



Our Mission  
To Promote Patriotism  
By Encouraging Elected City Officials  
To Display Our National Motto "In God We Trust"  
In Every City Hall In America

January 5, 2009

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers,

In 2002, the City Council in Bakersfield, California, voted in favor of proudly and prominently displaying the national motto of the United States, "In God We Trust", in our Council Chambers at City Hall.

Since that time, I helped to initiate an organization called *In God We Trust – America, Inc.*, and we have attained 501(c)3 non-profit status. Our mission is to encourage every city across the United States of America to follow Bakersfield's lead. I am pleased to inform you that at this time, nearly 50 California cities have voted in favor of joining this important patriotic effort.

This *In God We Trust – America* e-mail packet is being forwarded to your Mayor, City Councilmembers, City Manager, and City Attorney. We are looking for elected officials in your city to take the lead and work toward putting this item on your agenda for a positive outcome. We would love for your city to join the growing number of "Yes" cities in America, by voting "Yes" to display our national motto. In God We Trust, in your City Hall.

Thank you in advance,

Sincerely,

Jacquie Sullivan  
City Councilmember  
Bakersfield, California  
*In God We Trust – America, Inc.*  
President / Founder

P.S. I welcome anyone interested in more information to contact me at (661) 834-4943 or e-mail: [Jacquie@LibertyStar.net](mailto:Jacquie@LibertyStar.net)

*IN GOD WE TRUST – AMERICA, INC.*  
P.O. BOX 11715 • BAKERSFIELD, CA 93389 • (661) 834-4943  
Email: [jacquiesullivan@ingodwetrust-america.org](mailto:jacquiesullivan@ingodwetrust-america.org); Website: [www.ingodwetrust-america.org](http://www.ingodwetrust-america.org)  
A non-profit 501c3 educational corporation ID# 2624857



**Our Mission**  
**To Promote Patriotism**  
**By Encouraging Elected City Officials**  
**To Display Our National Motto "In God We Trust"**  
**In Every City Hall In America**

**Board of Directors**

*President*  
 Jacquie Sullivan  
 Bakersfield  
 Councilmember

*Secretary*  
 Mark Abernathy  
 Western Pacific Research, Inc.

*Treasurer*  
 Larry Moxley  
 Moxley International

**Advisory Board**

Don Clark  
 Former News Anchor  
 CBS Bakersfield

Holly Culhane, SPHR  
 P\*A\*S Associates

Tina Miller  
 Business Owner

Paul Neufeld  
 Wasco Councilmember  
 Building Contractor

Pedro Rios  
 Delano Councilmember  
 Educator

Cheryl Rhodes  
 Educator

Dan Schaffer  
 KAXL Radio

Dave Voss  
 Jesus Shack

Tom Watkins  
 Bakersfield Family  
 Medical Center

November 11, 2008

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

The United States of America has much to celebrate. The freedoms we prize were won through enormous pain and sacrifice and are perpetuated through tremendous courage and vision. Now, to help preserve and protect the best of all that America stands for, a volunteer organization, ***In God We Trust - America, Inc.***, has been organized and headquartered in Bakersfield, California. Our mission is to encourage each city in our nation to join in prominently and permanently displaying our national motto, "In God We Trust," in every City Hall throughout our great state and across America.

"In God We Trust" became our national motto when approved by Congress on July 30, 1956, and later by the Supreme Court, after the United States led the world through the trauma of World War II. The words have been used on U.S. currency since 1864. The same inspiring slogan is engraved above the entrance to the Senate Chamber and above the Speaker's dais in the House of Representatives. In both war and peace, these words have been a profound source of strength and guidance to many generations of Americans.

In February of 2002, the Bakersfield City Council officially voted "Yes" to display our national motto, "In God We Trust," in their City Hall. These historic words are now prominently displayed in their city council chambers and arched above their city seal. To date, nearly 50 cities in California have voted to take similar official action and to follow Bakersfield's lead. We now encourage every city across our wonderful land to do the same.

**Will You Join Us?**

***In God We Trust - America, Inc.*** has received a significant letter from the President of the Pacific Justice Institute, a non-profit group based in Sacramento, who defends cases threatening our religious liberties and our nation's religious heritage. They are commending our organization for promoting the national motto and assure us that "under applicable case law, such recognitions are clearly constitutional." Should any government entity receive legal threats, the Pacific Justice Institute would be honored to defend them at no charge in state or federal court.

Our volunteer organization, ***In God We Trust - America, Inc.***, is incorporated with non-profit 501c3 status. We are available to assist you, as a civic leader, with whatever is needed to aid in your participation to approve displaying our nation's motto in your own city hall. A representative from our organization will contact you to see how we can assist you in this noble endeavor. You may also contact me directly for assistance at (661) 834-4943 or e-mail at [jacquiesullivan@ingodwetrust-america.org](mailto:jacquiesullivan@ingodwetrust-america.org).

**May God bless America, and may America's trust always be in God.**

Sincerely,

Jacquie Sullivan  
 Bakersfield City Councilmember  
 Founder / President  
***In God We Trust - America, Inc.***

CONTINUED ↓↓

## The History of the National Motto “In God We Trust”

- In September of 1814, during the British bombardment of Fort McHenry, Francis Scott Key composed the poem *Star Spangled Banner*, of which the last line of the second and final stanza is, “and this be our Motto, in God be our Trust.”
- In 1861, Chief Justice Chase of the Supreme Court wrote the following in a letter to the director of the U.S. Mint: “No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins.”
- In 1866, Congress enacted legislation authorizing the inscription of the phrase “In God We Trust” to be placed on certain coins.
- In 1931, Congress passed the act officially designating the composition of the words and music of the *Star Spangled Banner* as our National Anthem.
- In 1954, during the Dwight D. Eisenhower Administration, Congress approved the words “Under God” to be added to our Pledge of Allegiance. In our pledge, the United States is described as “One Nation under God.”
- In 1955, Congress mandated the inscription of “In God We Trust” on all coins and paper currency.
- In 1956, during the Eisenhower Administration, Congress and the Supreme Court voted in favor of declaring “In God We Trust” as the national motto of the United States.
- The United States Code itself contains religious references. For example, Congress has directed the President to “...set aside and proclaim a suitable day each year as a National Day of Prayer, on which the people of the United States may turn to God in prayer and meditation at churches, in groups, and as individuals.”
- Our National Motto, “In God We Trust,” is prominently engraved on the wall above the Speaker’s dais in the Chamber of the House of Representatives and is reproduced on every coin minted and every dollar printed by the Federal Government.
- Our Judicial Branch acknowledges the central role of religion in our society. All federal courts open sessions requesting that “God save the United States and this honorable Court.”
- The Ten Commandments are posted in the U.S. Supreme Court Chambers directly above the bench where the nine Supreme Court Justices sit.

