

Three Decades of Justice

September 10, 2021

Since September 1991, the libertarian law firm founded by Chip Mellor and Clint Bolick has been fighting for the rights of its clients against governmental assault.

For no charge, Institute for Justice helps people stripped of options fight for:

- **The right to keep one's land (and what's on it).**

In 2001, the city of Mesa, Arizona launched eminent-domain proceedings against Bailey's Brake Service, owned by Randy Bailey. The plan was to

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destroy the shop and give the land to a hardware store, not a constitutionally permitted "public use." Bailey and IJ eventually prevailed in court.

- **The right to make a living despite arbitrary professional licensing.**

The Louisiana State Board of Cosmetology demands that aspiring hair braiders submit to hundreds of



hours of training and pay for an expensive license to ply their trade. IJ is challenging the requirement on behalf of clients Ashley N'Dakpri, Lynn Schofield, and Michelle Robertson.

- **The right to keep one's cash despite arbitrary civil forfeiture — i.e., the power of police and prosecutors to grab your money or other belongings without charging you with a crime.**

One recent victim is Marine Corps veteran Stephen Laura, whose \$86,900 was looted by the Nevada Highway Patrol. The Institute has agreed to help him get it back.

And so on.

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"Eternal Vigilance"? Thy name is IJ.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.