

## An open letter to the mayor of Bend regarding LCpl Randy Newman

*by Scott Akrbec*

Mr. Abernathy, Given your recent actions regarding the refusal to name a bridge after LCpl Randy Newman and your refusal to let those who wished to speak on his behalf do so, I felt the need to attempt to contact you and express my disgust at what you have done. I have attempted to contact members of the city council but you sir have a special place in my heart. You recently silenced those who attempted to speak for LCpl Newman, a man who would have fought and died for your right to free speech. By refusing to allow those who disagree with your decision to rescind the naming of a bridge for Randy from speaking in a public forum you have demonstrated the hypocrisy of your political views. I am truly saddened that while Randy would have sacrificed everything for your right to speak you could not find it in your heart to sacrifice five minutes for those who would speak for him. I have encouraged all those who I serve with to never go to Bend since they would probably not be welcome there and I personally will never enter your town. I am saddened and disgusted by the leadership of your town. Scott Akrbec Ft. Knox, Kentucky

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