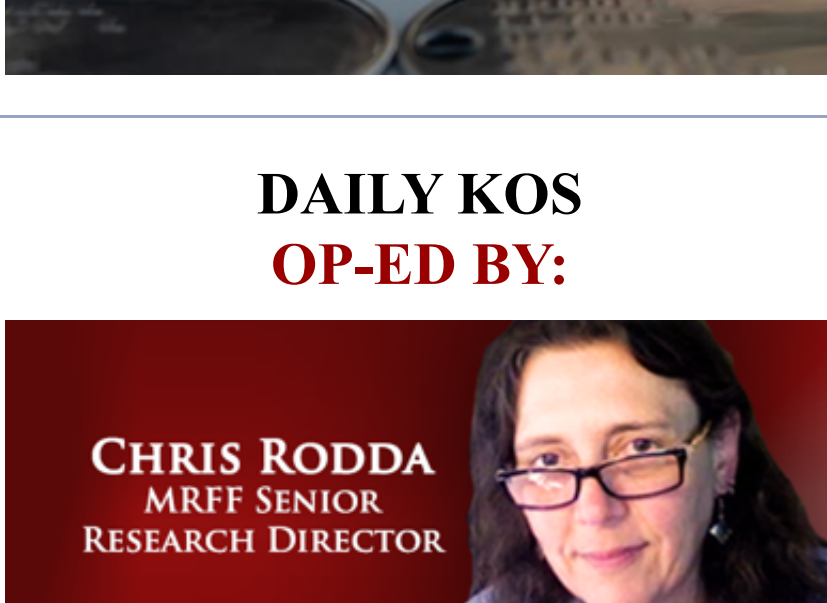


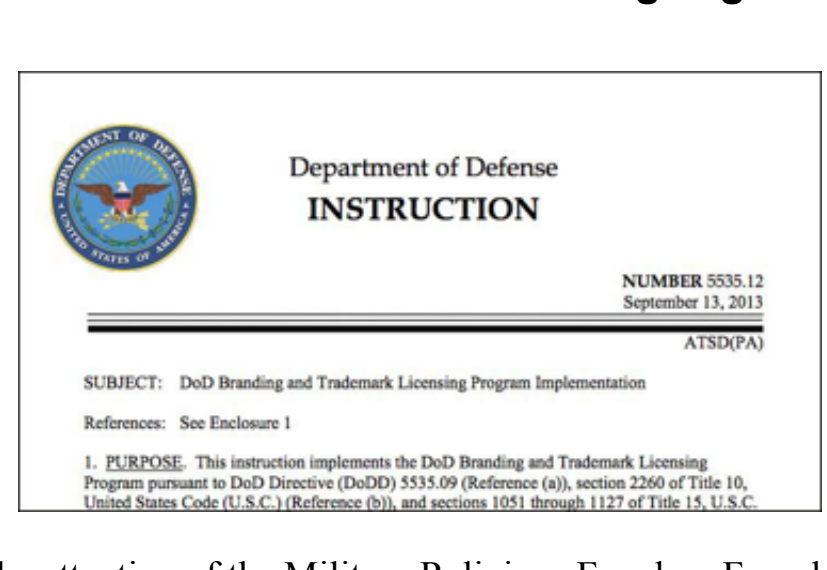


MRFF DEMANDS STOPPAGE OF OFFICIAL MILITARY EMBLEMS ON OVERTLY CHRISTIAN DOG TAGS



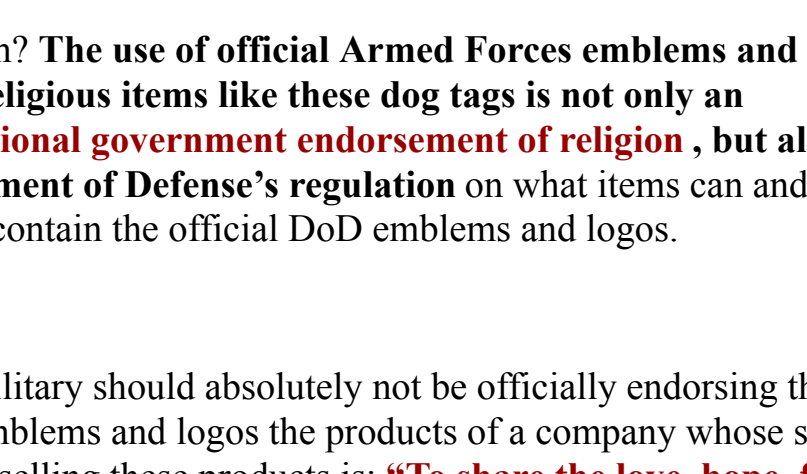
DAILY KOS

OP-ED BY:



Monday, July 8, 2019

MRFF Demands That Military Cease Allowing its Official Emblems on Bible Verse Dog Tags



It came to the attention of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) last week that the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) had officially licensed a **Christian jewelry company** to use the official trademarked USMC emblem on their products. Among its products, the company, **Shields of Strength LLC, is currently producing dog tags with a Bible verse on one side and the official USMC emblem on the other**. They also sell similar Bible verse dog tags for the other military branches, using the official trademarked Air Force and Navy emblems and the official trademarked Army logo, although its unknown whether or not they have been granted a license to do so.

