

## Freedom From Religion Foundation's Impressive 48th Year — 2025

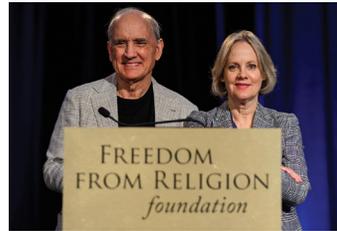
*This report includes highlights and metrics from January through December.*

**By Dan Barker and Annie Laurie Gaylor, Co-Presidents**

**FFRF membership tops 42,000**

FFRF added more than 2,000 paid members in the past year — a 7 percent growth — and remains the largest freethought association in North America and the third largest in the world. Thank you for being part of FFRF and spreading the word!

Pew Research Center has affirmed this year that three-in-10 U.S. adult Americans are religiously unaffiliated and up to 44 percent of 18–29-year-old Americans today have no religious affiliation. The significant growth of the “Nones” is cause for celebration in our work to ensure that secular values are honored.



By Chris Line

speeches whenever you want, free of charge. It gives you access to hundreds of programs FFRF has produced over the years, including the most popular videos.



It's easy to install. Go to the App store on your device, search for “Freethought TV” and follow on-screen instructions. You'll get instant access to a powerhouse lineup of original shows, including candid interviews with freethought celebrities, lawmakers, secular activists, authors, artists and inspiring talks from FFRF annual conventions, plus insights from FFRF's expert attorneys and musical performances. Thanks to Multimedia Director **Bruce Johnson** and IT Director **Scott Knicklebine** for overseeing this exciting development, which is just about ready to fully launch but is already available on many platforms. (See details about FFRF video offerings on P. 5 of this report.)

**Freethought TV is free content for free minds!**

### FFRF's impressive legal work

Legal Director **Patrick Elliott** and Deputy Legal Director **Liz Cavell** oversee FFRF's legal team of 13.

### Court wins in 2025:

**Commandments removed from Ill. courthouse lawn.** FFRF and the ACLU filed *People ex rel. Neal v. Jefferson County Board of Commissioners* in state court to remove a 7-foot-tall Ten Commandments monument erected in 2024 by the Jefferson County sheriff. In barely more than a month, the monument was removed!

**Chino Valley case revisited.** The Chino Valley Board of Education in 2025 tried to end a court injunction prohibiting school board members from opening public meetings with prayer. FFRF, with 22 local plaintiffs, won both a federal and appeals court ruling against the prayer practices in 2018, receiving \$275,000 in FFRF legal fees. This October, a federal judge threw out the lawsuit challenging our win! The case is being appealed.

### FFRF has 12 ongoing cases, including seven Ten Commandments-in-school challenges!

Fighting Ten Commandments in schools: FFRF is suing three states — Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas — over passage of laws imposing large Protestant versions of the Ten Commandments in every public school classroom. These federal cases are brought by FFRF with a coalition of secular legal groups plus pro-bono help, including one ongoing filed in 2024:

- In the Louisiana case, *Roake v. Brumley*, first filed in June 2024, we represent a diversity of nine religious and nonreligious families. In late 2024, the court granted a preliminary injunction preventing the statute's implementation, which a panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld in June. In October, the entire panel of circuit



### FFRF survives a SLAPP suit!

FFRF was sued in March 2025 by the notorious Ryan Walters, Oklahoma superintendent of public instruction, in a baseless federal lawsuit challenging our right to do state/church work there. This was the first lawsuit against FFRF by a public official and an overt attempt to silence protected speech. We're thankful for the ACLU Free Speech Clinic, which defended us. On Aug. 13, a Trump-appointed federal judge threw out the baseless case. We're even happier, since we were the first group to call repeatedly for Walters' resignation as he continually sought to impose his Christian nationalist views on teachers and students, that he finally took our advice to resign in late September! Hurrah!

### FFRF debuting TV/phone video app

**FFRF's newest media venture is Freethought TV**, a streaming service for your smart TV, streaming stick, or smartphone that lets you watch the latest FFRF programs or convention

court judges announced they'll review that action in 2026. Stay tuned ...

