

Thursday Evening, February 28, 2019



MILITARY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM  
f o u n d a t i o n

## STARS AND STRIPES COVERS RALLY AT SUPREME COURT OPPOSING BLADENSBURG CROSS

MRFF's Founder and President Mikey Weinstein Honored  
to be First Guest Speaker of 35 at the  
American Humanist Association (AHA)  
SCOTUS #HonorThemAll Rally,  
Held Wednesday, February 27, 2019

[Click to View Mikey's Speech \(5min 53sec\)](#)

*Please excuse quality of video.*



*Military Religious Freedom Foundation president Mikey Weinstein  
speaks at a rally in opposition to the Bladensburg Cross memorial in Maryland,  
Feb. 27, 2018 [2019, MRFF Correction] outside the Supreme Court.*

*Photo Credit: MEREDITH TIBBETTS/STARS AND STRIPES*

**Supreme Court: Is Peace Cross a  
war memorial or a Christian symbol?**

**By: Nikki Wentling**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2019**

*(Excerpt from Stars and Stripes)*

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court justices Wednesday questioned whether the historic and commemorative significance of a 40-foot cross should allow it to remain on public land in Bladensburg, Md., where it has stood for 94 years.

[...]

[Click to Read Entire Article on Stars and Stripes](#)

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR HOMEPAGE FEATURES MRFF

CSM - Seven Time Pulitzer Prize Winner

Lead Paragraph of CSM Article:

*There are a lot of complicated and painful reasons why Michael “Mikey” Weinstein decided to stand on the steps of the Supreme Court on Wednesday and speak out against the modest support a Maryland municipality provides for its massive World War I memorial, a century-old 40-foot cross.*

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Christian Science Monitor. At the top, the logo "The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR" is displayed in a yellow header bar, with a "Subscribe: \$11 / Month" button to the right. Below the header, the "IN THE NEWS" section is titled "What we're watching today". The main article featured is "How Trump's split-screen presidency transfixes a divided US" by Peter Grier, Staff writer, with a photo of Donald Trump speaking at a podium. Below this, there are three smaller article teasers: "Specter of new arms race has Russia recalling Soviets' fate" by Fred Weir, Correspondent; "It's 40 feet tall and concrete. Is 'Peace Cross' a civic or Christian symbol?" by Harry Bruinius, Staff writer; and "Looking for our nation's forgotten stories? Turn up the volume." by Janet Saidi, Contributor. The article about the 40-foot cross is circled in red.

## It's 40 feet tall and concrete. Is 'Peace Cross' a civic or Christian symbol?

**By: Harry Bruinius**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2019**

*(Excerpts from CSM/Emphasis added by MRFF)*

**There are a lot of complicated and painful reasons why Michael “Mikey” Weinstein decided to stand on the steps of the Supreme Court on Wednesday and speak out against the modest support a Maryland municipality provides for its massive World War I memorial, a century-old 40-foot cross.**

[...]

The Supreme Court heard arguments on Wednesday to determine whether the Bladensburg cross violates the First Amendment’s prohibition of an establishment of religion. **Mr. Weinstein, founder and president of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, suggested that there just seems something conceptually wrong, if not theologically wrong, with giving a secular meaning to the central symbol of Christianity and then arguing it can apply to people like him.**

**“To assume that a cross that is put up like that is supposed to be a symbol of honorable service, and in fact a symbol of ultimate service even for those who are not Christians who are killed – that’s an absolute affront that speaks in our name and denies us the ability to fully describe the level of marginalization and humiliation it causes,” Weinstein says in an interview.**

[...]

[Click to Read Entire Article On Christian Science Monitor](#)

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**BLADENSBURG CROSS BACKGROUND:**



Photo credit: Ben Jacobson ([Kranar Drogin](#)), [World War I Memorial, Bladensburg, Maryland 003](#).

Cropped by Military Religious Freedom Foundation, [CC BY-SA 3.0](#)

## MRFF's "FRIEND OF THE COURT" AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF AND CONTEXT REGARDING OPPOSITION OF BLADENSBURG CROSS

[Click to Read Bladensburg Cross Background](#)

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### MANCHESTER INK LINK COVERS MRFF

MRFF Demands to Have Christian Bible  
Removed From Veterans Administration  
Medical Center In Manchester, New Hampshire,  
in the Face of Unconstitutional Ignorance:

*“If someone doesn’t want to see it in the lobby,  
take another entrance. Turn your head. The Bible stays.”*

- Bob Jones

*Vietnam Veteran, active with Northeast POW/MIA  
Network (the group that set up the display)*

**Will it stay or will it go: Should Bible be part of  
POW/MIA display at VA Hospital?**

**By: Carol Robidoux**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2019**

*(Excerpts from Manchester Ink Link, Emphasis added by MRFF)*

Battle lines have been drawn at the Manchester VA Hospital, where a Bible on a table has pitted one veteran against another. It’s a stalemate that could

wind up being settled in court, says **Mikey Weinstein, Founder and President of Military Freedom From Religion.**

At the heart of the controversy is church-state separation in the military, says Weinstein, and that extends to the VA hospital which is government-run and paid for by tax dollars. The Bible must go, he says.

Not so fast, says Bob Jones, a Vietnam Veteran active with Northeast POW/MIA Network, the group that set up the display with a Bible donated by a 95-year-old local former POW.

