



Cathryn L. Hazouri, Executive Director • Mark Silverstein, Legal Director

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Re: Religious Display at Mesa County Public Library

Dear Mr. Dechant and Ms. Cole:

I am writing with regards to a religious display that has recently been erected at the Mesa County Public Library. Based upon pictures that I have seen of the display, the display appears to be comprised of a number of different posters covering three walls in a large stairwell atrium in the center of the library. It also appears that the display contains quotes from religious text, depictions of religious symbols, and other religious statements. In the picture, there appears to be a sign stating that the display has been sponsored by "Christians for Healthy Families," but no advisement about the government's position on the religious message contained in the display.

In the absence of a prominent and conspicuous disclaimer, it seems very likely that a reasonable observer could conclude that the government endorses the religious message found in the library display. Therefore, I am hoping that you can provide me with some additional information regarding this particular display and the library's policy regarding such displays in general. Pursuant to the Colorado Open Records Act, in the next three business days, could you please provide me with:

1. Copies of any documents relating to Christians for Healthy Families application or permit to erect the display, and any other correspondence with library officials;
2. Copies of all written policies, procedures, or guidelines for the library regarding displays at the library by outside parties including, but not

limited to, the library's policies regarding displays that contain a religious message.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Taylor Pendergrass". The signature is stylized with a large initial "T" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Taylor Pendergrass
Staff Attorney