- In the Arkansas case, *Stinson v. Fayetteville School District*, filed in June 2025, FFRF is representing a group of seven families, religious and nonreligious, in challenging the law. On Aug. 4, a district court issued a preliminary injunction prohibiting the school districts being sued from posting the biblical edicts. Then, in late August, with the new law to take effect on Sept. 1, the judge prohibited all school districts from displaying the Ten Commandments in every classroom! In August, 2025, we filed *Jaeger v. State of Arkansas*, a supplemental complaint, and in November, we filed *Benson et al v. Arkansas*, another supplemental complaint.
- In Texas in 2025, FFRF and our coalition filed three challenges of Texas' Ten Commandments-in-school law in federal court in the Western District. In *Rabbi Nathan v. Alamo Heights Independent School District*, filed in July, 16 multifaith and nonreligious families brought suit. In August, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction prohibiting the sued schools from displaying the posters. In October, we filed *Cribbs Ringer v. Comal Independent School District* challenging biblical classroom posters in 14 school districts, assisting 15 nonreligious and multifaith families. In December, our coalition filed *Ashby v. Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD*, a class action lawsuit to stop the displays in other districts.



## Cases dismissed

**Oklahoma bible-in-school suit.** In November 2024, FFRF filed suit, as part of a coalition representing 32 diverse religious and nonreligious plaintiffs, to block Oklahoma Superintendent of Public Instruction Ryan Walters' unconstitutional mandate that all public schools incorporate the bible into curricula. Walters had requested \$6 million in taxpayer money to purchase King James Bibles! The case was declared moot in late 2025 after Walters resigned.

**Religious charter school case.** We voluntarily ended our litigation, *OKPLAC, Inc. v. Oklahoma Statewide Virtual Charter School Board*, against a Catholic charter school in Oklahoma in July, after the state agreed not to pursue the scheme. FFRF and a coalition had filed suit in federal court, but a challenge in state court by the attorney general was heard first by the U.S. Supreme Court, which tied 4-4 in June.

## Ongoing litigation

**Arkansas Ten Commandments case:** *Orsi v. Martin*, a challenge of the massive Ten Commandments monument at the state Capitol, first filed in 2018, is *still* awaiting a ruling by the federal district court judge.

## Significant nonlitigation legal advocacy

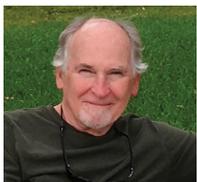


FFRF legal team. By Chris Line

**Legal complaints and victories.** FFRF received 1,892 reports of violations from members or the public. FFRF attorneys sent 603 formal complaint letters, plus 870 follow-ups, to violating governmental actors, the vast majority to public schools.

**Mass mailings.** FFRF sent out four mass mailings to school superintendents in Ohio, Texas and Arkansas, totaling 3,109 letters.

**It pays to complain!** FFRF has achieved **212 significant victories** through December 2025 (and 227 victories in the complete calendar year 2024). These nonlitigation victories include: stopping a first grade teacher in Georgia's Jenkins County School System from leading her class in prayer prior to lunch every day; halting distribution of religious pamphlets and concerts by a Christian band at an elementary school in Davidson County School District, N.C.; ensuring the libraries in Omaha, Neb., will remain open on Easter Sunday; convincing Isabella County, Mich., to remove a huge bible quote installed on the wall of its new jail facility. **And we're proud that FFRF**



James Reel

### Fighting for nontheists in South Carolina.

FFRF filed suit on Oct. 8 on behalf of FFRF member James Reel, a veteran, who wants to continue serving his country by becoming a poll worker but is required to take a religious oath! We're challenging this "no atheists need apply" law.

### Massachusetts shrine case.

In late May, FFRF and a coalition filed suit on behalf of local residents to halt the planned installation of two statues of Catholic saints at the entrance of a new public safety building in Quincy, Mass.



Mayor Thomas P. Koch approved construction of two 10-foot-tall bronze statues at a cost of at least \$850,000 in 2023, with taxpayers only learning of the scheme in early 2025. The lawsuit in state court asserts the statues violate the state's Constitution by subordinating other religions to the Catholic faith.

