

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ONCE AGAIN AMERICAN TRADITION PARTNERSHIP STANDS ON THE SIDE OF THE LAW, CONSTITUTION**

Once again American Tradition Partnership has prevailed in court, for the simple reason the law and the Constitution are always on our side. ATP has now emerged victorious in every case brought to a court of law.

We are pleased the Justices of the United States Supreme Court have upheld the Constitution's guarantee of free speech without limits or retribution by government officials. As clearly stated by the First Amendment, politicians cannot outlaw political speech to create a favorable political environment or because they simply don't like the type of speaker.

This reversal on summary judgment is a resounding rejection of Governor Schweitzer's and Attorney General Bullock's indefensible attacks on Montanan's God-given right of free political speech. ATP has always adhered to every letter of applicable law and we will continue to expose corruption and misbehavior by government officials.

As outlined in our case the unlawful misbehavior by Governor Schweitzer, Attorney General Bullock, Senator Esp and the revolving door of poorly-qualified, politicized and downright corrupt Political Practices Commissioners is precisely why Montanans should be allowed to speak freely about politicians without limit or fear of persecution.

Schweitzer and Bullock sought to preserve limits on political speech that may shed sunlight on their corrupt practices, and were rebuked by the Supreme Court. Only the corrupt should fear free political discourse.

Over the coming months Montanans will find out about the corrupt practices and radical positions Schweitzer and Bullock were trying to hide through threats and intimidation.

This is not the first time Governor Schweitzer's administration has been rebuked by a federal court for unlawfully attacking private citizens he disagrees with.

In 2009, the Ninth Circuit Court ruled Montana "Political Practices Commissioner" Dennis Unsworth, a political appointee of Gov. Brian Schweitzer, violated the constitutional rights of the Canyon Ferry Baptist Church when he falsely ruled the church must file as a political committee. The church sued, and the Montana Legislature eventually approved a \$225,000.00 payout to Schweitzer's victims.

ATP previously sued the Schweitzer administration after Unsworth issued a false and defamatory "finding" against the group just three days after ATP won a different free speech case against the Governor. In retaliation for his headline-making defeat the Schweitzer administration issued a 41-page document making numerous false and outlandish damaging claims about ATP.

At the end of the "legal finding" the Schweitzer administration openly admitted they had no evidence whatsoever to back up any of the claims.

Both Governor Schweitzer and Attorney General Bullock assumed office by taking a sworn oath to uphold the rights of Montanans.

Given Governor Schweitzer and Attorney General Bullock's latest court loss in a case in which they failed to honor their oath, American Tradition Partnership's grassroots members across Montana ask both men to tender their resignations immediately.



**American Tradition Partnership**

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