

THE RUTHERFORD INSTITUTE

LEADING THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

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**MESSAGE FROM JOHN W. WHITEHEAD
PRESIDENT OF THE RUTHERFORD INSTITUTE**

I have never been more pleased with the work we're doing at The Rutherford Institute than I am now. We are more active legally than we have been in years. And this year promises to bring even more opportunities to defend our God-given freedoms in the courts.

While we win many of these cases, we know that we cannot rest on our victories. The battle for our freedoms is raging, and the calls and letters we receive asking us for help reinforce our belief that the time to act is right now. The future, so to speak, is in our hands. What we do today will determine whether the America we love will survive as a free and moral nation. That's why we not only continue to speak out against injustice, but actively stand in defense of those who are exercising their precious freedoms.

We cannot afford to sit around waiting for politicians to make things better because that will not happen. The solution rests with the individual citizen. Indeed, we must never discount the part that each and every American plays in our nation's future. You and I, as citizens of this land, are an important part of the process by which our nation's leaders will make pivotal decisions about the future of our country.

As Robert F. Kennedy observed in a 1966 address at the University of Cape Town: "Everything that makes man's life worthwhile—family, work, education, a place to rear one's children and a place to rest one's head—all this depends on decisions of government; all can be swept away by a government which does not heed the demands of its people." To this end, The Rutherford Institute strives daily to ensure that our government officials hear us—and the way we do that is by never giving up, never backing down and never remaining silent. We are your voice to the nation. And in partnering with us and supporting our efforts, you make it possible for us to speak truth to power in the battle for our God-given freedoms.

As Robert Kennedy reminded his listeners, "Each time a man stands for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

Rest assured that although The Rutherford Institute does not have limitless funds, we do have the limitless determination to keep fighting for America's cherished freedoms, no matter the cost. Thus, despite the strain on our staff and resources, we continue to respond to the many calls for help from individuals whose rights have been threatened or violated. And we will continue to stand strong, taking on more cases and calling on our fellow Americans to stand and fight with us, so that we can preserve our cherished freedoms before it is too late.

Thank you for standing with The Rutherford Institute as we fight the daily battles to protect and defend the precious freedoms that were purchased by the sacrifice and suffering of those who went before us.

ABOUT THE RUTHERFORD INSTITUTE

“When founding The Rutherford Institute, my goal was to create an organization that would defend people who were persecuted or oppressed for their beliefs without charging them for such services. The Rutherford Institute also exists to ensure that when people’s human rights are violated, they are treated fairly in the courts and are free to express their beliefs without fear.”

—John W. Whitehead, President and Founder

The Rutherford Institute is a nonprofit civil liberties legal and educational organization. It exists to fight for those who cannot defend themselves, speak for those whose voices cannot be heard and contend for those who do not have the strength to fight for what has been taken from them. When John W. Whitehead founded the group in 1982, he envisioned an organization that would be deeply committed to protecting the constitutional freedoms of every American and the integral human rights of all people. The Institute’s vision and commitment continue to focus on helping those whose liberties are in jeopardy and making a difference in the world in which we live. To further this goal, The Rutherford Institute defends those in need without charging them for its services.

Institute attorneys fight for the constitutional and human rights of men, women and children who are discriminated against or persecuted for their beliefs. Operating under John Whitehead’s philosophy that “liberties are all interdependent; we are not free anywhere if someone in the world is still persecuted, oppressed or enslaved,” the Institute continues to monitor and respond to those in need of assistance.

The Institute, a nonpartisan organization whose international headquarters are located in Charlottesville, Virginia, is comprised of a full-time staff and a network of volunteer attorneys across the United States. Institute attorneys handle a full range of cases in the realm of civil liberties and human rights. The Institute’s multi-faceted approach of integrating litigation and educational opportunities has made it a formidable leader in defending and teaching the Constitution. The defense of civil liberties and human rights through litigation and education is at the heart of the Institute’s mission.

CRITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE RUTHERFORD INSTITUTE'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

“When The Rutherford Institute came to my assistance, it was like the cavalry charging over the hill. There’s no way I could have fought this battle on my own.”—Staff Sergeant Patrick J. Cabbage

“I am so grateful that from the first letter The Rutherford Institute wrote on our behalf, all the way to the steps of the Supreme Court, you have been by our side.”—Rev. Stephen Fournier

“The Rutherford Institute moved swiftly to defend Kayla’s rights, and I couldn’t have done it without them. I am truly appreciative of everything they have done for Kayla and for me.” —Cheryl Broadus

Each year, The Rutherford Institute helps thousands of individuals who have encountered injustice in their community, whether it’s a discriminatory policy, a hostile supervisor or outright persecution for their religious beliefs. While the people who call on the Institute are from countless backgrounds and geographic locations, they all have one thing in common: a willingness to stand up for their convictions.

Please take a moment to review the following 2008 Statistical Highlights, and you’ll see what your support means to us:

- 1,473 requests for legal assistance were handled by Rutherford Institute staff, and 48 cases involving violations of civil and human rights moved through various stages of pre-litigation and litigation, including several cases that were appealed directly to the United States Supreme Court.
- Institute staff provided training and support to a national affiliate network of over 1,700 volunteer attorneys, many of whom were trained and educated on pertinent case law and provided with research support and funding for court expenses in order to defend cases in their region and field of law.
- Weekly alerts on Institute cases, breaking news relating to encroachments on our constitutional rights and issue-related commentaries were sent to more than 40,000 individuals and news organizations in the United States and around the globe.
- The Institute’s website, www.rutherford.org, received more than seven million hits from individuals seeking news updates, pertinent commentaries and in-depth legal information about the fight for freedom taking place in and out of the courts.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CASE SUMMARY REPORT

The following is a sampling of TRI cases making their way through the courts.

United States Supreme Court

- *Borden v. East Brunswick Sch. Dist.* (NJ): High school football coach was prohibited from silently bowing his head during team's pre-game prayer.
- *Turner v. City of Fredericksburg* (VA): City Council member was prohibited from ending his prayers at Council meetings "in Jesus' name."
- *Victory Outreach v. Melso* (PA): Minister was arrested while preaching on university campus.

Litigation Cases

- *Bernstein v. Twp. of Freehold* (NJ): Rabbi was fined under zoning ordinance for gathering at home with friends and family to pray.
- *Bowman v. Dept. of Defense* (OH): Retired military chaplain, required to do community service in order to claim full pension, was denied full benefits because religious activities are disqualified.
- *Busch v. Culbertson School* (PA): Mother was prevented from reading her son's favorite Bible verse during a classroom program about the child's favorite book.
- *Calvary Temple Assembly v. City of Marinette* (WI): Church was denied zoning permit to provide a faith-based counseling service on its property.
- *Christ Covenant Church v. Town of Southwest Ranches* (FL): Church was denied zoning permit to construct Sunday School building on its property.
- *Dobrich v. Indian River Sch. Dist.* (DE): School board was sued over its practice of opening meetings with prayer.
- *First Congregational Church of Hamilton v. Hamilton, Mass.* (MA): Historic commission denied church a permit to build fellowship hall adjacent to its historic sanctuary.
- *Frantz v. Gress* (PA): Street preacher was cited for passing out religious tracts to passersby.
- *Lloyd Johnson v. Home Depot, Inc.* (IL): Tool rental technician was denied accommodation regarding his religious beliefs about not working on Sunday.
- *McComb v. Clark County School Dist.* (NV): High school valedictorian had her microphone unplugged after she spoke about the role faith played in her success.
- *Meeker v. Rockwell Collins* (IA): Employee was terminated after voicing religious objection to having to attend diversity training seminar involving homosexuality.
- *Nurre v. Whitehead* (WA): Wind ensemble was prevented from playing an *instrumental* arrangement of "Ave Maria" at graduation due to fears that it was religious in nature.
- *Patrick v. State of Michigan Office of Financial Aid* (MI): Graduate student was denied use of tuition grant for degree in divinity, theology or religious instruction.
- *Riback v. City of Las Vegas* (NV): Jewish police officer was denied religious accommodation and prohibited from wearing short beard and yarmulke.

- *Rhoades v. Penn-Harris-Madison School District* (IN): A 15-year-old student was subjected to a mental screening exam at school without her parents' knowledge or consent.
- *Sloan v. West Va. Dept. of Nat. Res.* (WV): Political campaigner was prevented from obtaining signed petitions at a state park for upcoming state election.
- *Steinburg v. Chesterfield County Planning Comm'n* (VA): Resident was arrested after voicing objections at a planning commission meeting to a housing development near abandoned mines.
- *Wei Hsien Wan v. INS* (CO): Student missionary from Malaysia who was working on college campuses had his visa revoked.

