



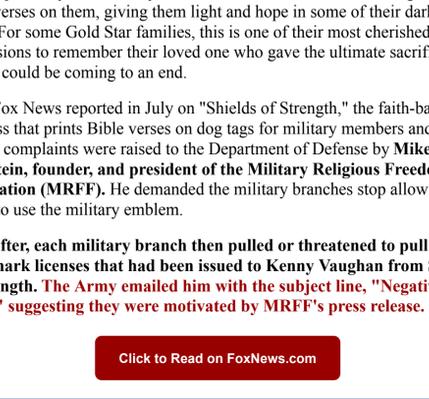
MILITARY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
foundation

**FOX NEWS
COVERS MRFF
ON HOME PAGE**

**" Army says faith-based group can no longer
put Bible verses on dog tags after complaint "**

By: Caleb Parke

Tuesday, December 3, 2019



(Excerpts from FoxNews/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

When Army Captain Russell Rippetoe was killed in action on April 2, 2003 - the first combat casualty of Operation Iraqi Freedom -- then-President George W. Bush spoke about how Rippetoe had on his dog tags "Joshua 1:9" engraved on it.

For the past 20 years, military members have been able to wear dog tags with Bible verses on them, giving them light and hope in some of their darkest times. For some Gold Star families, this is one of their most cherished possessions to remember their loved one who gave the ultimate sacrifice. But all this could be coming to an end.

After Fox News reported in July on "Shields of Strength," the faith-based business that prints Bible verses on dog tags for military members and their family, complaints were raised to the Department of Defense by **Mikey Weinstein, founder, and president of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF)**. He demanded the military branches stop allowing the group to use the military emblem.

Soon after, each military branch then pulled or threatened to pull the trademark licenses that had been issued to Kenny Vaughan from Shields of Strength. The Army emailed him with the subject line, "Negative Press," suggesting they were motivated by MRFF's press release. [...]

[Click to Read on FoxNews.com](#)

**DUPLICITIOUS, DISINGENUOUS, AND
DISGUSTING FOX NEWS REFUSES TO PUBLISH
MIKEY WEINSTEIN'S STATEMENT
ON SHIELDS OF STRENGTH**

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

FOX NEWS ARTICLE READS:

"The Army and MRFF did not immediately respond to Fox News' request for comment."

NOT TRUE

**Timeline of E-mail Exchanges
Between MRFF/Mikey and Fox News:**

7:24 MST/ 9:24 EST

Fox News requests response from MRFF/Mikey by deadline of 10:30 am EDT (Fox News reporter mistakenly refers to time zone as EDT, even though it is currently EST)

7:28 MST/ 9:28 EST

MRFF/Mikey responds "call me"

8:11 MST/10:11 EST

MRFF/Mikey responds with initial statement (take 1)

8:16 MST/10:16 EST

MRFF/Mikey responds with revised statement (take 2)

8:22 MST/10:22 EST

MRFF/Mikey responds with final statement (take 3)

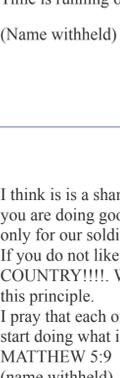
MRFF definitely met Fox News' 10:30 am EST deadline to respond, and yet they still purposely withheld on publishing MRFF's statement

**Mikey responds to Fox News reporter
Caleb Parke's disingenuous statement in the article
that MRFF did not respond:**

On Dec 3, 2019, at 12:17 PM, Weinstein, Mikey <mikey@militaryreligiousfreedom.org> wrote:

So, Caleb, I see that your [story] has already come out... You are stating that MRFF did not immediately respond... I find that to be duplicitous and disingenuous and disgusting... You told me that your deadline was 10:30 AM Eastern daylight Time by the way it is now eastern standard time no longer daylight time... Why did you not run anything from the statement that YOU requested from me?... Do you actually call that "fair and balanced"... We are furious that you shut us out of the story and yet let the other side denigrate us... Again really fair and balanced of you?... Mikey... 505-250-7727...

