

Thursday Evening, March 4, 2021



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

**DISTINGUISHED MRFF ALLY
RABBI JOEL SCHWARTZMAN
FORCEFULLY DECRIES ANTI-SEMITIC
HATE RECEIVED BY MRFF**

MRFF's demand that the town of Monument, CO remove or alter a blatantly Christian veterans memorial in a government-run cemetery has been met with anti-Semitic hate towards MRFF by so-called "Christians."

**JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE U.S.A.
JOINS AMERICANS UNITED AS ALLIES
SUPPORTING MRFF'S INITIAL DEMAND**



Inscription on memorial:

"Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you: Jesus Christ and the American Soldier; one died for your soul, the other died for your freedom."

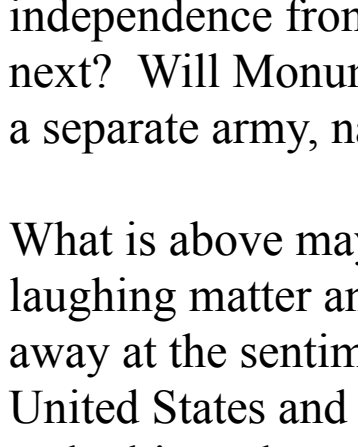
We honor those who made freedom a reality.

**MRFF SUPPORTER OP-ED ON
LA PROGRESSIVE AND DAILY KOS**

The Monument in Monument.

**By: Rabbi Joel R. Schwartzman
Chaplain (Colonel) (Ret.) USAF**

Thursday, March 4, 2021



The town of Monument, Colorado, seemingly has decided to secede from the United States, since it has decided to abrogate the Constitution regarding the placement of [a monument that both violates Department of Defense strictures and the First Amendment's Establishment Clause](#), which posits the separation of Church and State. Monument's Mayor and City Council have stepped outside what is legally permitted and, by inference, have determined to go their own way by indirectly declaring their independence from the federal government and the Union. What might be next? Will Monument now create its own Department of Defense including a separate army, navy, and air force by which to defend itself?

What is above may sound hyperbolic and filled with sarcasm, but it is no laughing matter and stands on issues that involve quite serious matters. Chip away at the sentiments, precedents, and contents that the Constitution of the United States and the regulations that the Department of Defense contain, and, ultimately, you lose those elements that bind this country together. You find yourself standing outside of the boundaries of the republic itself.

This monument issue involves two failures that have created this painful situation.

The first is that the Boy Scouts of America failed the scout whose Eagle project was to commemorate heroes who gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. However, by referencing only Christians, the monument now residing in a cemetery owned by the City of Monument violates and, by inference, ignores and thereby disrespects all non-Christians who also gave their lives to defend the United States. One need not list the variety of non-Christians that this slight, this egregiously too narrow tribute, entails. That Scout officials dropped this ball and didn't correct this Eagle candidate's vision placed him in the eye of a storm I am fairly certain he did not mean to create. Shame on the Scout leaders who, as adults and guides, should have corrected this situation from the outset.

The second failure is that of the leadership of the town, who permitted the placement of this monument in a government-operated cemetery. That it violates the Constitution's First Amendment is only part of their faux pas. Their second mistake is permitting the use of the emblems of the branches of service which clearly is [forbidden by DOD regulations](#). Shame on the political leaders of the town for not doing their homework and for now continuing to flaunt their clear violations of the Constitution.

Tangentially, Mikey Weinstein and the [Military Religious Freedom Foundation](#) (MRFF) have received the same type of emails filled with violent, [anti-Semitic screed](#) that, over the years, they repeatedly have had to suffer. In the gamut of [Christian believers](#) represented in the different denominations throughout this country, there is an element which, I am certain, was well represented on the 6th of January at the insurrection at the Capitol building. These are White Supremacist, super secessionist dominionists who espouse a form of faith that is filled with hatred toward everyone and anyone who does not believe as they do. These people often do not display any depth of intelligence. Their emails to Mikey and the MRFF are more often than not crudely bigoted and threatening, with fake addresses that are untraceable. They repeat the same ugly tropes as though they are working from a shared script. However, words are not nearly as concerning as physical attacks, acts that the Biblical Jesus would hardly have sanctioned since they threaten human life.

[...]

[Click to read article on LA Progressive and Daily Kos](#)

**Email from MRFF Anti-Semitic Detractor that
Rabbi Schwartzman Rebukes:**

"STAY OUT OF MONUMENT COLORADO!"

Mr. Wienstein and Military Religious "Freedom" Foundation,
My husband and I live in Monument Colorado and he is a proud veteran.

We and our kids and our friends and neighbors fully support the Veterans Memorial as it is.

The moment we heard that you had come to our peaceful Town with your MRFF hatred we knew what that meant.

