



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEKLY

from

Americans for Freedom of Religion

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Creative Professionals Keeping Their Faith and Their Businesses: Custom Cakes and Custom Websites Are Considered Free Speech

When a potential customer requests a custom service to celebrate or promote something that conflicts with the faith of the business owner, many owners decline the business opportunity. They often recommend another custom service which would meet that customer's needs.

The Supreme Court has twice made it clear that the freedom of speech of the business owner would be denied if they are forced to create a custom product that promotes behaviors or morals which deny their faith. Although a Colorado baker, Jack Phillips, spent years and lost much of his family business defending his freedom of speech in such a case, the decision in his favor by the Supreme Court does not help a California baker in a similar situation. The Colorado case was decided in the baker's favor based on his mistreatment by the Colorado State Supreme Court.

Cathy Miller, owner of Tastries Bakery, was sued in 2018 by a couple because she declined to create a custom cake for their same-sex wedding and referred them to another baker who would create the cake they asked for. The California Supreme Court has refused to protect Cathy's freedom of speech and so her attorney from the Thomas More Society has asked the Supreme Court to hear her case so that Cathy can defend her conscience and follow her faith.

Read more: <https://tinyurl.com/23zv9n6h> <https://tinyurl.com/47ecujwn>