



[Please select here to sign urgent petition, and we will fax all 100 Senators \(saving you time!\) to PROTECT MILITARY CHAPLAINS RIGHT TO PRAY "IN JESUS' NAME" or according to their conscience.](#) Or sign free option [here](#).



Court bans Jesus Prayers by County Officials

An appeals court ruled 10 to 5 that county officials **may not pray "in Jesus' name" before government meetings**, despite a previous Supreme Court ruling that Jesus is not illegal.

"The Fourth Circuit of the US Court of Appeals has ruled that Rowan County's practice of prayer before county commission meetings is unconstitutional," [reports](#) WBTV.

"A press release provided by the ACLU of North Carolina says that the court ruled 10-5 that the practice 'violated the Constitution when they opened public meetings by coercing public participation in prayers that overwhelmingly advanced beliefs specific to one religion. The decision upheld a lower court ruling.'

The full 108 page ruling can be read [here](#).

Anti-Jesus complainers hailed the decision as a victory for **silencing free speech by Christians**.

"In March, the case was argued before the full panel of fifteen judges in Richmond, VA., in March of this



year. In January of last year, the case was heard by a panel of three judges. In September, that panel reversed the ruling that Rowan County Commissioners violated the Constitution when they held prayers before public meetings that were specific to one religion. In October, the appeals court agreed to vacate and reconsider a divided 2-1 **decision in September that found the practice constitutional.**"

[Dr. Chaps' comment: Sadly left-wing judicial activists have silenced free speech and turned the Constitution upside-down, pretending it bans certain words like "Jesus" as illegal speech that may never be uttered, or that only atheists may speak freely when elected. They create an unconstitutional religious litmus test banning Christians from holding public office or speaking about their faith after election. This must be appealed back to SCOTUS, who already ruled in 2015 that Jesus prayers are allowed.]

Let's petition Congress for chaplains rights to pray "in Jesus' name":

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[Court rehears "Prayers In Jesus Name" case](#)

"Last week, on June 14, the full Sixth Circuit reheard a case en banc—with all of the court's 15 judges reviewing the case—after the three-judge panel **ruled against the commissioners" because one of them prayed publicly "in Jesus' name"**, [reports](#) First Liberty.

The case "is Bormuth v. County of Jackson—involving members of Jackson County's (Michigan) Board of Commissioners opening government meetings with invocations. This case recently saw important court action in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati. First Liberty stepped in to represent Jackson County after the Sixth Circuit panel ruled 2-1 against the commissioners' invocations earlier this year.

"Legislatures at the federal, state and local levels nationwide have opened their sessions with invocations for more than two centuries, as the **Supreme Court has twice recognized in upholding this widely accepted practice,**" said Ken Klukowski, First Liberty Senior Counsel. "Jackson County's invocations are fully consistent with the Constitution and the Supreme Court's guidance on this issue."



"The nine-member Jackson County Board of Commissioners begins each meeting with an invocation given on a rotating basis by commissioners who voluntarily choose to participate. Commissioners are free to follow their conscience, whether that means offering an invocation or a moment of silence.

"However, in 2013, Peter Bormuth, a local activist and self-described Pagan and Animist who had attended some of the commissioners' meetings, sued over the invocations. He argued that invocations constitute the establishment of an official religion in Jackson County.

"A federal district court ruled in favor of the county, with the judge noting that 'Bormuth's subjective sense of affront' was 'insufficient to sustain an Establishment Clause violation.' However, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit overturned this decision, ruling that the invocations were unconstitutional.

"After the panel's ruling, the Sixth Circuit—in a rare move—decided to **rehear the case en banc**, which meant that all 15 members of the Sixth Circuit would weigh in."

[Dr. Chaps' comment: I have fought this battle for 11 years, and helped win 13 victories in 13 states including the Supreme Court, who ruled it's OK to pray in Jesus' name, even in a public forum. But can government officials do so? I say yes, but now this court will decide. Let's pray for victory, in Jesus' name!]

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God Bless you, in Jesus' name,

Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt, PhD

Who is Dr. Chaps? [Read bio here.](#)

Prefer to donate by mail? Please write: The Pray In Jesus Name Project, PO Box 77077, Colorado Springs, CO 80970.