Reprimanded chaplain sues to block Navy discharge

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. The Navy chaplain in Norfolk who was reprimanded for disobeying an order after praying in uniform outside the White House is now suing to prevent his forced discharge.

Chaplain Gordon Klingenschmitt's attorney, John Whitehead of The Rutherford Institute in Charlottesville, says the Navy wrongly claimed that Klingenschmitt lacked the church endorsement needed to remain a chaplain.

Whitehead says Klingenschmitt received the endorsement of the Full Gospel Church before leaving the Evangelical Episcopal Church.

The federal lawsuit alleges that the Navy actually is retaliating against Klingenschmitt for his insistence on being able to pray in Jesus' name. Whitehead says that's an issue that may need to be decided by the Supreme Court.

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