Pre-Litigation Cases

- *The Ark Christian Ctr. v. City of Honolulu* (HI): Church was cited for meeting in an industrial neighborhood.
- *Etz Chaim v. Twp. of Teaneck* (NJ): Rabbi was prohibited from meeting in his home with friends and family for prayer.
- *Griffith v. Uggetti* (MT): High school valedictorian was prohibited from speaking about life lessons learned from God in graduation speech.
- *Henry v. Community Counseling Center* (NV): Counselor was prevented from leading Alcoholics Anonymous meetings after objecting to a ban on Bibles at the facility.
- *Hope Aglow Ministries v. Spotsylvania County* (VA): Christian outreach ministry was denied use of space for twice-weekly worship services.
- *King v. Cardinal Health* (VA): Pastor working part-time as delivery driver was denied accommodation and threatened with termination unless he agreed to work Sunday.
- *Kinney v. U.S. Dept. of Vet. Affairs* (NC): Volunteers at veteran's hospital were ordered not to discuss religion with patients.
- *Miska v. U.S.* (DC): Vietnam War veteran was arrested for distributing memorial poppies near the Vietnam War Memorial.
- *Stefanie Otto v. Prairie Ridge High School* (IL): Science teacher was ordered to stop including creationism in her classroom discussions about evolution.
- *Roberts v. Univ. of Arkansas* (AR): Univ. of Arkansas allegedly refused to accept transfer of course credits from a Bible college due to its faith-based curriculum.
- *Wingspread Prison Ministries v. Okla. Dept. of Corrections* (OK): Prison outreach ministry was ordered to cease sending Bibles to prisoners.

CASE HIGHLIGHTS

Each year, The Rutherford Institute comes to the aid of thousands of individuals who have encountered injustice in their lives. The Institute's ability to fight for the oppressed depends largely on a national network of affiliate attorneys. Although the Institute pays all costs associated with a case, these attorneys willingly donate their time and talents in order to stand up for those whose constitutional rights have been threatened or infringed. Through the Institute's Attorney Training & Development Program, more than 1,700 volunteer attorneys were equipped with the tools necessary to meet the challenges of defending constitutional freedoms whenever these freedoms are threatened or violated.

The Rutherford Institute has made great strides in educating the public on human rights issues through our website, www.rutherford.org, and by distributing a vast amount of pertinent and practical information, including print and electronic newsletters, monthly updates on Institute cases and informational pamphlets and brochures. Our publications, distributed to individuals, newspapers and radio stations, challenge people to reflect on their constitutional rights and think critically about the difficult questions facing American society.

The following are just a few highlights of The Rutherford Institute's efforts to safeguard our constitutional freedoms in 2008:

January:

- The Rutherford Institute filed an *amicus* brief in *Baze v. Rees* asking the U.S. Supreme Court to declare that Kentucky's lethal injection protocol, which has been shown to carry an unnecessary risk of inflicting pain on the condemned, constitutes cruel and unusual punishment in violation of the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.
- The Rutherford Institute filed an *amicus* brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in *Crawford v. Marion County Election Bd.* challenging the constitutionality of an Indiana law that requires American citizens to produce valid photo IDs such as a driver's license or passport in order to vote.

February:

- The Rutherford Institute agreed to act as co-counsel in a religious discrimination lawsuit involving a Las Vegas police officer who was prohibited from wearing a head covering and growing a beard. Steve Riback, a captain in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and an observant Orthodox Jew, is challenging the police department's refusal to accommodate his sincere religious beliefs by allowing him to wear a trimmed beard and cover his head with a yarmulke.
- After intense pressure from The Rutherford Institute and members of Congress, the National Football League finally acceded to demands that it change its policies in order to accommodate churches that wish to show the Super Bowl on big-screen televisions.

March:

- The Rutherford Institute filed an *amicus* brief in the U.S. Supreme Court in the cases *Munaf v. Geren* and *Geren v. Omar*, asking the Court to preserve the fundamental point of law that an American citizen cannot be denied habeas corpus simply because his military custodians are part of multinational forces.