**Religious privileging case.** *Annie Laurie Gaylor et al v. the City of Madison* was filed in January, challenging a tax law created to benefit two extremely lucrative church-owned properties designed for student renters. Dan Barker, taxpayer David Peterson and FFRF are also part of the suit, which contends the plaintiffs and other Madisonians pay higher taxes to make up for the omission of these properties from the tax rolls.

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**has persuaded nine school boards across the country to stop opening their meetings with prayer** in the last year! Look for reports on legal victories in Freethought Today.

**Legal education.** The “We Dissent” monthly podcast by women attorneys, including Deputy Legal Director **Liz Cavell**, has 49 published episodes and more than 89,000 downloads. FFRF attorneys write legal blogs for Freethoughtnow.org, and have co-hosted 88 percent of the weekly YouTube episodes of “Ask an Atheist,” sharing legal wisdom and interviewing guests. Our attorneys have also taught Continuing Legal Education seminars!

**Seven amicus briefs filed.** FFRF has filed six amicus briefs, including four before the U.S. Supreme Court, advancing our mission by supporting challenges brought by others. Read the briefs: [ffrf.org/amicus-briefs](http://ffrf.org/amicus-briefs)

### FFRF advertising creates awareness

#### Digital, print, podcast and radio advertising.

Public Relations/Marketing Director **Sara Tetzloff** tested a mixture of traditional and digital media placements in 2025. FFRF’s commercial recorded by **Ron Reagan** played on five major broadcast shows, including MSNBC’s “Rachel Maddow” and CBS’ “Late Night with Stephen Colbert.” An audio version of Ron’s endorsement or live reads by hosts ran on 15+ SiriusXM channels, and about 20 podcasts. One host doing a live read is comedian **John Fugelsang**, author of the new book “Separate Church and Hate,” who was the keynoter at FFRF’s 2025 convention. Another host who recorded several audio commercials for us was comedian **Sarah Silverman**. There have been more than 15,000 placements and nearly 13 million impressions through digital ads alone. Multiple educational ads ran in the New York Times, as well as in The Nation, The Progressive and monthly ads in Scientific American.



**First atheist billboard in Africa!** Working with Accra (Ghana) Atheist Founder and President Roslyn Mould, FFRF was proud to underwrite the first atheist billboard in Africa, which made lots of news.

### Legislation/Lobbying achievements

**Congressional actions.** D.C.-based Governmental Affairs Director **Mark Dann** led a national coalition of good governance, civil rights, LGBTQ-plus and secular organizations to oppose the nomination of Russell Vought, primary architect of Project 2025, to head the Office of Management and Budget. The legislative team opposed provisions in the reconciliation bill to defund Planned Parenthood and for the first major federal voucher tax credit program. Another action: shrinking participation in the National Prayer Breakfast. The legislative team tabled at the National Conference of State Legislatures and at the National School Board Association.



**Rep. Huffman (center) at the Reason Reception.** By Chris Line

### Congressional Freethought Caucus reached 34 members.

Co-chaired by **Reps. Jared Huffman and Jamie Raskin**, the caucus protects state/church separation and the rights of freethinkers. FFRF works closely with the caucus, such as on the following event:

**Second annual Reason Reception.** FFRF, with American Humanist Association, co-hosted the second annual reception, what is jokingly called a boozy answer to the National Prayer Breakfast, put on in honor of the Congressional Freethought Caucus. Huffman and Raskin spoke, as did former **Rep. Susan Wild**, who talked openly about her secular identity. Other members of Congress attended, awards were announced and comedian **Leighann Lord** emceed.

**State legislative work.** The state legislative team, composed of Senior Policy Counsel **Ryan Jayne**, State Policy Manager **Ryan Dudley** and Regional Governmental Affairs Manager **Mickey Dollens**, as well as Governmental Affairs Coordinator **Caitlin Berray** and Editorial Assistant **Greg Fletcher**, tracked **605 new bills** in 2025: 551 state bills, 54 federal. We’re pleased that **88 percent of the bad bills died or are stalled.**



**Greg Fletcher**

Legislative victories include banning child marriage in Maine, Missouri and Oregon; passing Medical Aid in Dying in Delaware (the 11th state to pass such protections) and stopping many bad bills, including all five theocratic public school bills in Alabama. Thanks to action alerts through FFRF Action Fund, FFRF’s legislative arm, advocates sent about **87,000 emails** to elected officials (federal and state), along with making **2,500 phone calls**. More than 12,000 advocates have visited the action center on the FFRF Action Fund website. The state



