

Freespace

A blog by Timothy Sandefur

"The honest advocate of my country's rights"--Jefferson

Ten years at PLF

Today is my 10-year anniversary as an attorney at the [Pacific Legal Foundation](#). It definitely does not feel like it. For about nine of those years, my energies have been primarily devoted to the Foundation's Economic Liberty Project, devoted to defending the right to earn a living—which was, of course, the subject of [my 2010 book of that title](#). That project succeeded in setting crucially important precedent in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, [Merrifield v. Lockyer](#), declaring that government may not use its occupational licensing laws simply to protect established businesses against economic competition. We've also put an end to anti-competitive laws in the moving industry in [Oregon](#) and [Missouri](#), and are now fighting for economic liberty in [Nebraska](#), [Kentucky](#), [California](#), and elsewhere.



The Economic Liberty Project's cases around the country

None of these things would have been possible without the help of my many colleagues, who have taught, supported, guided, and aided me with all the many complex and time-consuming tasks that go not only into litigation, but into writing and publishing articles, traveling and giving speeches, producing our website and keeping body and soul together during times of economic downturn, when the non-profit world is often hit especially hard. Nor would it have been possible without the help of my friends at other, allied organizations like the [Cato Institute](#), [IJ](#), the [Claremont Institute](#), the [Reason Foundation](#), [Cascade Policy Institute](#), the [Institute for Humane Studies](#), and many, many others.

Thanks to all—and I hope the next decade is every bit as exciting!