May:

- The Rutherford Institute filed suit in the U.S. District Court on behalf of a Christian systems engineer who was allegedly fired after voicing a religious objection to his employer's diversity training initiative, which included a requirement that employees accept, celebrate and embrace homosexuality.
- VICTORY: School officials at a Massachusetts high school agreed to settle a lawsuit over the school's alleged censorship of conservative political posters. The lawsuit, which was filed in U.S. District Court by attorneys for The Rutherford Institute, charged that officials at Hudson High School violated the First Amendment rights of students Christopher Bowler and James Milello when they censored their Conservative Club posters and discriminated against them on the basis of the club's conservative political viewpoint.

June:

- VICTORY: The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed that detainees, whether foreign nationals or American citizens, have a right to pursue habeas challenges to their detention. The Rutherford Institute, in cooperation with a coalition of public interest and religious groups with widely-ranging ideological views, had filed a joint *amicus* brief in the Supreme Court in two companion cases brought by detainees at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay to challenge their detention in American courts.
- VICTORY: The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed that the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess a firearm unconnected with service in a militia and to use that firearm for traditional lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home. The Rutherford Institute had filed an *amicus* brief arguing that the Framers of the Constitution intended that the Second Amendment's "right to possess arms" apply to individuals as a guarantor against tyrannical government.

July:

- Educating the next generation of attorneys to take up the fight for religious freedom is one of The Rutherford Institute's main priorities. Thus, each summer, The Rutherford Institute opens up its national headquarters to law students and undergraduates across the country to prepare them to fight for religious freedom, while imparting a critical understanding of constitutional law. This past year, we were fortunate to be able to offer internships to 22 outstanding students from top-ranking schools across the country. The Summer Intern Program is structured in such a way as to provide students with practical legal experience, intensive instruction in law, exposure to philosophy and culture affecting human rights, direct client contact and opportunities for cultural enrichment.

August:

- VICTORY: A federal court gave the green light to a civil rights lawsuit filed by Rutherford Institute attorneys in defense of a 15-year-old Indiana student who was subjected by school officials to a controversial mental health examination without the knowledge or consent of her parents.

September:

- John W. Whitehead, president of The Rutherford Institute, provided written testimony on the dire need to restore the rule of law in America at the behest of Senator Russ Feingold (D-Wis.), chairman of the Constitution Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- In recognition of Constitution Day, The Rutherford Institute called on all Americans to read the document that one historian described as “the owners’ manual to the greatest form of government the world has ever known.” To assist those who accepted the challenge, the Institute sent either a free pocket-sized copy of the United States Constitution or its *Do You Know the Bill of Rights?* pamphlet to any individual who requested one.

October:

- Attorneys for The Rutherford Institute appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of Fredericksburg City Councilman Hashmel Turner, who was prohibited from ending his prayers at council meetings “in Jesus’ name.” In asking the Court to hear the case, Institute attorneys challenged the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals’ ruling that Turner’s prayers constituted “government speech” and were not protected by the First Amendment.

November:

- VICTORY: Following intervention by The Rutherford Institute and an outpouring of public support, Gennady Denisenko, a Virginia resident who had been denied political asylum, was returned home to his family in Charlottesville, Virginia, after having been detained in a Texas prison for five months. Plans were already underway to deport Denisenko to Russia, where he would likely have been met with hostility, given the deteriorating relations between the U.S. and Russia.

December:

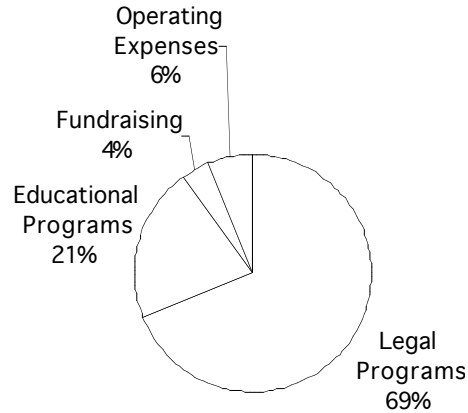
- Hoping to clear up confusion over the do’s and don’ts of celebrating Christmas in schools, workplaces and elsewhere, The Rutherford Institute issued guidelines in response to calls regarding the censorship of Christmas celebrations.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM VICTORIES