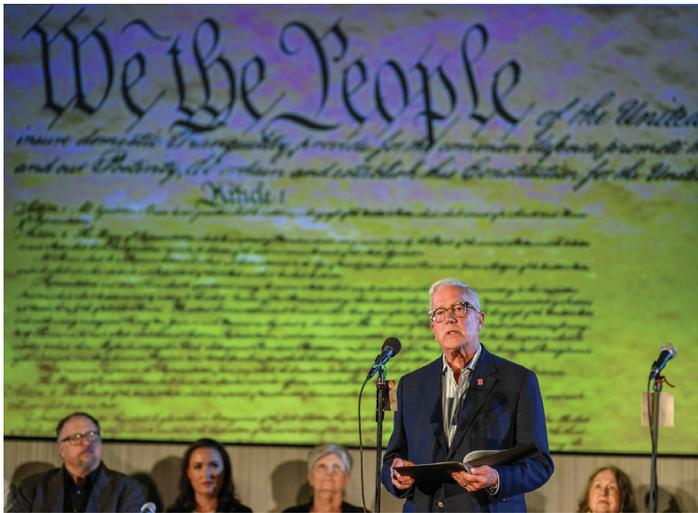
**Some of the legislative team.** By Chris Line

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legislative team submitted 34 separate pieces of written testimony!

**Rapid response work.** The legislative team, with Rapid Response Counsel **Chris Line**'s able assistance, names a "Theocrat of the Week" and a "Secularist of the Week." Chris and the team weigh in on news developments, such as the IRS' stunning decision to abandon most enforcement of the Johnson Amendment. They track the so-called "Religious Liberty Commission" and the "Anti-Christian Bias" Task Force.

**Exciting state initiatives.** The team has developed model legislation, dubbed "KPOP" ("Keep Proselytizing Out of Public Schools Act"), to add language against religion in public schools into state statutes. Other model legislation for 2026 includes the CHARM Act ("Children Have a Right to Medicine"), to repeal harmful exemptions in some 40 states where parents can claim a religious exemption for denying medical care for sick children. We're pursuing repeal of outdated legislation in six states that still boast (yes!) blasphemy laws. Legislative staffers have successfully published a bunch of op-eds.



By Chris Line

**Scopes Trial Centennial.** FFRF, with Center for Inquiry, put on a memorable conference marking the 100th anniversary of the Scopes Trial, meeting in Chattanooga, Tenn., with experts on evolution, history and the law. It ended dramatically with a play based on transcripts from the Dover "intelligent design" trial, co-written and directed by actor **John de Lancie**. Judge **John Jones III** appeared as himself, reading out the order declaring "intelligent design" unconstitutional. The event, attracting about 250 people, concluded with a visit to Dayton, Tenn., to see the famous courthouse and FFRF's statue of Clarence Darrow there, created by sculptor **Zenos Frudakis**.

**\$139,000 in student scholarships and support**  
FFRF has granted about \$139,000 in scholarships and awards to freethinking students: \$19,150 to 23 students in its David Hudak Memorial Essay Contest for **Black, Indigenous and Students of Color**; \$19,650 to 21 students in its Kenneth L. Proulx Memorial Essay Contest for **Ongoing College Students**; \$16,250 to 14 students in the Cornelius Vanderbroek Memorial Essay Contest for **Grad/Older Students**; \$17,950 to 21 students in its William Schulz Memorial High School Essay Contest for **College-bound High School Seniors** and \$9,000 to three winners of the Diane

## 2025 BIPOC College Essay Winners



and Stephen Uhl Memorial **Law Student** Essay Competition.

**\$30,000 in tuition relief.** In FFRF's seventh annual distribution of the Forward Freethought Tuition Relief Scholarships, almost entirely funded by generous FFRF **benefactor Lance Bredvold**, FFRF gave \$5,000 each to five students, and \$2,500 to two additional students. All are first in their family to attend college. This scholarship is in conjunction with Black Skeptics Los Angeles. Additionally FFRF contributed \$2,500 for **Lorraine Hansberry Memorial Student Scholarships** to seven high school students, splitting costs with other sponsors.

