



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
West Point, New York 10996

July 23, 2010

Department of Social Sciences

Mr. Robert E. Skiver, Executive Director
Liberty and Law Institute
914 Greenwood Circle
Cary, North Carolina 27511

Dear Mr. Skiver,

Thank you for sharing the information about the Liberty and Law Institute and what you are doing to teach to students both the text and the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. It is my personal opinion that the education that you are providing is essential not only to the students but to our nation as a whole.

At the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, every cadet is required to take two semester-long courses, one in American Government and another in Constitutional and Military Law, because we believe that understanding the Constitution is fundamental to our graduates' responsibility as citizens and officers. Army officers swear an oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic" and they know that a significant threat to our Nation is a failure to understand the principles upon which it is based.

It is equally important that all citizens understand the basic structure and functions of the American system of government and our values and principles. Only through an informed citizenry can the Nation make appropriate decisions about the use of military force, the role of government in individual lives, the relationship between the states and the federal government, and other critical issues. The approach that the Liberty and Law Institute has taken provides this essential education in a way that is interesting and inspiring for students.

As both a citizen and a military officer, I personally applaud your efforts and know that our nation will be much improved because of the work that you are doing. Keep up the great work. I know that your students and our Nation will benefit from your efforts.

With best regards from West Point.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Meese". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Michael J. Meese, Ph.D.
Colonel, U.S. Army
Professor and Head
Department of Social Sciences