You and your MRFF group are very well known as evil troublemakers who only target believers in Jesus Christ.

Interesting that you're a Jew since your tribe has historically invested much effort through the ages to harass and attack innocent Christians.

[...]

**To read full email and see responses from
MRFF Advisory Board Members Mike Farrell,
Martin France, and Ted Furlow, MRFF Board Member
John Compere, and a MRFF Supporter:**

[Click to read in Inbox](#)

**Email from MRFF Supporter Exposing
Anti-Semitic Hate Toward MRFF in Church Group**

**"Anti-Jewish Church Discussion Group Meeting
Yesterday in Colorado Springs"**

My family, children and I live in Monument Colorado and we attend a large Christian church nearby in Colorado Springs.

My husband is in the military and works at the Air Force Academy. He is a graduate of the Academy in the class of (USAFA Class year withheld) We have gone to this church for several years.

Often after the Sunday service there is a discussion group which is really often just a follow on Bible study session mostly.

But yesterday the whole discussion was about the veterans memorial in our town's cemetery put there by the Boy Scout for his Eagle Scout project.

More to the point the discussion was about you and the Military Religious Freedom Foundation.

My husband and I were just totally shocked at the appalling attacks made against you personally as well as the MRFF.

As I said on the phone what upset me and my husband the most were the very anti-Jewish statements made by so many including some of our church leaders and their spouses.

My husband and I just looked at each other in disbelief?
We didn't say anything but now feel badly that we should have.

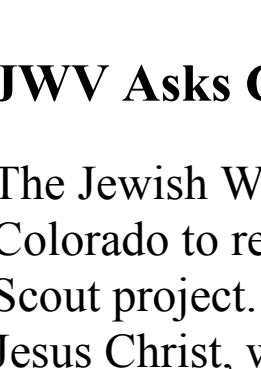
People we never thought would say such horrible things about you and Jews said them openly.

[...]

To read full email and see responses from MRFF Supporters:

[Click to read in Inbox](#)

**Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. Joins
MRFF in Calling for Removal of
Unconstitutional Veterans Memorial**



Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America
1811 R Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009
(202) 265-6280 / Fax (202) 234-5662

News Release
Contact: Cara Rinkoff, Programs and Public Relations Coordinator
Email: crinkoff@jvw.org

JWV Asks Colorado Town to Remove Cemetery Memorial

The Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. is calling on the town of Monument, Colorado to remove a memorial placed in its cemetery as part of an Eagle Scout project. The memorial stone honoring military members references Jesus Christ, which should not be placed on city-owned property.

About Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America
Founded in 1896, the [Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America](#) is the oldest active veterans' organization in America. JWV is dedicated to upholding America's democratic traditions and fighting bigotry, prejudice, injustice, and discrimination of all kinds. As a national organization, JWV represents the voice of America's Jewish veterans on issues related to veterans' benefits, foreign policy, and national security. JWV also commits itself to the assistance of oppressed Jews worldwide.

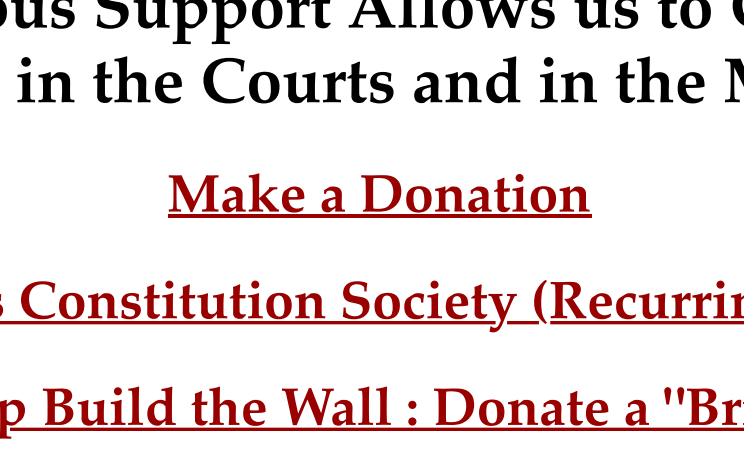
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**Background on MRFF's Call for Removal or
Alteration of Unconstitutional Christian Veterans
Memorial in Government-run Cemetery**

**2/25/21 – Americans United (AU) Joins MRFF in Calling for
Removal or Alteration of Christian Veterans Memorial in
Government-run Cemetery**

**2/24/21 – MRFF Demands that Blatantly Christian Veterans
Memorial be Altered or Removed from Government-Run Cemetery**

Please Share on Social Media



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

SUPPORT MRFF!

**Your Generous Support Allows us to Continue our
Fight in the Courts and in the Media**

[Make a Donation](#)

[Join MRFF's Constitution Society \(Recurring Donation\)](#)

[Help Build the Wall: Donate a "Brick"!](#)