- After intense pressure from The Rutherford Institute, the National Football League finally acceded to demands that it change its policies in order to accommodate churches that wish to show the Super Bowl on big-screen televisions as part of their outreach efforts. Although the NFL allows sports bars to show the Super Bowl on large-screen TVs, it has consistently refused to make a similar exception for churches. Now the NFL will no longer object to live showings of the Super Bowl by religious organizations, regardless of screen size, as long as the viewings are free and are on premises that the church uses on a routine and customary basis.
- Air Force Sergeant Jason Adkins was reprimanded for voicing his concerns about a tainted anthrax vaccine that was being tested on military personnel. SSgt. Adkins felt that it was not only his moral duty but his constitutional right to speak out. TRI attorneys filed a First Amendment lawsuit on his behalf, and the Air Force agreed to settle the lawsuit and restore Jason's unblemished 15-year record of distinguished service.
- When the God and Country 4-H Club had their charter pulled by the University of Florida because of their refusal to remove "God" from their name, they turned to The Rutherford Institute for help. Institute attorneys contacted the University, pointing out that while the use of sectarian references such as God in names and titles does not violate the Constitution, censoring such references does. University of Florida officials agreed to respect the rights of the God and Country 4-H Club, restoring their charter and allowing them to keep "God" in the club name.
- When school officials objected to a fourth-grade student's decision to do a presentation on Jesus Christ as a historical figure, his family turned to The Rutherford Institute for help. Students at the Colorado elementary school were told to pick a figure of their choosing and do a presentation on that person—where he lived, what he looked like, etc. However, school officials singled the student out, insisting that his presentation on Jesus would have to be previewed by the school principal due to concerns about the separation of church and state. After TRI attorneys intervened, school officials relented and allowed the student to deliver his presentation without being censored.
- When students at a Virginia high school were prohibited from wearing abstinence t-shirts to school that proclaimed "Virginity Rocks," they turned to The Rutherford Institute for help. Institute attorneys warned school officials that they could face a possible lawsuit if they continued to censor the abstinence t-shirts, which was a clear violation of the students' free speech rights. Within hours of being contacted by TRI attorneys, school officials publicly acknowledged that the students did in fact have the right to wear the abstinence t-shirts to school.
- When school officials at a New York high school refused to recognize Students for Christ as an official club, a member of the club turned to The Rutherford Institute for help. In contacting the school, Institute attorneys pointed out that under the Equal Access Act, religious clubs had to be treated the same as other non-religious clubs. After TRI intervened, the Board of Education agreed to recognize Students for Christ as an official club, enabling them to fundraise and hold meetings the same as other student clubs at the school.
- When William Depner was told that he could not stand on a public sidewalk in front of his local post office and collect signatures for a petition campaign, the grassroots activist turned to The Rutherford Institute for help. Institute attorneys reminded the local postmaster that the area in front of the post office is a traditional public forum, and, as such, Depner was not to be prevented from carrying out his First Amendment activities. The U.S. Postal Service agreed that William Depner was legally entitled to stand on the sidewalk and collect signatures.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

How Your Support Is Being Used (FY 2007-2008)



Financial Status/Guidelines

Under the regulations of the United States Internal Revenue Service, The Rutherford Institute is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. In compliance with general industry standards of a nonprofit organization, the Institute is audited annually by an independent accounting firm and has also filed with all local and state organizations that require registration by soliciting charities. Our financial records are on file with various state Attorney General offices and elsewhere as required by law.

The Institute also meets all of the standards required of the Better Business Bureau,



which is a council that promulgates standards to promote ethical practices by philanthropic organizations. As an organization that continues to meet the stringent standards set by the Better Business Bureau for nonprofits, the Institute strives to conduct its ministry and financial affairs with integrity and openness. The Rutherford Institute welcomes inquiries regarding its stewardship of donor contributions and is happy to supply the public with copies of its annual financial disclosure statements and President's Report upon request.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY (continued)

**Statement of Support and Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Fiscal Period 7/1/07 – 6/30/08**

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR \$1,105,957

Support

Total Support 2,910,101

Revenue

Total Revenue (628)

TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE \$2,909,473

Expenses

Program Services:

Legal Support 2,061,191

Educational Services 637,385

Total Program Services 2,698,576

Support Services:

General & Administrative 191,073

Fundraising 111,530

Total Support Services 302,603

TOTAL EXPENSES \$3,001,179

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR \$1,014,251

PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES FOR 2009

John W. Whitehead founded The Rutherford Institute because he saw that people who needed help the most often could not afford the legal costs to get their case to the courtroom. The Institute's multi-faceted approach of integrating litigation and educational opportunities has made it a prominent leader in the national dialogue on civil liberties and human rights.

