



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEKLY  
from  
**Americans for Freedom of Religion**

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*"Nothing is more dreaded than the national government  
meddling with religion." - John Adams*

**National Catholic Register, Catholic League, Catholic News Agency,  
Cardinal Dolan, etc. Respond to News of Three FBI Offices Involved in  
Labeling Traditional Catholics as Radical and Possible White Supremacists**

A Jan. 23, 2023, leaked memo from the FBI's Richmond, VA office shocked America's religious leaders and citizens of all faiths by its directing that the FBI should surveil Catholics who attend the Traditional Latin Mass and certain organizations such as The Remnant and Fatima Crusader as possible violent white supremacists. When this memo was leaked the FBI director responded that the memo was not in keeping with the FBI's standards, was the product of one office, Richmond, and would be immediately removed.

However, on July 25, at the insistence of the House Judiciary Committee, the FBI again released their Richmond office's memo with fewer redactions which revealed that FBI offices in Portland and Los Angeles had contributed to the document labeling traditional Catholics as potential domestic terrorists.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Religious Freedom, objected to the document as being offensive, troubling and showing religious profiling. Bishop Barry Knestout of the Diocese of Richmond called out the memo as being in violation of religious freedom and he pointed out that a preference for the traditional Mass of the church and adhering to the church's teachings on marriage, family and human sexuality do not indicate any kind of extremism. He called upon Virginia's elected leaders to condemn this attack on 1<sup>st</sup> amendment religious liberty.

The House Judiciary Committee, in light of this new information, continues its investigation of this matter.

Read more here: [bit.ly/47EkUvK](https://bit.ly/47EkUvK) [bit.ly/3sgRweO](https://bit.ly/3sgRweO) [bit.ly/3KL5agK](https://bit.ly/3KL5agK) [bit.ly/44dgd99](https://bit.ly/44dgd99) [bit.ly/44gyUca](https://bit.ly/44gyUca)

***"Unless we work hard to keep our religious liberty, we are going to lose it," Archbishop Charles Chaput***