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## Marine Court-Martialed for Displaying Bible Verse



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Wednesday, May 27, 2015

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A U.S. Marine has been convicted at a court-martial for displaying a Bible verse. Now her case is being appealed to the military's highest court.

When Lance Cpl. Monifa Sterling has was stationed at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, she posted Isaiah 54:17, which reads, "No weapon formed against you shall prosper."

Liberty Institute reports she printed out the verse and posted it in her workspace. Her supervisor complained about it, reportedly cursing at her and telling her to remove it.

Sterling contended she had a First Amendment right to religious expression and did not take down the verse. She says the next day her supervisor tore down the verse and threw it in the trash.

The U.S. government then criminally prosecuted Sterling.

In the case, Sterling argued her First Amendment rights to religious expression, as well as her protection under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, or RFRA.

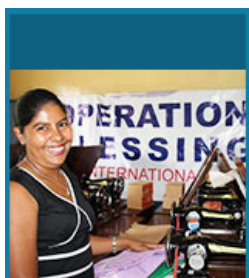
Both the trial court and the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals said the RFRA did not apply because displaying a Bible verse does not constitute religious exercise.

"If the government can order a Marine not to display a Bible verse, they could try and order her not to get a religious tattoo, or go to church on Sunday," said Liberty Institute Director of Military Affairs and Senior Counsel Mike Berry.

"Restricting a Marine's free exercise of religion is blatantly unconstitutional," he charged.

Now former U.S. Solicitor General Paul Clement and Liberty Institute are appealing on Sterling's behalf, asking the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces to take the case and protect Sterling's right to religious freedom.

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thelordbewithus 27 minutes ago

all- don't respond to anything cfl has to say- he is a liberal, Gay supporter, and a mean individual. bibword- I would be careful about a lot of your posts, they seem to be liberal. I read where you said you look at both sides of an issue. there is only one side and that is with Jesus and his Word. ... [View More..](#)



Mere Christian an hour ago

No true Christian can enroll or reenlist in the US Armed Forces until Obama leaves office; for to do so is to bow the knee to Baal which is impossible if you are serious about bowing the knee to God.



CantTouchThis! 2 hours ago

I encourage anyone defending this former Marine to hire her to work at your business with her dishonorable discharge. Read the court proceedings first, and tell me whether you'd accept someone with her refusal to do the job, or whether you'd be worried about being sued after firing her.



Bibword 2 hours ago

Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD. The employee is quoting the Bible to refute the charges of insubordinatio... [View More..](#)



CantTouchThis! 2 hours ago

Private Sterling (not Lance Corporal) posted the saying, without attributing it to scripture, to show defiance to a superior officer. This case is interesting, because if she gets by with this, what's to stop a defiant subordinate from posting "God Hates Fags" against a commanding officer... [View More..](#)



Laurie 2 hours ago

Well when something severe happens in America if our government thinks they can go and pray and that that will "fix the problem" they will be very surprised. (After 911 all kinds of people were going to temple,church but that didn't last long. we need to see God work again and that will ha... [View More..](#)



WilliamT 3 hours ago

Truthseeker, what's your point of making an ridiculous Nazi comparison? You think her commanding officers ordered her to do something as heinous as killing Jews?? She refused orders falsely claiming a medical excuse - that's something to be proud of?



Jeanie 3 hours ago

Father I pray now that as she hung that verse. That the truth of that verse would stand and that these people would not succeed against her. And that she would be vindicated and those who did this against her would know that you are YHWH In Jesus holy name amen.



Truthseeker 4 hours ago

I'm certainly glad that the German soldiers of WWII obeyed all of the orders given at Auschwitz and avoided being court-martialed.



WilliamT 4 hours ago

If someone repeatedly refuses to obey orders - including using unfounded medical excuses - why shouldn't she be court-martialed?

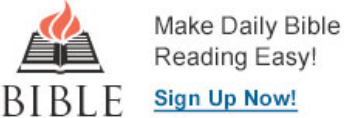
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