

HERE COMES THE JUDGE!

"But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream. AMOS 5:24

Court gag order stops Schneiders defense

By Larry L. Graff
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San Luis Obispo County-- Donal Schneider, Sr. had been fighting government intrusion for years. Acting as his own attorney, he has been a constant thorn in the side of government officials for years. Last month, Schneider appeared in the Municipal Court of Judge Findley on a charge of driving without a driver's license.

Schneider claims the status of a Sovereign Citizen of the Republic of California and as such is not required to obtain a driver's license unless he uses the highways for commercial purposes. He has dozens of court rulings and can cite chapter and verse to support his arguments, but the court wouldn't hear any of them. In fact, when Schneider walked into court, he was greeted by a deputy district attorney who handed him a copy of a motion which effectively shut him up.

The motion required Schneider to refrain from mentioning any previous court cases, any discussion of the status of citizenship, any parts of the vehicle code, and just about anything else not specifically dealing with whether or not he had a license in his possession when he was stopped by the police. He was prohibited from any "reference to any jurisdictional question regarding a federal citizen and a statutory citizen. Reference to any specific intent, or lack thereof, of the Vehicle Code."

The gag order even prohibited him from questioning the legality of the citation issued by the police officer. Incredibly, he was forced to defend himself without "any reference regarding previous rulings of this, or any court." Normally, previous court decisions are the tools attorneys use to frame their arguments. Schneider was denied these tools.

Even though the law requires delivery of this type of motion at least five days prior to trial, Judge Findley accepted the motion and refused to allow Schneider to use any of the arguments that would prove him innocent.

Schneider was found guilty and fined \$400 and told "not to drive without a license." Schneider points out that the court did not order him to get a license which he says, they cannot do, because he doesn't need one.

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Justice is the great end of civil society. DAVID DUDLEY FIELD

All religion and all ethics are summed up in justice. CONWAY

Justice, being destroyed, will destroy; being preserved will preserve.
MANN