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From: Gregory Rooney <gregory.rooney@boston.gov>
To: shurtleffhal <shurtleffhal@aol.com>
Sent: Fri, Sep 8, 2017 10:16 am
Subject: Flag Raising

Dear Mr. Shurtleff,

I am writing to you in response to your inquiry as to the reason for denying your request to raise the "Christian Flag". The City of Boston maintains a policy and practice of respectfully refraining from flying non-secular flags on the City Hall flagpoles. This policy and practice is consistent with well-established First Amendment jurisprudence prohibiting a local government from "respecting an establishment of religion." This policy and practice is also consistent with City's legal authority to choose how a limited government resource, like the City Hall flagpoles, is used.

According to the above policy and practice, the City of Boston has respectfully denied the request of Camp Constitution to fly on a City Hall flagpole the "Christian" flag, as it is identified in the request, which displays a red Latin cross against a blue square bordered on three sides by a white field.

The City would be willing to consider a request to fly a non-religious flag, should your organization elect to offer one.

Regards,

Gregory T. Rooney

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