

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND – BALTIMORE DIVISION

ALBERT SNYDER,
Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. 1:06-cv-1389-RDB

FRED W. PHELPS, SR.;
SHIRLEY L. PHELPS-ROPER;
REBEKAH A. PHELPS-DAVIS; and,
WESTBORO BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.,
Defendants.

ATTACHMENT 20

IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION OF DEFENDANTS
PHELPS-DAVIS & PHELPS-ROPER
TO DISMISS OR FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Excerpts of Deposition
Of Tim Phelps (WBC Corporate Representative)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

ALBERT SNYDER,

Plaintiff

Vs.

FRED W. PHELPS, SR.,

Civil Action

JOHN DOES, and

No: 06-CV-1389 RDB

WESTBORO BAPTIST

CHURCH, INC.,

Defendants

Friday, April 20th, 2007

Silver Spring, Maryland

The Deposition of:

TIMOTHY B. PHELPS,

Taken at the Law Offices of Marks & Katz, LLC,

1400 Spring Street, Suite 410, Silver Spring,

Maryland, scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m.,

before Chris Fox, Notary Public, when were

present on behalf of the respective parties.

1 that, correct?

2 A. Yes, sir.

3 Q. So, the travel from Kansas to Maryland
4 was by plane, correct?

5 A. Yes, sir. I don't want anyone to say
6 I was misrepresenting. Travel from Missouri
7 to Maryland was by plane. The airport is in
8 Missouri.

9 Q. So you fly out of Kansas City?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Your father paid for his own plane
12 ticket, is that correct? To travel to
13 Maryland in March of 2006?

14 A. That's what he testified. I don't
15 have any reason to question that.

16 Q. And do you know who paid for Shirley
17 Phelps-Roper and her four children to fly to
18 Maryland in March 2006?

19 A. Shirley Phelps-Roper.

20 Q. And how do you know that?

21 A. Same way I know that any of us do.
22 That's just our practice. We pay our own

1 freight. We pay for our children.

2 Q. Where is Shirley Phelps-Roper
3 employed?

4 A. Phelps-Chartered.

5 Q. Is she a full-time attorney there?

6 A. I don't know. I know she's employed
7 there.

8 Q. And Shirley Phelps-Roper's husband is
9 Brent Roper?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Do you know where he's employed?

12 A. Yeah. I mean I know the physical
13 location. It's in Kansas City. It's -- I'm
14 trying to think of the name of it. It's --
15 it's -- I'm trying to think of the name of it.
16 It's some fancy high-falutin something or
17 other that manages insurance companies or
18 agents and stuff. I don't know what the name
19 of it is, though.

20 Q. Just in laymen's terms, if you were
21 passing someone on the street and they said,
22 hey, what does your brother-in-law Brent Roper

1 A. Or if they walked up to them at the
2 picket, which has happened, or they e-mailed
3 us, which has happened.

4 Q. Okay. I want to show you Tim Phelps
5 Deposition Exhibit 10. And in particular, I
6 mean, you can read the whole thing if you
7 want. But I'm going to ask you a question
8 about something that was attributed to WBC on
9 the second page.

10 And actually, I put a bracket there,
11 but if you'd like to read the whole article,
12 go ahead. Just let me know when you're ready.

13 A. I'm ready.

14 Q. All right. For example, in this
15 article it says: Church members telephoned
16 the soldier's family saying, thank God for
17 dead soldiers and hanging up.

18 Are you aware of something like that
19 ever being communicated by a WBC member to a
20 deceased family?

21 A. Absolutely not.

22 Q. Okay.

1 A. And that's a lie. Whoever spoke it,
2 is a lie.

3 Q. All right. What about -- so just so
4 we're understanding each other, there is no
5 oral or written communication from a WBC
6 member to a deceased's family member, is that
7 what you're saying?

8 A. Never initiated.

9 Q. Correct.

10 A. And I'm only making that distinction
11 because we've had instances when they have
12 contacted us.

13 Q. Right.

14 A. And we have not solicited the
15 contacts. We have not encouraged the contact.
16 We're about preaching. And that's the
17 end of what we're about. If they contact us,
18 we'll communicate with them.

19 Q. Who's Margie Phelps?

20 A. Margie Phelps is my sister.

21 Q. Is she a WBC member?

22 A. Yes, she is.

1 years, that's been the shift in the focus of
2 this nation.

3 Q. And who decides what funerals to put
4 on the godhatesfags.com web page, to list on
5 there as upcoming love crusades?

6 A. The church does.

7 Q. The church. The church unanimously?

8 A. Yes, sir.

9 Q. They come to an agreement on that?

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. Just like when Matthew Snyder's
12 funeral was protested, the church came to an
13 agreement to protest that funeral?

14 A. The church did, yes.

15 Q. And just like the other decisions that
16 you and your father referenced, it was a
17 collective unanimous agreement, correct?

18 A. That's the way it has to be, yes.

19 Q. And when I say unanimous, and you say
20 unanimous, we're referring to all the WBC
21 members?

22 A. All the WBC members.