Mikey's Statement on Shields of Strength



"The Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) completely stands by its formal July 8, 2019 demands to the Dept. of Defense (DoD) that the "Shields of Strength" (SoS) Christian proselytizing organization immediately cease and desist from illicitly using its DoD merchandise license to intentionally spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Such craven, utilization of American military logos and related symbology by this sectarian Christian group (SoS) **not only viciously violates well established DoD regulatory law but also posits the Constitutionally-mandated separation of Church and State as directed by the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights and its legion of supporting Federal caselaw.**

First Liberty's gutless, deceitful attempt on behalf of SoS to further torture, obfuscate and pollute the well settled regulatory, statutory and Federal caselaw supporting MRFF's demand, and DoD's compliance with same, by using the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) as a deception and would-be weapon is the epitome of cowardice and purposeful deception. Such a stance is merely a disgusting and stinking snow job which any reasonable and rational Court of Law will clearly reject with passion.

If SoS feels that either I or MRFF are "insanely selfish", we would suggest that it take a good, hard look into the nearest mirror. **Illegally using military logos and symbols to further the SoS organization's partisan and sectarian fundamentalist Christian religious agenda of proselytization is the REAL selfishness here!**"

Michael L. "Mikey" Weinstein
Founder and President
Military Religious Freedom Foundation

**LIBERTY INSTITUTE'S
WOEFULLY WRONG EDITORIAL
CONDEMNS MRFF
ON LAWOFFICER.COM**

**"A Cruel Insult to Our Men and Women in Uniform:
'Rip Away Their Dog Tags!'"**

By: Kelly J. Shackelford, Esq.,

President, CEO & Chief Counsel,
First Liberty Institute

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

(Excerpts from LawOfficer/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

There's a highly important military religious freedom case unfolding right now ... and I need to share with you what First Liberty is doing to fight for the rights of our nation's heroes.

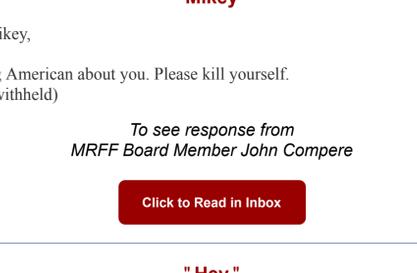
Once again, Mikey Weinstein and his deceptively-named Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) have decided to invent a problem where none exists.

In a brazen attack against religious liberty in the military, they recently sent a legal demand to the Department of Defense threatening Shields of Strength, a Christian company that graciously provides replica dog tags with inspirational Bible verses to active-duty service members, veterans and their families.

MRFF claims the Shields of Strength dog tags are unconstitutional, and that it's illegal to display religious messages on them because they include the emblem of each military service branch. What's more, they demand the tags be pulled immediately. [...]

[Click to Read on LawOfficer.com](#)

**CLICK TO READ BACKGROUND ON MRFF'S
DEMAND THAT MILITARY CEASE ALLOWING
OFFICIAL EMBLEMS ON BIBLE VERSE DOG TAGS**



" ATTENTION MR. WEINSTEIN "

You are on the broad road to destruction. You need to Repent of your sins. Ask The LORD Jesus Christ to forgive you. Live Righteous, Clean, Sober and walk Upright. Time is running out.

(Name withheld)

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" ARMY "

I think is is a shame of what your organization stands for. You may think that you are doing good but you just do not realize the damage you are doing not only for our soldiers but to our country! MOVE TO ANOTHER COUNTRY!!!!. We were founded on this principle and we should stand on this principle.

I pray that each of you find peace within yourselves to stop the hatred and start doing what is right for our country and people. MATTHEW 5:9 (name withheld)

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" God Loves you even though "

I pray for you & your black heart daily. Sincerely, (name withheld)

*To see response from
MRFF Founder and President Mikey Weinstein*

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" ICO CDR (namewithheld), USN "

I will love and pray for you. I pray that you find the love and peace of Jesus. Thanks and Vr, (name withheld)

*To see response from
MRFF Founder and President Mikey Weinstein*

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" Freedom "

You do not support freedom by taking away other's prerogatives. You are clearly wrong on the dog tags (name withheld)

*To see response from
MRFF Founder and President Mikey Weinstein*

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" US Constitution and God "

