

When the Ones Who Swear to Protect Rights Start Violating Them

How Constitutionally Illiterate Police Are Trampling Free Speech at the Alamo

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Across the nation, the Alamo stands as an enduring symbol of American liberty—a sacred shrine where men drew a line in the sand and gave their lives in defense of freedom. Its story is revered not just by Texans, but by citizens across the entire country who see it as the bedrock of American independence.

Yet, step onto the public sidewalks surrounding that historic fortress today, and a very different picture of freedom unfolds—one where sworn law enforcement officers treat basic constitutional rights as optional recommendations and blindly act as muscle for bureaucratic overreach.

The Alamo's Revolving Door: Leadership Changes, Sameness in Suppression

The trouble at the historic site came into sharp public view when Alamo Trust President and CEO Kate Rogers was forced out following public exposure of her 2023 doctoral dissertation written at the University of Southern California.

Rogers’ academic work advocated for what she termed a “broader historical narrative” and “historical reconciliation”. In practice, this meant attempting to shift focus away from the battle-centered framing—the “13 Days of Glory” centered on Texas heroes fighting for independence. Instead, Rogers openly pushed to:

- Challenge Public & Legislative Oversight: Rogers explicitly asserted in her dissertation that politicians should not dictate history curriculum—ignoring the foundational democratic principle that elected officials serve as the public’s representatives to oversee taxpayer funds, public institutions, and state curricula. Since the vast majority of education and historic preservation is publicly funded, taxpayers elect representatives specifically to guard public resources and ensure taxpayer dollars reflect the public’s values, rather than unelected academics.
- Deprioritize the 1836 Battle: Refocus site presentation on its pre-1836 origins as Mission San Antonio de Valero and push progressive “land acknowledgments” on site grounds.
- Center Slavery as the Primary Driver: Incorporate theories—echoing books like *Forget the Alamo*—that Texas defenders fought primarily to maintain human slavery against Mexican abolition.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick called out the paper publicly, stating Rogers’ ideology was “incompatible with the telling of the history of the Battle of the Alamo” and calling for her removal.

However, replacing top leadership with a new administration has proven to be nothing more than a cosmetic fix. Months after Rogers’ exit, the entrenched culture within the Alamo administration continues to stifle fundamental liberties—most notably, the Freedom of Speech.

This reality was on full display when peaceful Christian abortion abolitionists were confronted by state law enforcement while standing on public space near the Alamo. Holding signs displaying Scripture and verses from the Bible, the peaceful demonstrators were confronted by Texas Department of Public Safety officers who claimed the group was violating protocol. Their offense? Standing outside a designated, arbitrary “free speech zone” manufactured by the Alamo Trust.

When the citizens pointed out that traditional public forums like public sidewalks are protected



A screenshot of Texas DPS officers arresting a street evangelist in San Antonio on Aug. 15, 2026. | Screenshot/YouTube/@Texas 2A Attorney CJ Grisham

by the First Amendment, officers ignored binding constitutional precedent, handed down trespass warnings, and arrested four demonstrators. Ironically, the arrests occurred mere yards away from a plaza star engraved with a quote celebrating public liberty and free speech.

Order-Followers vs. The Oath of Office: A Dangerous Police Epidemic

This breakdown highlights a systemic, dangerous crisis running rampant through American law enforcement: a total, willful ignorance of the very Constitution officers swear a solemn oath to uphold.

Every police officer in America raises their right hand and promises to support, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. Yet, in practice, a shocking majority of officers receive zero meaningful education on what that document actually protects. Few can define the boundaries of the First Amendment, articulate the rules governing traditional public forums, or understand the hard limits placed on government power.

Instead of operating as critically thinking guardians of constitutional rights, officers have devolved into unthinking order-followers. When told by administrators or departmental policy to clear a sidewalk or silence a voice, officers routinely choose the easy path of blind compliance—enforcing unconstitutional corporate or municipal policies over the supreme law of the land.

When police surrender their critical thinking to follow illegal orders, they cease acting as defenders of justice and turn into armed enforcement agents for bureaucratic overreach. “I’m just doing my job” and “I was just following orders” are hollow excuses that directly betray the badge on their chest and the oath on their lips.

Rooted Bureaucracy and the Power of Unions

Why does swapping out a chief executive fail to alter an institution’s behavior? Because decapitating the top of a modern institution does little to change the ideological machinery operating beneath it.



Abolitionists were forced to stand in this tiny circle near the Alamo to practice faux-"free speech" ... or get arrested. Two attorneys were present with the abolitionists. Four abolitionists arrested for free speech on public property. ... See more

Across public and quasi-public entities nationwide, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) frameworks and anti-constitutional ideologies have quietly permeated every level of middle management and operational staff. Removing a CEO like Kate Rogers leaves intact an entrenched workforce that continues to craft and push restrictive policies onto clueless police forces.

Compounding the problem are powerful public employee unions and bureaucratic civil-service protections. Built to shield workers, these structures often make it nearly impossible to fire low- and mid-level personnel who actively trample on constitutional guarantees or refuse to adhere to statutory mandates. When entrenched staff cannot be held accountable, administrative tyranny becomes standard operating procedure, regardless of who sits in the executive office.

Reclaiming Stolen Institutions

If Americans hope to preserve their republic, replacing a CEO here or holding a press conference there will not suffice. Saving institutions that have been captured by anti-constitutional thought requires a hard-hitting, comprehensive overhaul:

1. Mandatory Constitutional Literacy and Liability for Police: Law enforcement training academies must end the culture of passive order-following. Police officers must be thoroughly trained in constitutional law and held personally accountable—losing qualified immunity—when they enforce unlawful policies that violate citizens’ rights.
2. Complete Bureaucratic Audits: State legislatures and oversight bodies must systematically exercise their statutory mandate over taxpayer dollars, dismantling DEI frameworks and unconstitutional administrative rules across all public institutions.
3. Union and Civil Service Reform: Lawmakers must reform public-sector employment rules, ensuring that entrenched staff who repeatedly violate citizens’ constitutional protections can be promptly terminated without bureaucratic shield.

The Alamo was once saved by individuals willing to stand firm against tyranny. If institutions created to honor that legacy now rely on constitutionally illiterate police to strip away the basic freedoms of the people, the spirit of the Alamo is lost—not to foreign armies, but to our own law enforcement’s blind obedience.

