



AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION FOUNDATION OF COLORADO
CATHRYN L. HAZOURI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. MARK SILVERSTEIN, LEGAL DIRECTOR

Weise v. Casper, Fact Sheet

Identity of Plaintiffs:

- **Leslie Weise**
Age: 40
Address: Boulder, Colorado
Profession: Corporate Attorney
- **Alex Young**
Age: 26
Address: Denver, Colorado
Profession: Information Technology Specialist

Identity of Defendants:

- **Michael Casper** was a White House Event Staffer at the March 21, 2005 Presidential Town Hall Meeting on Social Security held at the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum in Denver, Colorado.
- **Jay Bob Klinkerman** was a White House Event Staffer at the March 21, 2005 Presidential Town Hall Meeting on Social Security held at the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum in Denver, Colorado.
- **John/Jane Does 1-5** are additional White House Event Staffers whose identities are currently unknown to Ms. Weise and Mr. Young, but who were involved in the decision to eject Ms. Weise and Mr. Young from the March 21, 2005 Presidential Town Hall Meeting on Social Security held at the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum in Denver, Colorado. When the true identities of John/Jane Does 1-5 are known, they will be added as named defendants in this case.

When and Where Was the Case Filed?

- November 21, 2005, in the United States District Court for the District of Colorado, located in Denver

Who Is Representing Plaintiffs?

- Christopher A. Hansen and Catherine Crump of the ACLU National Office
- Mark Silverstein, Legal Director of the ACLU Foundation of Colorado
- Martha M. Tierney and Jeremy M. Ramp of Kelly|Haglund|Garnsey+Kahn LLC, in cooperation with the ACLU Foundation of Colorado

What Are the Main Claims in the Case?

The defendants violated plaintiffs' First and Fourth Amendment rights when they seized and later ejected Ms. Weise and Mr. Young from the March 21, 2005 Presidential Town Hall Meeting on Social Security solely because of defendants' perception that the viewpoint held by Ms. Weise and Mr. Young differed from the President's viewpoint.

What Are the Main Facts in the Case?

- The March 21, 2005 Presidential Town Hall Meeting on Social Security at the Wings Over the Rockies Museum in Denver, Colorado was a taxpayer funded event that was open to the public.
- The policies concerning attendance at the event were set by the White House.
- Ms. Weise and Mr. Young obtained tickets to the event from the office of Representative Beauprez (R-CO).
- Ms. Weise and Mr. Young arrived at the event in Ms. Weise's vehicle, which had a bumper sticker that read, "No More Blood For Oil."
- Ms. Weise and Mr. Young attended the event because they wanted to listen to President Bush's views on Social Security. They had no intention of disrupting the event in any way.
- Ms. Weise was stopped at the gate after she showed her identification, and was told by defendant Klinkerman to wait for someone from the Secret Service to arrive.
- Defendant Casper soon arrived, wearing an earpiece and a lapel pin.
- Defendant Casper told Ms. Weise that she had been "ID'd," and that if she had any ill intentions she would be arrested. Ms. Weise said there would be no problems, and defendant Casper let her into the event, where she sat with Mr. Young.
- At no time did either Ms. Weise or Mr. Young give any indication that they would disrupt the event.
- Moments after Ms. Weise and Mr. Young had made their way to the seating area, defendant Casper ran over and told Ms. Weise and Mr. Young that they had to leave.
- In response to questions from Ms. Weise and Mr. Young regarding the reason for their ejection, defendant Casper told them that it was a private event and they had to leave.
- Defendant Casper seized Mr. Young and shouted at Ms. Weise to follow them as he pushed Mr. Young toward the exit.
- As they approached the exit, defendant Casper called to a woman in a dark suit to escort Ms. Weise and Mr. Young out the door.
- Once outside, Ms. Weise and Mr. Young asked a group of four or five men, two in uniform and the remainder in suits, who they were. One of the suited men replied that he was Secret Service and said that if staff asked them to leave, they had to leave. The man was wearing a lapel pin and an earpiece, and he did not show Ms. Weise or Mr. Young any identification.
- A few days after the event, Secret Service confirmed to Ms. Weise and Mr. Young that they were removed because a White House Event Staffer noticed that Ms. Weise had a "No More Blood For Oil" bumper sticker on her car.
- Eight of the nine members of the Colorado congressional delegation, including both Democrats and Republicans, have since publicly condemned what happened to Ms. Weise and Mr. Young, and have called for answers from the White House.