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For Immediate Release:  
**May 21, 2009**

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**How a Nation Honors Its Vets Impacts National Security Says  
Legal Group Representing Veterans in Memorial Case**

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**WASHINGTON, DC** – Kelly Shackelford, chief counsel of Liberty Legal Institute, which represents the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, The American Legion, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and others, in the Mojave Desert Memorial case, released the following statement today regarding the treatment of veterans:

“We are only as secure as we remember those who have given their lives for the freedom that we now have. Our founding father, George Washington, said that 'the willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by our nation.'”

Shackelford will speak at 10 a.m. today at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, in a joint news conference on the trend around the country to dishonor our veterans and issues of national security. All of the leading veterans groups will be attending and speaking at the news conference.

Liberty Legal Institute is a legal organization committed to the defense of religious freedoms and First Amendment rights and is often before the U.S. Supreme Court.

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Interviews and B-roll of memorial are available. Visit [www.DontTearMeDown.com](http://www.DontTearMeDown.com) for photos, detailed trends, and background information.