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Chaplain threatens to sue for right to pray in Jesus' name

(Norfolk, Virginia-AP) March 23, 2006 - A Navy chaplain who fasted 18 days for the right to pray in Jesus' name is now threatening to file a federal lawsuit.

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Lieutenant Gordon Klingenschmitt says chaplains' First Amendment rights are violated by a Navy policy allowing only "non-sectarian" prayers at most command functions.

He wants President Bush to issue an executive order allowing military chaplains to pray according to their beliefs.

Klingenschmitt says sailors should be exposed to a diversity of faiths rather than a non-sectarian "government religion."

The Norfolk, Virginia, chaplain lost 14 pounds while fasting over the issue earlier this year.

Posted 10:40am by [Bryce Mursch](#)



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