

Home > Ann Arbor News > Ann Arbor

Ann Arbor-based law center sues Homeland Security over 'right-wing extremism' issue

Published: Sunday, April 19, 2009, 3:27 PM Updated: Monday, April 20, 2009, 7:18 AM



Judy McGovern
Follow

Share this story

Story tools

The Ann Arbor-based **Thomas More Law Center** says it has filed a federal lawsuit against Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. The non-profit law firm said the **U.S. Department of Homeland Security's** "rightwing extremism policy," reflected in an Intelligence Assessment publicized last week, violates the civil liberties of combat veterans as well as American citizens by targeting them for disfavored treatment on account of their political beliefs.



Napolitano

The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan on behalf of conservative radio talk show host, Michael Savage, Gregg Cunningham (president of the pro-life organization Center for Bio-Ethical Reform, Inc.), and Iraqi War Marine veteran Kevin Murray, according to the Thomas More Web site.

27	0	0	7
Comment	Recommend	tweet	Share

The Law Center claims that Napolitano's department violated the First and Fifth Amendment rights of these the plaintiffs by attempting to chill their free speech, expressive association, and equal

protection rights.

The lawsuit further claims that the Department of Homeland Security encourages law enforcement officers throughout the nation to target and report citizens to federal officials as suspicious rightwing extremists and potential terrorists because of their political beliefs.

Founded in 1999, the Law Center championed conservative causes and positions itself as an advocate in the nation's "culture war," opposite the ACLU.

It has, for example, challenged Ann Arbor schools' policy of providing health benefits to the partners of employees in same-sex relationships.

- [Napolitano's April 15 statement on right-ring extremism.](#)
- [The Thomas More complaint \(PDF\).](#)

Sponsored Links

Mom Makes \$63/Hr Online
Stay at home Mom makes \$7,100 a month! Read her story: Special Report
[WallStreetNews9.com](#)

1 Tip To Lose Stomach Fat
Follow This 1 Simple Diet Tip And Lose 9 Lbs A Week
[CDKitchen.com](#)

Hotels in Detroit
Great Hotels in Detroit MI Free Internet & Kids Eat Free!
[www.HolidayInn.com](#)

Share this

Story



Follow MLive.com

What's this?

All MLive.com Facebook & Twitter accounts >>

Most Popular Stories

Commented Recommended

Ann Arbor News stories with the most comments in the last 7 days.



Ann Arbor News headlines

- [Ypsilanti police investigate several thefts from vehicles](#) 3:30PM
- [Willis woman killed in single-car crash on I-94 near Dexter](#) 2:03PM
- [Ypsilanti police use Taser on suspected drunken driver](#) 12:25PM
- [First United Methodist Church addition accommodates its growing congregation](#) 11:30AM
- [Ypsilanti Township man arrested for sex offender registry violation](#) 11:04AM

More: [Ann Arbor News >>](#)

Most Active Users

What's this?

Users with the most **MLive.com** comments in the last 7 days

206 slippythumbs [slippythumbs](#)

168 Imperical Evidence [Imperical Evidence](#)