Financial Goals & Objectives: What Your Support Means to Us in the Coming Year

The specific operating objectives for the coming fiscal year are:

- To provide *pro bono* legal services, from initial point of inquiry at legal intake through educational response, pre-litigation, litigation and settlement phases, when necessary;
- To identify and communicate to the media and general public the trends and issues of law affecting civil liberties by employing knowledgeable attorneys and media experts and training law students to understand the practical applications of theoretical legal concepts and contemporary judicial interpretations;
- To employ print, broadcast and internet mediums in order to provide the public with a variety of resources that will keep them informed about their constitutional rights;
- To evaluate the prevalence of existing religious discrimination and other threats to freedom, as protected by the United States Constitution;
- To achieve improved conditions by defending the rights of parents, students and teachers in public schools; and
- To demonstrate cooperation and effectiveness as a respected leader in a *pro bono* legal organization that contributes to the legal profession and to the culture-at-large.

Litigation: Your support will enable us to respond to the increasing number of calls for help to our legal hotline and litigate cases involving violations of constitutional and human rights. We must continue to take a stand in the courts to ensure justice for all.

Training & Preparation: Your support will enable us to update and inform our national network of volunteer attorneys on pertinent case law; provide them with sample pleadings, legal research and support and funding for court expenses; and assist them in defending cases in their region and field of law. Your support will also enable us to maintain our summer legal intern program and train future attorneys to defend our constitutional freedoms.

Education: Your support will help us alert newspaper outlets and press contacts on Institute cases and breaking news, in addition to sharing our public service messages with people across the nation and around the world through our radio programs, editorials and online presence. We must continue to alert the public to issues and cases affecting their rights and the need to diligently protect those constitutional freedoms.

The following are projections of special outreach projects & program needs expenses that must be met in 2009 to ensure the smooth operation of The Rutherford Institute's legal and educational programs:

Average estimated cost per case at various levels of litigation:

Pre-litigation	\$5,000
District Court	\$25,000
Circuit Court of Appeals	\$50,000
United States Supreme Court	\$100,000

Special outreach projects & program needs:

Legal Hotline	\$50,000
Legal Case Research	\$15,500
Law Student Summer Internship Program	\$60,000
National public radio campaign	\$40,000
Key publications about religious freedoms and constitutional rights	\$60,000

DIFFERENT WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Here are some of the ways you can help carry the banner for freedom in 2009 and beyond:

- **Donate Your Time.** Volunteer at the Institute's national headquarters.
- **Donate Your Money.**
 - Make a tax-deductible donation online at www.rutherford.org or by calling 1-800-225-1791.
 - Contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign. Government and military employees can now donate directly to the work of The Rutherford Institute by using code 11635.
 - Give a gift of stock. For more information, contact the Institute's Donor Services Department at 1-800-225-1791.
 - Give a gift annuity. Enjoy a lifetime income from your gift to The Rutherford Institute. Request our free brochure, *Giving with Gift Annuities: Your Guide to Sound Investment*.
 - Make a matching gift. Ask your employer to match your donation to the Institute.
 - Join the Faithful Friends Monthly Giving Club. Maximize your contribution to The Rutherford Institute by making a monthly donation using direct debit.
 - Remember The Rutherford Institute in your will. Request a free copy of *A Planning Guide for Your Will*. Prepared by attorneys at The Rutherford Institute, this informative brochure provides an easy-to-understand introduction to wills, estate planning and charitable giving.
- **Spread the Word.** Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." Make it a point to tell your friends and family about the ministries you support. You can also contact The Rutherford Institute to enroll a friend in our "Member, Get a Member" campaign.
- **Know Your Rights.** Many Americans simply don't know what their rights are. Take advantage of The Rutherford Institute's web site, www.rutherford.org, and its vast assortment of books, pamphlets and other publications to educate yourself on your rights as a religious person.
- **Don't Back Down.** If you believe your rights have been violated, don't suffer in silence. Call The Rutherford Institute for legal information or assistance. Visit www.rutherford.org to read more about the kinds of situations we handle.