Mikey, Hope you had a great Thanksgiving where the Lord blesses America everyday because he sent Christian Pilgrims and Christian Leaders to a new promise land. Our government is founded upon freedom of religion not freedom from like you seem to think. Our founding documents like the US Constitution, Paris Treaty of 1783, and the Declaration of Independence all have references to God and a Higher Authority. Why would you even care that a person has a dog tag with a scripture verse? That is freedom from religion. Not surprising as "Truth" is not something you stand for by doing what you are doing. I am a former Atheist who served in the US Army and would supported "Dog tags" with Bible verses. This is why Donald Trump is President. You are taking away peoples rights and freedoms that are protected by our founding documents. (name withheld)

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" Go into hiding Mikey...they're coming for you! "

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." (Psalm 14:1) (name withheld)

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" Dog Tags "

My husband and I are both retire police officers and he is a Vietnam veteran and I am left speechless after reading a news article that you are demanding the Army stop distributing dog tags with bible verses. These are only given on voluntary request by the men and women risking and sacrificing their lives and safety. I'm sure you believe this to be a matter of critical importance or you are just reveling in the power surge you're feeling now that you found that you, one man, have the ability to massively change policy in such a powerful institution and affect so many people by penning one letter. We only have one life and it is very short. I pray you will do some soul searching and see if this is really how you want to spend yours and what you really want your life to be known for. To take away something that brings comfort to others, something that has absolutely no affect on you in any way, just because why? You make me sad. (name withheld)

Shame on you for insisting the DoD stop allowing bible verses to be used on Dog Tags. I am a veteran and though not a church goer I do believe that a lot of service women and men find those versus comforting. You must reconsider your demands!!

God Bless America (name withheld)

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" SMH!! "

I just finished reading an article that you complained about scripture verses on dog tags?? Does the First Amendment mean nothing to you?? I am appalled that you complained in the first place!! This is not what the founding fathers would do!! God bless you mightily (name withheld)

[Click to Read in Inbox](#)

" you are a fuck stain "

you are a fuck stain (name withheld)

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" Mikey "

Dear Mikey, Nothing American about you. Please kill yourself. (name withheld)

*To see response from
MRFF Board Member John Compere*

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" Hey "

Here's a big FUCK YOU (name withheld)

[Click to Read in Inbox](#)

" What the hell is wrong with you "

Getting rid of verses on dog tags. really. I hope your organization goes under. Thanks for contributing to the attack on America. (name withheld)

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" Dogtags "

Well, you've stepped to a new low! How could you stop personalized dogtags that are " personalized ". I would think it would be disappointing the person wearing it & God, and not against the anti religious. So disappointed. Hopefully you can man up and reverse this. God help you. (name withheld)

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" Aking bible verses off dog tags "

I am getting really tired of your group and FFR , bullying groups with your anti-Christian philosophies. The first amendment protects FREEDOM OF (not FROM) religion. What you are doing is what is unconstitutional. You are denying many people of an important source of comfort in very dangerous and difficult situations. From what I understand these dog tags are sought after, not issued as official tags, so you should not have anything to say about it to begin with. Sincerely (name withheld)

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" Sewing Fellowship "

See your nasty pussy shut (name withheld)

[Click to Read in Inbox](#)

" MRFF: Disgusting, hateful bigots "

Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF), You disgusting, hateful bigots should be ashamed of your attacks on Christians and Christianity (name withheld)

[Click to Read in Inbox](#)

" FU "

FU (name withheld)

[Click to Read in Inbox](#)

" Why? "

From: (name withheld) Mikey really man? Now the MRFF won't let soldiers even have dog tags with there Christian faith on them? Hey man I don't mind that your jewish but it does seem that you people are destroying this great nation founded on only Christian principles. Adam Shifty trying to bring down the best President we ever had in Trump. All the other jews in congress and in holly wood trying to do the same thing. And now you and the MRFF. Might be time for you and your MRFF to just leave America to those of us who know where are abundance comes from. Jesus Christ is Lord.

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MRFF Information/Contact:

(505) 250-7727

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Fight in the Courts and in the Media**

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