**FFRF student activist awards.** A new scholarship, the **Percy B. Shelley Student Activist Award** donated by Michael Meek, had three awardees: Kyria Santa (\$2,000, for Secular Student Alliance activism), James Reed (\$1,000, for an op-ed on Christian nationalism) and Natalie Laymon (\$1,000, for speaking up against school board prayer). Three student activists, Rafael, Ava and Dustin, who have demonstrated exceptional activism as high school or college students promoting secular causes, each received the \$1,000 **Al Luneman Student Activist Award** via Secular Student Alliance. Two secular students, Donte and Sariyah, attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities, received \$1,000 each from the **Cliff Richards Memorial Student Scholarship Fund**.

A doctoral student also received \$1,000 from the Cliff Richards scholarship. Malik Boyd received a second "**Robert G. Ingersoll Award**" of \$2,000 for debate activism. Rajasi Agarwal received the **Thomas W. Jendrock Student Activist Award** of \$1,000 for her op-ed on state/church separation in the Austin American-Statesman. Berry, a 14-year-old who testified before the Iowa Legislature against a bill requiring "In God We Trust" to be posted in all public schools, and Maddy, a high school student who called out a teacher for disrespecting her atheist views, each received \$1,000 for having "**Strong Backbones**." FFRF thanks all the generous benefactors of these scholarships.



Eli Frost and Bailey Harris. By Chris Line

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**Major student activist awards.** Bailey Harris, 19, received the \$5,000 “**Out of God’s Closet**” **Diane and Stephen Uhl Memorial Scholarship** for publishing her fourth book on science for children, “Darwin’s Journey.” Eli Frost, 18, received the \$5,000 **Beverly and Richard Hermsen Student Activist Award** for persuading his school district to quit holding graduation ceremonies in a megachurch. Bailey and Eli accepted their awards at the 2025 convention.

**Secular ‘Underground Railroad.’**

To date, FFRF has given \$50,000 in grants for endangered nonbelievers, including \$10,000 to IHEU’s “Protect Humanists at Risk” campaign. Recipients include an Iranian atheist awaiting asylum in Canada who is living in Turkey, and \$5,000 toward an emergency conference of ex-Muslim groups in London working to free **Ibtissame “Betty” Lachgar**, a leading freethinker in Morocco who was sentenced this fall to 30 months’ prison for blasphemy. A cancer patient, her health is endangered.



**‘Rational Radio & Blasphemous Broadcasting’**

**FFRF’s newspaper/radio show.** FFRF publishes 10 issues/year of our newspaper *Freethought Today*, curated by Editor **PJ Slinger**. “Freethought Radio,” hosted weekly by FFRF Co-Presidents Dan Barker and Annie Laurie Gaylor, is in its 20th year broadcasting in 10 states. Its podcast, heard around the world, has had almost 2 million total downloads — averaging 25,000 a month. Listen at [ffrf.org/radio](http://ffrf.org/radio) or through your favorite podcast provider.



**Amit Pal and PJ Slinger**

By Chris Line

**FFRF in the news!** Through September, FFRF’s Director of Communications **Amit Pal** oversaw 314 FFRF news releases plus the Weekly Wrap. Staff and guest columnists wrote 110 FFRF blogs published at *Freethoughtnow.org*. **Greg Fletcher** compiles “FFRF in the News” and reports that FFRF actions

have been covered by more than 879 news articles and 77 TV segments. See coverage at: [ffrf.org/news/media](http://ffrf.org/news/media)

**What’s up in Stephen Uhl Friendly Atheist Studio?** FFRF said goodbye in September to “Ask an Atheist,” which aired for 7 years live on Facebook. It’s being replaced with a Youtube show, “**Secular Spotlight**,” airing at 5 p.m. Central Mondays, overseen by FFRF Producer **Leo Costello**. FFRF also said goodbye to “**Freethought Matters**,” a half-hour public affairs TV show with Dan and Annie Laurie, skillfully overseen by Multimedia Director **Bruce Johnson**, which ran for seven years on as many as 13 channels in major markets. To replace it, “Freethought Radio,” which features a 20-minute guest interview, will soon be a video podcast as well! Archives of both shows plus new “Secular Spotlight” episodes can be viewed on Freethought TV (FFRF’s new app) and FFRF’s YouTube channel.

