



Focus on Religious Freedom

“In all his activity, a man is bound to follow his conscience in order that he may come to God, the end and purpose of life.” “It follows that he is not to be forced to act in a manner contrary to his conscience.” Abp. Broglio, Abp. for the Military Services, quoting *Gaudium et Spes*

To Protect Their Religious Freedom Navy SEALs Ask Supreme Court to Intervene in Vaccine Mandate Battle

A group of Navy SEALs and other Naval Special Warfare service members are asking the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold an injunction that temporarily blocks the U. S. Navy from enforcing the COVID-19 vaccine mandate. The plaintiffs initially sued the Navy for not granting religious accommodations to the military-wide vaccine mandate. Subsequently, both a district and an appeals court acted in favor of the SEALs, affirming there is no military or pandemic exception to the Constitution.

However, in March, 2022, the administration asked the Court to lift the lower federal court order protecting the Navy SEALs from being punished for requesting religious accommodation to the vaccine mandate. "In other words, the government asked for permission to continue punishing religious service members while the case is being heard," wrote First Liberty Institute. ⁽¹⁾

"Despite over 99% of the Navy being vaccinated, the Navy has not granted a single religious exemption for the COVID-19 vaccination...while granting hundreds of exemptions for secular reasons," said Counsel for First Liberty. ⁽²⁾ "It is our hope that the Supreme Court will reject the administration's punitive approach and respect the religious liberty of our clients," First Liberty stressed. ⁽³⁾

More Hope for Religious Awakening and Revival: Pope Francis Consecrates Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Excerpts from the Consecration on March 25, 2022:

"Oh Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. ...

"We have strayed from the path of peace. We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars. ...

"Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, ...

"Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. ..." Amen

(firstliberty.org, 3/18/22(1)(3); americanmilitarynews.com, 3/18/22(2); libertynewsflash, 3/8/22; christianitydaily.com, 3/23/22)



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