The problem? **The use of official Armed Forces emblems and logos on blatantly religious items like these dog tags is not only an unconstitutional government endorsement of religion, but also violates the Department of Defense's regulation** on what items can and cannot be licensed to contain the official DoD emblems and logos.

[...]

The U.S. military should absolutely not be officially endorsing through the use of its emblems and logos the products of a company whose stated mission for selling these products is: **"To share the love, hope, forgiveness, and power of God's Word with others and to see people victorious in life's battles and in a relationship with Jesus Christ."**

Therefore, **MRFF is demanding that the military cease to allow the use of its emblems and logos by Shields of Strength**, sending the following letter to the USMC's trademark office and similar letters to the trademark offices of the other three military branches.

[...]

Click to read on Daily Kos

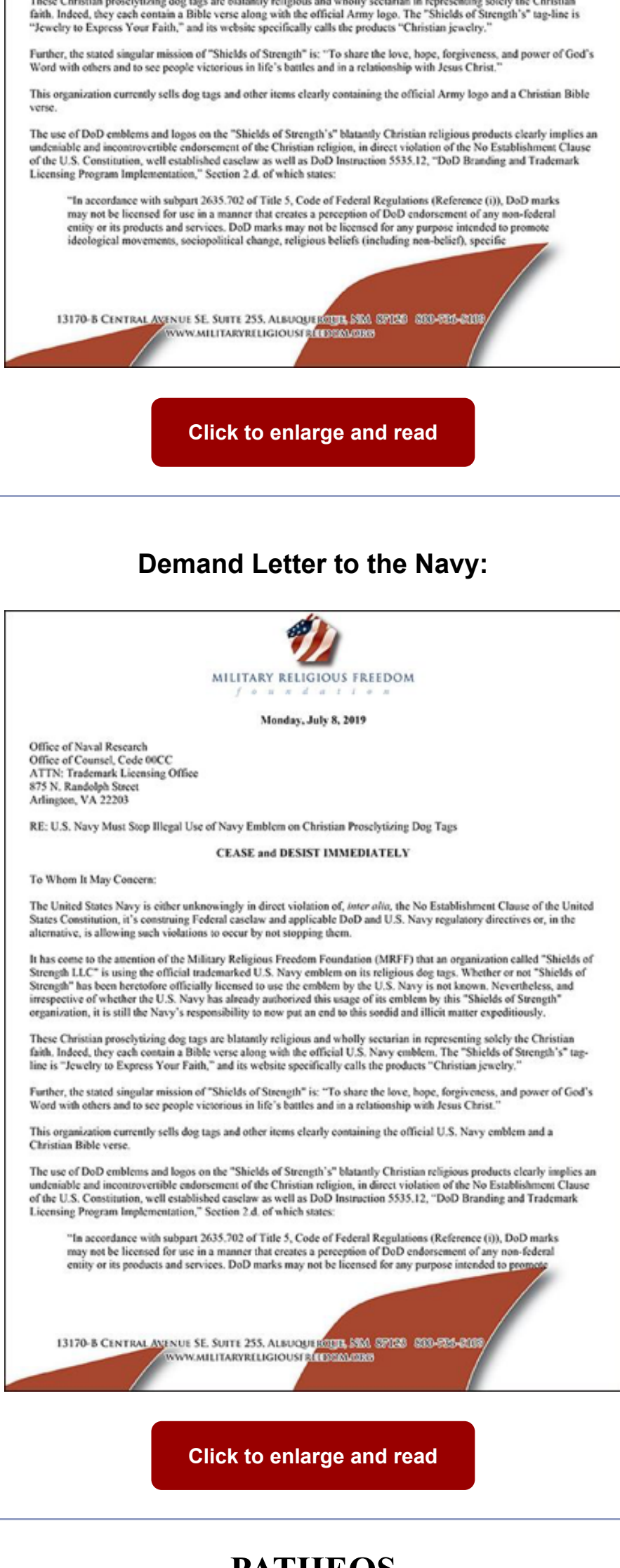
MRFF's DEMAND LETTERS TO THE MILITARY BRANCH TRADEMARK OFFICES

