



MILITARY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM  
f o u n d a t i o n

*Since its inception in 2005, MRFF and its President and Founder, Michael L. "Mikey" Weinstein, have worked tirelessly to protect the rights of our clients by fostering a national discussion, influencing military policies, and pursuing legal remedies through our court system.*



**January 2010** - After MRFF and Mikey Weinstein exposed on ABC's Nightline the biblical references engraved on Trijicon brand rifle scopes used by the United States military in Iraq and Afghanistan, the story exploded across international news outlets. Shortly after the "Jesus Rifles" story broke, the manufacturer gave into media pressure and ceased using the inscriptions, and distributed kits throughout the military to remove these biblical references from weaponry currently deployed worldwide.



**April 2010** - MRFF successfully demanded the cancellation of Islamophobic Evangelical Preacher Franklin Graham's scheduled participation in the Pentagon's National Day of Prayer event, thereby severing the affiliation between the Pentagon event and Shirley Dobson's (wife of Focus on the Family founder James Dobson) exclusively Christian National Day of Prayer Task Force and making this event inclusive of all religions. Also in April, the book *Attitudes Aren't Free: Thinking Deeply about Diversity in the US Armed Forces*, published by Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base, was widely distributed throughout the command structure of the United States military. The book includes a chapter written by MRFF Senior Research Director Chris Rodda, which provides a comprehensive overview and numerous specific examples of the various issues that MRFF is currently dealing with and has dealt with in the past.



**June 2010** - Colorado Interfaith Alliance officially endorsed MRFF's challenge of the Evans Army Community Hospital emblem's depiction of a Crusader cross.



**August 2010** - MRFF broke the story of soldiers punished for refusing to attend a Christian concert at Ft. Eustis. MRFF's spotlight on the issue of military-endorsed Christian concerts led to significant criticism of the Billy Graham Association's "Rock the Fort" Christian concert at Ft. Bragg the following month.



**September 2010** - MRFF and Mikey were included as major subjects in *New York Times* bestselling author Jeff Sharlet's newest groundbreaking book, *C Street: The Fundamentalist Threat to American Democracy* (published by Little, Brown and Company), in which they are referred to as the "constitutional conscience of the military."



**October 2010** - MRFF was officially nominated for the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize, making this the second consecutive year MRFF has been honored with such recognition. Mikey Weinstein received the 2010 Anne Froehlich Political Courage Award from the Pacific Palisades Democratic Club for his work with the foundation.



**November 2010** - After MRFF's relentless pressure on the US Air Force Academy, Superintendent Lt. Gen. Gould released the data behind the bi-annual Academy Climate Survey. The survey revealed that 41% of non-Christian cadets and 19% of all cadets were subjected to unwanted proselytizing.



**Throughout 2010, Mikey Weinstein has spoken to students at a number of the U.S. military's educational institutions:** the U.S. Air Force Academy's National Character and Leadership Symposium, the Air Force JAG School, and the Air Command and Staff College. He is honored to accept an invitation to speak at the prestigious U.S. Army War College in early 2011. This direct contact with the future leaders of America's military is vitally important to MRFF's continuing mission of fostering a climate of absolute religious freedom and acceptance throughout our armed forces.