

**United States Court of Appeals
for the Armed Forces
Washington, D.C.**

United States,
Appellee

USCA Dkt. No. 15-0510/MC
Crim.App. No. 201400150

v.

ORDER GRANTING REVIEW

Monifa J.
Sterling,
Appellant

On consideration of the petition for grant of review of the decision of the United States Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals, it is by the Court this 28th day of October, 2015,

ORDERED:

That said petition is hereby granted on the following issues specified by the Court:

I. DID APPELLANT ESTABLISH THAT HER CONDUCT IN DISPLAYING SIGNS REFERENCING BIBLICAL PASSAGES IN HER SHARED WORKPLACE CONSTITUTED AN EXERCISE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM RESTORATION ACT, 42 U.S.C. 2000bb-1 (2012), AS AMENDED? IF SO, DID THE ACTIONS OF HER SUPERIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER IN ORDERING HER TO TAKE THE SIGNS DOWN, AND IN REMOVING THEM WHEN SHE DID NOT, CONSTITUTE A SUBSTANTIAL BURDEN ON APPELLANT'S EXERCISE OF RELIGION WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ACT? IF SO, WERE THESE ACTIONS IN FURTHERANCE OF A COMPELLING GOVERNMENT INTEREST AND THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MEANS OF FURTHERING THAT INTEREST?

II. DID APPELLANT'S SUPERIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER
HAVE A VALID MILITARY PURPOSE IN ORDERING APPELLANT
TO REMOVE SIGNS REFERENCING BIBLICAL PASSAGES FROM
HER SHARED WORKPLACE?

Briefs will be filed under Rule 25.

For the Court,

/s/ William A. DeCicco
Clerk of the Court

cc: The Judge Advocate General of the Navy
Appellate Defense Counsel (Berry)
Appellate Government Counsel (Keller)