Demand Letter to the Marines:



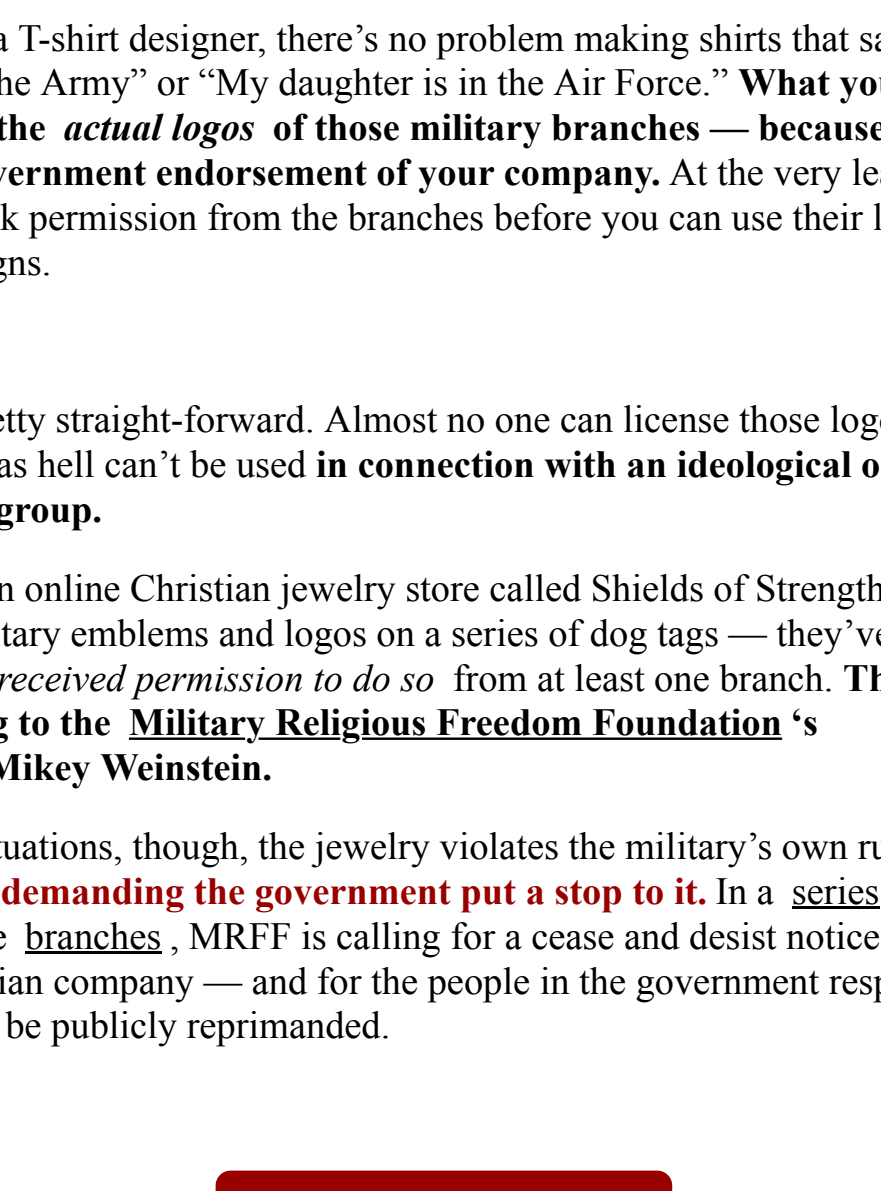
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Demand Letter to the Air Force:



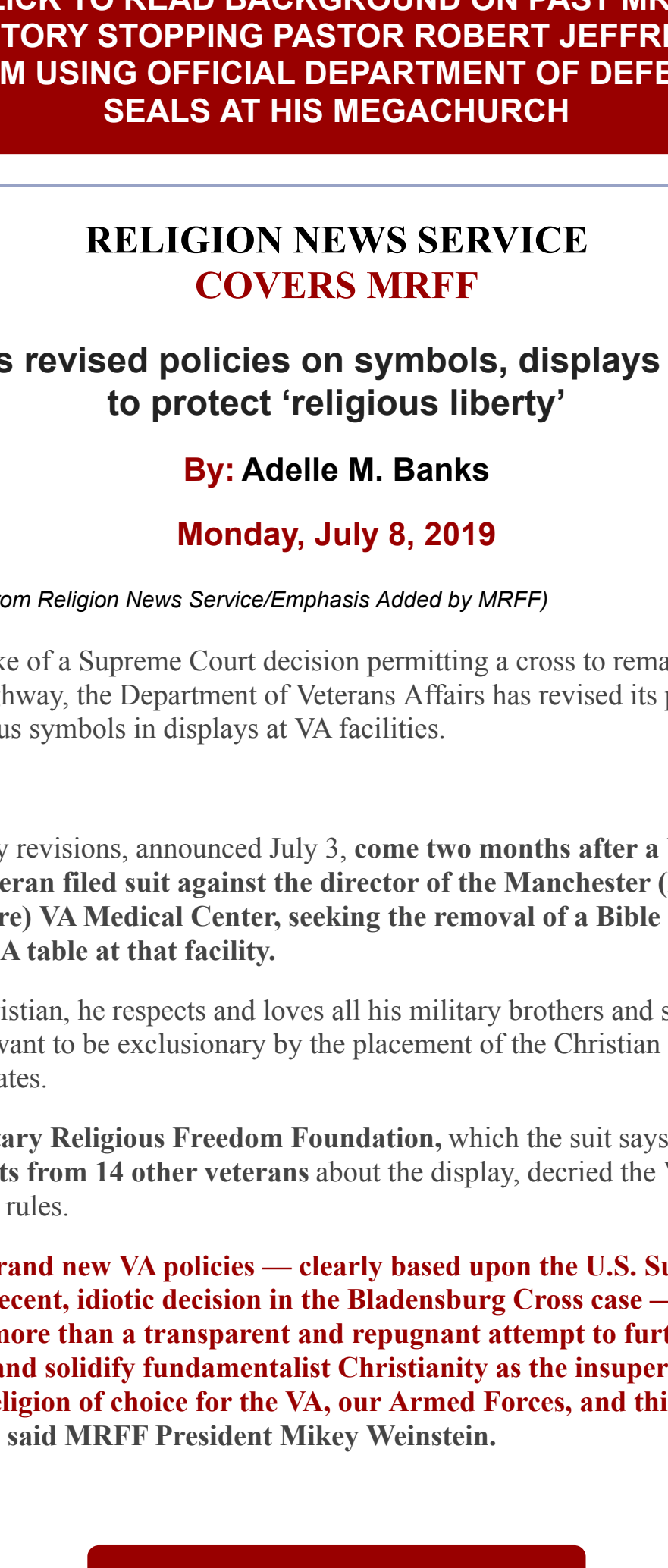
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Demand Letter to the Army:



