



FACT SHEET

Little Pencil v. Lubbock Independent School District

ABOUT THE CASE

In October 2013, Lubbock Independent School District denied an ad request from David L. Miller, founder of Little Pencil, LLC, an organization that promotes the Bible's teachings through contemporary marketing campaigns. The ad consists of the website address "jesustattoo.org" and an image of Jesus Christ with allegorical tattoos that represent the sins he bore on the cross. Miller wanted to display his ad on the Jumbotron at the district's football games, but it denied the request because, as the district explained to ADF attorneys representing Miller, the district "is prohibited from allowing religious advertisements with the use of government property based on the Establishment Clause." Despite this explanation, the district routinely permits numerous other religious and non-religious, non-school-related organizations to advertise.

STATUS AS OF 2015-03-02

Alliance Defending Freedom Senior Legal Counsel Jeremy Tedesco will argue on behalf of Little Pencil at a hearing at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit in New Orleans on March 3, 2015.

WHAT IS AT STAKE?

- Whether the government can discriminate against or choose between faith-based organizations and their messages.
- Whether the government will be allowed to violate the constitutionally protected freedoms of faith-based organizations.

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ABOUT Alliance Defending Freedom

Alliance Defending Freedom is an alliance-building, non-profit legal organization that advocates for the right of people to freely live out their faith.

ABOUT Jeremy Tedesco

Jeremy Tedesco serves as senior legal counsel for Alliance Defending Freedom and its Center for Religious Liberty. In 2004, he earned his J.D. from the Regent University School of Law. Tedesco is admitted to the State Bar of Arizona; the Supreme and District Court of Arizona; the District Court of Colorado; the U.S. Courts of Appeal for the 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 9th Circuits; and the U.S. Supreme Court.

ABOUT Kevin Theriot

Kevin Theriot serves as vice president of the Center for Religious Liberty with Alliance Defending Freedom and oversees its Education and Church Projects, as well as legal matters involving freedom of expression in the public square. He is admitted to the bar in eight states, the U.S. Supreme Court, and numerous other federal courts of appeal and district courts. Theriot received his law degree from Vanderbilt University and has been litigating First Amendment issues since 1993.