



State of Arizona

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Office of the Governor
1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Main Phone: 602-542-4331
Facsimile: 602-542-7601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 12, 2011

CONTACT: Matthew Benson
(602) 542-1342
mbenson@az.gov

Governor Jan Brewer Commends U.S. District Court for Dismissal of “Arizona Day of Prayer” Lawsuit

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today lauded the U.S. District Court’s decision to throw out a lawsuit brought against her for commemorating an Arizona Day of Prayer.

The suit was lodged in March 2010 by the Freedom from Religion Foundation. The out-of-state group challenged the constitutionality of the Governor’s Arizona Day of Prayer proclamations in 2009 and 2010, as well as a separate Day of Prayer proclamation issued for the state budget on January 17, 2010.

The U.S. District Court today granted Governor Brewer’s motion for dismissal on the grounds that the Freedom from Religion Foundation failed to demonstrate injury and, therefore, lacked standing to sue.

Statement by Governor Brewer

“I commend the U.S. District Court for dismissing this baseless lawsuit for what it is – a futile attempt to stifle an American right and tradition. This was not the Freedom From Religion Foundation’s first failed attempt to put an end to recognized days of voluntary prayer, and it may not be its last. But citizens of every race, background and creed have been coming together in voluntary prayer since our nation’s founding, and will continue to do so against this organization’s best efforts. I thank the Court for allowing Arizona to continue commemorating this important right and custom.”

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