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Demand Letter to the Navy:



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PATHEOS COVERS MRFF

Group Demands U.S. Military Block Christian Jewelry Store From Using Its Logos

By: Hemant Mehta

Monday, July 8, 2019

(Excerpts from Patheos/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

If you're a T-shirt designer, there's no problem making shirts that say "My son is in the Army" or "My daughter is in the Air Force." **What you can't do is use the actual logos of those military branches — because it might imply government endorsement of your company.** At the very least, you have to ask permission from the branches before you can use their logos in your designs.

[...]

Seems pretty straight-forward. Almost no one can license those logos. And they sure as hell can't be used in connection with an ideological or religious group.

And yet an online Christian jewelry store called Shields of Strength isn't just using military emblems and logos on a series of dog tags — they've explicitly received permission to do so from at least one branch. **That's according to the Military Religious Freedom Foundation's founder Mikey Weinstein.**

In both situations, though, the jewelry violates the military's own rules, and **MRFF is demanding the government put a stop to it.** In a series of letters to all the branches, MRFF is calling for a cease and desist notice against the Christian company, — and for the people in the government responsible for this to be publicly reprimanded.

[...]

Click to read on Patheos

CLICK TO READ BACKGROUND ON PAST MRFF VICTORY GETTING OFFICIAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMBLEMS REMOVED FROM HOLMAN MILITARY BIBLES

CLICK TO READ BACKGROUND ON PAST MRFF VICTORY STOPPING PASTOR ROBERT JEFFRESS FROM USING OFFICIAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEALS AT HIS MEGACHURCH

RELIGION NEWS SERVICE COVERS MRFF

VA's revised policies on symbols, displays aim to protect 'religious liberty'

By: Adelle M. Banks

Monday, July 8, 2019

(Excerpts from Religion News Service/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

In the wake of a Supreme Court decision permitting a cross to remain on a public highway, the Department of Veterans Affairs has revised its policies on religious symbols in displays at VA facilities.

[...]

The policy revisions, announced July 3, come two months after a U.S. Air Force veteran filed suit against the director of the Manchester (New Hampshire) VA Medical Center, seeking the removal of a Bible from a POW/MIA table at that facility.

"As a Christian, he respects and loves all his military brothers and sisters and does not want to be exclusionary by the placement of the Christian Bible," the suit states.

The Military Religious Freedom Foundation, which the suit says received complaints from 14 other veterans about the display, decried the VA's revamped rules.

"These brand new VA policies — clearly based upon the U.S. Supreme Court's recent, idiotic decision in the Bladensburg Cross case — are nothing more than a transparent and repugnant attempt to further buttress and solidify fundamentalist Christianity as the insuperable official religion of choice for the VA, our Armed Forces, and this country," said MRFF President Mikey Weinstein.

[...]

Click to read on Religion News Service

CLICK TO READ BACKGROUND ON MRFF'S DENOUNCEMENT OF THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION'S NEW "RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL SYMBOLS POLICIES"



MRFF Information/Contact:
(505) 250-7727

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