**“I forget; when we took our oath to the military, did it say ‘God’ in it? How about when we get paid, on that money, it says ‘in God we trust.’ They don’t turn in their money, though, right? So now there’s a Bible on the table and they don’t like it. You know what? They are free to believe what they want to believe, and so am I. It’s called freedom,” Jones says. “The Bible stays.”**

[...]

**“Our organization represents just under 62,000 members of the U.S. Armed Forces, all branches and civilians, 95 percent are practicing Christians, but not all. There are atheists, Muslims, Buddhists, you name it. That’s why this thing happening in Manchester, it’s unacceptable,” Weinstein says. “If there are people going to the VA who aren’t comfortable with that display, and are intimidated to speak up for fear of retribution at the place they’re going for psychological and physical healing, well, excuse my French, but it’s effing bullshit.”**

He’s not the only one speaking French over Bible brouhaha.

**“This Mikey, he says there are 14 people who were disgusted by the Bible at the VA. He said they didn’t want to give their names, but you know what? If it were me, I would have the courage to get up and say hey – I’m Bob Jones and I don’t like this,” Jones, says.**

“I don’t care if it’s 14 people or 14,000. I don’t give a fat rat’s ass. If you have a problem, stand up and say so. I’m happy to talk about it with anyone. I’m just not moving the Bible,” says Jones. “If someone doesn’t want to see it in the lobby, take another entrance. Turn your head. The Bible stays.”

And to that, Weinstein says, Jones can “tell it to the judge.”

[Click to Read Entire Article at Manchester Ink Link](#)

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**ABC TV 9 - WMUR  
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE**



[Click to Watch Video \(1min 57sec\)](#)

## **Bible at center of dispute over display at Manchester VA Medical Center**

**By: Andy Hershberger**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2019**

*(Excerpts from ABC TV 9 - WMUR/Emphasis added by MRFF)*

MANCHESTER, N.H. — A Bible that was on display at the Manchester Veterans Affairs Medical Center is at the center of a controversy.

[...]

**The Missing Man Table is intended to honor the nation's missing veterans and POWs, but a spokesman for the Military Religious Freedom Foundation said the organization received complaints about a Bible that was originally part of the memorial.**

**The group asked the VA to remove it, calling its presence intolerable and unconstitutional.**

**"That is still a Christian Bible," said Mikey Weinstein of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation. "It is still promoting -- particularly in the surrounding aspect of the POW-MIA remembrance, one of the most sacred things you could do in the military -- one faith over another faith."**

[...]

[Click to Read Entire Article at ABC TV 9 - WMUR](#)

## **BACKGROUND ON:**

### **MRFF's Demand to Have Christian Bible Removed From Veterans Administration Medical Center In Manchester, New Hampshire**

[Click to Read Background](#)

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## **MRFF's PAST VICTORIES:**

### **Bible Removals From POW/MIA Tables at VA Facilities/Military Installations**

\*MRFF's Top 2 Bible Removal Victories were within 2 days of each other.

**[\\*7/19/18 - MRFF Momentum Results in Second Bible  
Removal Victory in Two Days!](#)**

**[\\*7/17/18 - MRFF Thanks USAF Wing Commander For Valiant Action  
Against Religious Favoritism at F.E. Warren AFB](#)**

**[11/3/17 – Denver VA Medical Center promptly removes  
Unconstitutional Bible from "Missing Man Table!"](#)**

**[10/18/16 - MRFF commends Chillicothe Veteran Affairs Medical Center  
\(VAMC\) in Athens Ohio, for prompt New Testament  
Bible removal from Medical Health Clinic](#)**

**[9/16/16 - New Testament Bible Removed from  
Eglin AFB, FL Allergy Clinic Table](#)**

**[4/19/16 - New Testament Bible Removed from  
Tobyhanna, PA VA POW/MIA Table](#)**

**[4/11/16 - New Testament Bible Removed from  
Houston, TX VA POW/MIA Table](#)**

**[4/8/16 - New Testament Bible Removed from  
Wright Patterson AFB, OH POW/MIA Table](#)**

**[4/4/16 - New Testament Bible Removed from  
Youngstown, OH VA POW/MIA Table](#)**

**[2/25/16 - New Testament Bible Removed from  
Akron, OH VA POW/MIA Table](#)**

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# INCOMING HATE

## MRFF'S INBOX

### "All The Joy"

Subject: All The Joy

Date: February 27, 2019 at 7:19:15 PM MST

To: Information Weinstein <mikey@militaryreligiousfreedom.org>

Mickey, you take all the joy out of being an American.  
Go back to Israel with the rest of your long-nosed breed of jew rats.  
(name withheld)

*To see response from MRFF Advisory Board Member Mike Farrell:*

[Click to read in Inbox](#)



### "VA Bible"

On Feb 28, 2019, at 7:05 AM, (name withheld) wrote:

Instead of removing the Bible why didn't you request that other religious texts be included in the display? It's organizations like yours and the aclu that are tearing down the fabric of our country. Maybe we should get rid of all the money in the US too. In God we trust. Also get rid of the Constitution as God is mentioned there. Get rid of the Declaration of Independence too and go back to being owned by Great Britain. Thank you for your service but I served also and think your wrong.

*To see responses from MRFF Founder and  
President Mikey Weinstein and MRFF Advisory  
Board Member John Compere:*

[Click to read in Inbox](#)

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**MRFF Information/Contact:**  
(505) 250-7727

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our Fight in the Courts and in the Media

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