



Jury to Decide: Did Millard School Violate First Amendment?



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OMAHA (KPTM) - You might think a school suspension were fitting if a student came to school sporting a shirt with nudity or foul language. But in 2008, more than two-dozen students in Millard were suspended after making - and wearing - shirts to honor a murder classmate.

Former student Daniel Kuhr, 22, remembers the day he lost his best friend, Julius Robinson, like it was yesterday.

"No one could ever replace Julius. He was truly my best friend in this whole world," said Kuhr.

Kuhr claims he was not able to cope with Robinson's death the way he wanted to. He said Millard South school officials band shirts, bracelets and key chains he designed to remember his classmate.

The shirts made headlines in 2008 when students were handed a 3-day suspension for wearing them to school.

"It essentially kind of evolved into anything with the mention of Julius Robinson or his name was a complete and total ban," said Kuhr's attorney [Brian Jorde](#).

[Jorde](#) said Wednesday that Kuhr's case will go to trial on January 24th. He said he's confident a jury will find the shirts honoring Robinson to be a respectful way of honoring a classmate who was murdered.

Meanwhile, Millard Public Schools spokesperson Amy Friedman issued the following statement:

"The federal court decision does not decide the merits of this case, and there is no ruling that the Millard School District has violated the free speech rights of any students. The recent decision simply denies the District's Motion For Summary Judgment, because there are disputed fact issues which must be resolved at trial."