**Social and other media:** FFRF has 87.1K Twitter (X) followers, 466K Facebook followers, 66.4K YouTube subscribers with nearly 500K video views, 16.3K Blue Sky followers, 25.3K Instagram followers and 29.6K Tiktok followers (with 92.2K video views). Thanks to Digital Coordinator **Rowan Hahn**, Marketing/PR Director **Sara Tetzloff** and Rapid Response Counsel **Chris Line**.



**FFRF outreach on the road**

**Speaking engagements.** Co-President **Dan Barker** spoke at events and national TV stations in Peru and Paraguay (and remotely in Ghana) and domestically in Georgia, Ohio and Tennessee. Co-President **Annie Laurie Gaylor** and Dan spoke at the second annual Upstate New York Freethinkers chapter event and at a Darwin Day event in Iowa. Annie Laurie was on a freethought history panel at a Buffalo conference and addressed a local campus church group plus other remote events.

Legal Director **Patrick Elliott**, Deputy Director **Liz Cavell**, Rapid Response Counsel **Chris Line**, Staff Attorney **Sammi Lawrence** and Anne Nicol Gaylor Legal Fellow **Kyle Steinberg** spoke at 11 events in Minnesota, Florida, Colorado, Louisiana, Madison, Wis., and Texas, including at two chapters. Notably, Sammi and Kyle addressed the Religious Freedom in Public Schools Summit in Dallas.

**The legislative team spoke at 10 events** or webinars. Regional Governmental Affairs Manager **Mickey Dollens** spoke at the Dallas Religious Freedom in Public Schools Summit and to five chapters or local groups in Kentucky, Austin, Arkansas and California. He gave a remote chapter training. He and State Policy Manager **Ryan Dudley** spoke at the Secular Student Alliance conference. Senior Policy Counsel **Ryan Jayne** spoke remotely to an Ohio chapter and gave a presentation on vouchers there, as well as webinars on democracy and education and “Why Courts Matter.”

**Co-sponsorships:** FFRF co-sponsored the Secular Student Alliance annual conference, the Secular Day of the Dead international event, the second annual Reason Reception in Congress and Black Nonbelievers’ first Revival of Reason in Atlanta. FFRF is a member of the Secular Coalition for America and the Thomas Paine Memorial Association.



**Sadie Pattinson**

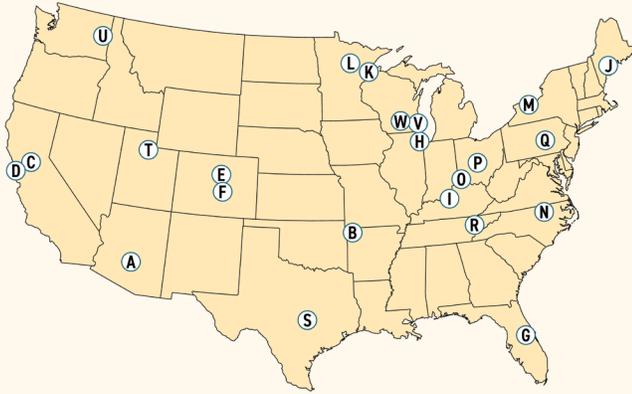
By Chris Line

**Chapters, Boards, Staff 23 chapters around the U.S.:**

FFRF added three new chapters! Thanks to all the volunteers who lead FFRF chapters, overseen by Events and Outreach Manager **Sadie Pattinson**. Chapters provide local activities such as charity, social gatherings, billboards, volunteerism and state/church activism. Find a chapter in your area: [ffrf.org/about/ffrf-chapters](http://ffrf.org/about/ffrf-chapters)

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## FFRF CHAPTERS



**2025 Executive Board:** FFRF's Executive Board of Directors are: Michael Cermak, chair, Steve Salemsen, treasurer; Cheryl Kolbe, secretary; Dan Barker and Annie Laurie Gaylor co-presidents (each with a half vote) and directors-at-large: Jeremiah Camara, Stephen Hirtle, Sue Kocher, Todd Peissig and David Tamayo.

