filed by Becket Law to gain access for Catholics to Colorado's universal, government funded preschool at the public or private school of the parents' choice. The state, however, denies this benefit to students in Catholic preschools.

Also, Thomas More Society attorneys successfully challenged Illinois state's new law which attacked pro-life maternal healthcare centers. Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys have defended prospective adoptive parents against several states' laws which deny adoption to parents who do not agree with the state's gender ideology.

Knowing there is support available to protect religious liberty empowers us to preserve that liberty.

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