



PJI TOP 20 CASES

In celebration of 2020, and our more than 20 years in ministry, PJI has selected from our hundreds of successful case matters **20 of our most significant and precedent-setting victories**. This list does not cover all of our wins in court, and it does not even begin to include the countless successful outcomes we have obtained without going to court. But it provides an excellent snapshot of what we've been able to accomplish **by God's help through our faithful supporters**.

A Woman's Friend v. Becerra

This was a major PJI **win in the U.S. Supreme Court**. We represented pro-life pregnancy clinics challenging a California law mandating that they point women to abortion. This actually counted as a rare double victory, because, in the same opinion, the Supreme Court disapproved of another dangerous Ninth Circuit decision in a case where PJI had earlier fought for the rights of counselors to offer therapy for youth with unwanted same-sex attraction.

Newdow v. Lefever

As co-defendants with the U.S. Government, PJI successfully defended the national motto, "In God We Trust," against a major challenge by an atheist.

International Church of the Foursquare Gospel v. City of San Leandro

PJI established one of the leading precedents on the West Coast for churches substantially burdened by discriminatory zoning.

In re Rachel L./Jonathan L.

PJI was heavily involved in this case that **reclaimed the right to homeschool in California** after it was initially taken away by the courts.

Snatchko v. Westfield LLC

PJI won the first major case to apply the free speech provision of the California Constitution to an evangelist who had been arrested for sharing his faith in a shopping mall.

Newdow v. Roberts

PJI successfully defended Revs. Rick Warren and Joseph Lowery, Jr. after they were named as defendants in a federal lawsuit brought by a notorious atheist trying to stop prayer at presidential inaugurations. We secured a favorable decision from the influential D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. The three-judge panel included then-Judge Brett Kavanaugh.

Hope Lutheran Church, et al. v. City of De Pere

PJI represented five churches and a Christian radio station just outside Green Bay, Wisconsin. The City had attempted to impose a sweeping anti-discrimination ordinance that would have **limited the churches' ability to make employment and even ministry decisions based on their biblical beliefs**. The court struck down the ordinance as unconstitutional.

In re S.A.

PJI currently represents persecuted **Christians from around the world who have fled death threats in their home countries and have seen their relatives and fellow believers murdered**. In the first case we took on this issue, we were able to obtain religious asylum for a believer from the Middle East who had been tortured for his Christian faith.

Leal v. Everett Public Schools

PJI was awarded substantial attorneys' fees after prevailing in court on behalf of a high school student in the Seattle area who had been suspended and threatened with expulsion for sharing his faith with fellow students.

Brister v. Solera Kern Canyon Community Association

PJI represented a vibrant group of senior citizens in Bakersfield, California, whose well-attended weekly Bible studies and Sunday worship service were shut down by their homeowners' association due to one complaint from an atheist. After hard-fought litigation, we were able to secure a favorable settlement that **ensured continuity of the Bible studies and worship service**.

Valley Baptist Church v. City of San Rafael

A city in Northern California tried to evade the constitutional prohibition of taxing churches' property by calling it a special assessment. We went to court in hostile territory—the San Francisco Bay Area—and won an exemption for the church.

In re A.S.

In this heart-rending case, we battled in a California dependency court for a mother whose teenage daughter was being held by the county and denied permission to return home. Without any allegations of parental abuse, **the county sought to override the mother's rights because she would not pretend her confused daughter had become a boy**. We were able to convince the court to reunite the family.

Martinez v. Rovella

PJI successfully defended the owner of an athletic club after he was sued in an attempt to silence Christian references at the private facility.

Independent Baptist Church v. Sacramento

PJI went to federal court on behalf of a Russian-speaking church that had been ordered by city officials to allow only about 1/3 of its sanctuary to be filled at a time. As a result, some congregants had begun meeting in a nearby garage. After PJI filed suit, the illegal order was rescinded.

Jesus Christ Prison Ministry v. CDCR

PJI won a federal court victory on behalf of a prison ministry. It had been blocked from sending Bible study material to inmates who had requested them to turn their lives around.

R.G. v. Placentia-Yorba Linda School District

PJI went to federal court and secured a victory for a student Bible club that had been denied the right to meet.

Fromm v. San Juan Capistrano

PJI secured the right of a home fellowship to meet.

K.D. v. Grossmont Union High School District

PJI filed suit and obtained a settlement on behalf of a high school student who had been disciplined for sharing his faith and having a Bible at school.

Thompson v. Moreno Valley Community College District

A sociology professor at a community college was fired because **he encouraged students to think critically on issues such as marriage, sexuality and gender roles.** We won a big arbitration award which was affirmed by the superior court.

Public Evangelism Cases

We couldn't limit this last entry to just one case! PJI has now successfully defeated criminal charges in more than a **dozen** cases filed against evangelists. We have scored such victories in California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington State, Texas, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Florida!