



The First Amendment, Religion and Public Schools

April 30, 2008 - 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SAI Office, Clive

SAI Legal Lab

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9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
SAI Office • 12199 Stratford Dr.
Clive, Iowa

Through the course of each school year, administrators are often presented with the challenge of how to respond to student and staff speech and expression. At times, it seems those individuals are trying to push the envelope to see how far their rights might go. On other occasions, it may be a simple misunderstanding of the acceptable restrictions on speech and expression within our schools. In either case, how administrators react to such situations may prove the difference between successfully defusing a potentially controversial situation or ending up on the local news. Due to the importance of this issue, SAI is presenting its spring legal lab on the topic of free speech rights. The following issues are just a sample of what will be covered on the 30th.

Consider these issues:

- What are “separation of church and state” implications in public schools?
- What are the origins of “separation of church and state?”
- When and where may school staff assist with student-led religious clubs?
- What religious expression may students display during the school day?
- To what extent may religious clubs meet in school buildings?
- May religious organizations distribute flyers and Bibles at school?
- May religious clubs use the school’s PA system to announce club events?
- May religious clubs display posters in school?
- May teachers have Christmas or other religious displays in their classrooms?
- May students bring their religious beliefs into school work?
- When may students pray in school?
- May school districts send public employees to work in private religious schools during the workday?

If you have wondered about any of these issues, or have others of your own relating to religion in public schools, attend SAI’s legal lab April 30.



Standard 6: A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context.

Name: _____
 Title/level: _____
 District: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____

Indicate any special/dietary/accessibility needs:

Registration fee - lunch is included: (check one)

- \$80 for SAI members
 \$136 for non-members of SAI

Payment: (check one)

- I have enclosed a check for the correct amount; or
 Please send a bill. P.O. no. _____

Complete this registration form and send or fax it to

SAI at: 12199 Stratford Drive
Clive, Iowa 50325-8146
Fax: (515) 267-1066

Registration deadline: Deadline for registration is Noon, Mon., April 28. Space is limited to 50 registrants on a first-come, first-served basis.

Cancellation: Notification must be received by Noon on Mon., April 28. Call (515) 267-1115 to let us know if you’re unable to attend.

■ **Conference Location:** From I-80/35, take the University Avenue exit and go west on University Avenue. Go to NW 123rd Street and turn right. Go to Stratford Drive and turn right. The SAI office is the third building on the left hand side of the street - 12199 Stratford Drive.

■ **Questions:** call the SAI office, (515) 267-1115.



- What are “separation of church and state” implications in public schools?
- When and where may school staff assist with student-led religious clubs?
- May religious organizations distribute flyers and Bibles at school?
- May students bring their religious beliefs into school work?

Attend the April 30 SAI Legal Lab to have these and other related questions answered.



School Administrators of Iowa
12199 Stratford Drive
Clive, IA 50325

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