**FFRF's current state representatives** help represent their states and elect the executive board. They are: Daniel Barker (WI), Darrell Barker (WA), Charles Bender (IN), Sheri Bender (IN), Lance Bredvold (MT), Robin Buckallew (NE), Jeremiah Camara (GA), Tom Cara (WI), John Cavin (KS), Michael Cermak (PA), Sheridan Chapin (SC), Dianne Cooper (IA), Margaret Downey (CA), Annie Laurie Gaylor (WI), Carolyn Golojuch (HI), Kevin Gough (CT), Ken Gould (AR), Alice Heath (MT), Ed Hensley (KY), Stephen Hirtle (PA), Linda Hollar (TX), George Iddon (WA), Julie Iddon (WA), Linda Josheff (WI), Sue Kocher (MI), Cheryl Kolbe (OR), Aleta Ledendecker (TN), Jodette Lenser (MO), Erin Louis (CA), Steven Lowe (DC), Rob Moore (WI), George Naidl (AR), Julie Nichols Legg (MN), Paul Novak (IA), Julie Olsen (AK), Todd Peissig (WI), Robert Pierce (ID), Nancy Rattman (MN), Steve Salemsen (WI), Tom Schottmiller (CA), Sue Schuetz (WI), Nick Sheridan (MD), Steve Solomon (MO), Claudette St.Pierre (CO), David Tamayo (VA), Ray Vansel (ME), David Williamson (FL), Jocelyn Williamson (FL) and Lisa Willman (NM).



Some of the administrative team. By Chris Line

**FFRF Staff.** FFRF's dedicated staff of 39 full-timers plus two part-timers, is overseen by our accomplished Director of Operations **Lisa Strand**. Welcome to new full-time employees

**Nancy Noet**, litigation attorney, and **Charlotte Gude**, Patrick O'Reiley Legal Fellow replacing **Hirsh Joshi**, who completed his fellowship this September. **Sara Tetzloff** had her one-year anniversary as FFRF's first PR/marketing director. **FFRF thanks its entire staff**, including the often unheralded graphic artists, administrative and IT staff who keep the office going. See [ffrf.org/about/staff-board](http://ffrf.org/about/staff-board)

**We love interns!** FFRF commends our 2025 interns: **Regan Allen** (University of Wisconsin), **Isabelle Hoffman** (University of Wisconsin), **Tyler Parteka** (University of Wisconsin), **Zoe Gunderson** (University of Wisconsin), and **Justin McCulloch** (University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School). **Zoë**



Interns. By Chris Line

**Halaban** (Yale) was our summer undergraduate intern. Tyler continues his internship this fall and **William McCaffery** (Oxford) joined as a fall law student intern. **Lalitha Viswanathan** (University of Wisconsin) is a fall undergraduate intern. **Ashley Harrison** served as a resourceful summer communications intern.

**Volunteers:** FFRF is ever grateful for our cadre of some 30 dedicated volunteers overseen by Program Manager **Lisa Treu**, who read and judge hundreds of student essays and encourage Gen Z nonbelievers. Thank you!

## See you in Milwaukee — 2026



Mary L. Trump. By Chris Line

More than 500 FFRF members attended the lovely mid-October 48th annual national convention at a beach resort in Myrtle Beach, S.C., headlined by **Mary L. Trump** and comedian **John Fugelsang**, rounded out by state/church experts, democracy defenders, secular students, plus irreverent interludes from Godless Gospel Singers and musicians Dan Barker and Roy Zimmerman. **Talks are viewable at [ffrf.org/convention2025](http://ffrf.org/convention2025)**. Speeches will appear in Freethought Today. Warm thanks to Events

Manager **Sadie Pattinson**, Membership Manager **Lily Pocs**, **Lisa Strand**, **Bruce Johnson**, Audio for the Arts, Shop Manager **Katina Gehn**, photographer **Chris Line**, Director of First Impressions **Matt Kenyon** and the rest of the hardworking staff who ran the convention.

**See you next year** for the 49th annual national convention taking place at the Baird Convention Center in Milwaukee on Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning, Oct. 16–18, 2026. Already booked: **Jim Obergefell** (who won marriage equality before the Supreme Court) and **Ron Reagan!**