

March 29, 2021

Michael L. Weinstein
President, MRFF
13170-B Central Avenue SE
Suite 225
Albuquerque, NM 87123

Sent via email and U.S. Mail
mikeyw4444@icloud.com

Re: Town of Monument Demands MRFF Apologize to Eagle Scout for Disrespectful Statements About His Private Veterans Memorial

Mr. Weinstein,

First Liberty Institute is a nationwide, non-profit lawfirm dedicated to defending religious liberty for all Americans. We represent the Town of Monument on this issue. Please direct all communication on this matter to my attention.

Eagle Scout Michael Carlson spent almost two years raising private donations for a memorial to honor veterans like his father.¹ Your letters and public communications to the media seek to disparage his efforts and the private speech of this 16 year-old resident of the Town of Monument.

The Eagle Scout intended to use his voice to honor all brave men and women who have served in our armed forces. The memorial he created is privately designed, privately maintained, and located on private burial plots in Monument Cemetery.

Instead of recognizing his honorable intention, you issued a public press release referring to his monument as a “wretched, unconstitutional dumpster fire” and an “unconstitutional gambit/scheme to get the American military to endorse and validate the fundamentalist Christian nationalist message of supremacy, dominance, exclusivity and exceptionalism of that memorial monument.”² Your attack on a minor who simply intended to honor our veterans is profoundly disrespectful to all involved.

¹ https://gazette.com/thetribune/monument-teen-gifts-his-eagle-scout-project-a-veterans-memorial-to-the-town/article_aff43470-07fe-11eb-b8b2-13e6ab5da275.html

² <https://militaryreligiousfreedom.org/press-releases/2021/3-10-21-MRFF-Preparing-Federal-Lawsuit-After-Town-Fails-to-Respond-to-Demand.pdf>

The Town of Monument appreciates all efforts by members of our community, including the Boy Scouts, to honor our veterans. We respectfully request that you issue an immediate apology to Michael Carlson and his family.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Stephanie N. Taub
Senior Counsel
First Liberty Institute

Andrew Richey
Town Attorney
Town of Monument, CO
645 Beacon Lite Road
Monument, CO 80132