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## **DART Busses Reinstate Ads**

by R. Ben Stone, ACLU-IA Executive Director  
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At about 9:45 Friday evening, DART, in a clear effort to minimize the media exposure of an embarrassing situation, sent a statement to TV8 news and other outlets announcing that it was completely reversing its initial decision to not allow the ads to run as originally designed. This came after representatives from Iowa Atheists, as well as the ACLU-IA, met with a DART official at 4:30 on Friday afternoon. DART was told that we felt that the ads should go up in their original form. I also renewed the ACLU of Iowa's request for all pertinent information related to this, including copies of all the complaints on BOTH sides of the issue they had received to date.

Needless to say, a very good outcome for the Iowa Atheists and free speech! And I think a lot of central lowans learned something about the First Amendment as well.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20090808/NEWS/908080334>

Atheist Ads go back up on buses, DART decides [Saturday morning]

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20090807/NEWS/908070354/1001/NEWS>

And three video segments from TV8, the highest rated news broadcast in DM.

DART to put ads back up (Friday night at 10 pm)

<http://www.kcci.com/video/20328241/index.html>

ACLU, Riders, react to Atheist ads (Friday night at 6 pm)

<http://www.kcci.com/video/20328242/index.html>

Controversial Atheist ads pulled (Wed night) [no mention of ACLU yet, as we did not know about this until after the story broke -- no media called us!]

<http://www.kcci.com/video/20328242/index.html>

