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ACLU of North Carolina Calls on Governor Beverly Perdue and Attorney General Roy Cooper to Respect the Rule of Law

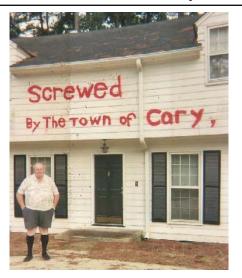
s the scheduled release date came and went for Bobby Bowden and the other inmates whom the Department of Correction (DOC) deemed in October to have completed their prison sentences, the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina (ACLU-NC) urged the Governor and the state's Attorney General to uphold the Due Process guarantee under both the U.S. Constitution and the North Carolina Constitution that has been a funda-

mental principle of our constitutional democracy since the founding of this nation.

Governor Beverly Perdue and Attorney General Roy Cooper have ordered the DOC not to release the inmates as previously scheduled and to go back through their records over the past several decades and recalculate the sentence reduction credits that had been awarded for good behavior, work release and furthering their (Continued on page 3)

ACLU-NCLF Defends Free Speech Rights of Homeowner Against the Town of Cary

n August 2009, the Town of Cary threatened to fine homeowner David Bowden substantial sums of money after he hired someone to spray paint the words, "Screwed By The Town of Cary" on the front of his house. Bowden was frustrated and angry about the way he had been treated by the Town regarding damage done to his property during a road-widening project in front of his house. The Town claimed that Bowden's message was in violation of its sign ordinance. Upon intervening on Mr. Bowden's behalf, the ACLU-NCLF discovered numerous constitutional flaws in the onerous 52-page ordinance governing the posting of signs in the Town of Cary. alerted the Town to our concerns, and while town officials have not yet assessed a fine against Mr. Bowden,



they also have not yet amended their ordinance to bring it into compliance with the First Amendment. We are continuing to monitor this case and to push the Town to fix its ordinance and respect the free speech rights of its residents.

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Free With New

Message from the Executive Director: We Need Your Help!

his is an urgent message for every civil libertarian, every freedom fighter. every political activist and everyone who cares about the Constitution: We need your help! The ACLU was founded in 1920, and here in North Carolina, our state affiliate was founded in 1965, for one Jennifer Rudinger, Executive Director very simple reason



somebody has to breathe life into the Bill of Rights and the guarantees of individual liberty and freedom found in the US Constitution, the North Carolina Constitution and numerous state and federal civil rights laws. We work through the courts, through the legislative through grassroots mobilization community outreach and through educational programs to preserve and advance civil liberties protections for all people in North Carolina.

The ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation is working to raise \$120,000 by December 31, 2009, to sustain our current legal and educational program levels and to meet our current needs. We have been reaching out to our members and supporters, and many of you have come through for us, despite facing economic challenges in your own personal and household budgets this year. For that, we are eternally grateful. But as of this writing, we have raised only \$78,220 in pledges, so we still have a long way to go!

Please help by making a generous tax-deductible contribution at whatever level you can afford to give. We promise to spend your money wisely. wouldn't be here without you, and we are very grateful for whatever you can do to support our work. Please feel free to contact me at 919-834-3466 with any civil liberties questions or concerns or to discuss making a gift of stock, bequest, or tax-deductible contribution.

Attention, Members: If you have a digital camera that you can donate to the ACLU-NCLF, please call 919-834-3466 or email acture ne. rr. com. The value will be tax-deductible, and we will send you a receipt for your tax records. Thank you!

PLEASE SUPPORT THE **ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA LEGAL FOUNDATION BY MAKING A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TODAY!**

Friends, we need your help! We see many challenges to American's fundamental freedoms looming in the courts, in Congress, in the halls of the North Carolina General Assembly, and in city councils, school boards, and boards of county commissioners across the state. As you evaluate your budget and think about your year-end charitable contributions for 2009, please put the ACLU-NCLF at the top of your list. The demand for our services has never been greater. Our legal program now processes anywhere from 200-250 requests for assistance per month!

□ Yes! I want to help keep the Flame of Liberty

burning brightly in North Carolina. Enclosed is a

check for my tax-deductible contribution in the amount of: □ \$50 □ \$100 □ \$250 □ \$500 □ Other \$ Address: City: _______, NC Zip: _____ Home Phone: Work Phone: ____

> Make check payable to the **ACLU-NC** Legal Foundation and mail to:

E-mail:

ACLU-NCLF P.O. Box 28004 Raleigh, NC 27611-8004

For more information or to charge your contribution on a credit card, contact Development Associate Reyelts 919-834-3466 Perryn at acluncdev@nc.rr.com. MasterCard and Visa accepted, and we offer monthly, quarterly and semiannual giving options to fit your budget.

You can also make a contribution through the ACLU-NCLF's secure website at: www.acluofnorthcarolina.org/?q=donate

Successful Settlement Announced in Lawsuit Against Wilkes County School Board After Four-Year Struggle by Local Peace Activist to Secure Free Speech Rights In Wilkes County High Schools

n August 2009, the ACLU-NC Legal Foundation (ACLU-NCLF) announced the successful resolution of a four-year battle between Boomer resident and peace activist Sally Ferrell and the Wilkes County Board of Education regarding Ms. Ferrell's constitutional right to free speech in the Wilkes County high schools. Beginning in March 2005, Ms. Ferrell had sought permission from the school district to distribute information to high school students regarding alternatives to military service on the same basis and to the same extent as military recruiters were being allowed access to students for purposes of recruiting. Military recruiters had been granted access to students in Wilkes County high schools for some time, but the Superintendent and members of the Wilkes County School Board repeatedly refused Ms. Ferrell's request to distribute literature and to speak with students. The ACLU-NCLF intervened

on Ms. Ferrell's behalf, and for a short time, the school district allowed her to provide information to the students as a representative of N.C. Peace Ac-Students reported that they were pleased to receive the information from Ms. Ferrell and N.C. Peace Action about opportunities with Job Corps and AmeriCorps and expressed appreciation that different points of view were allowed to be expressed. Nevertheless, the Superintendent soon rescinded her access to the

schools, and the ACLU-NCLF filed a lawsuit in Wilkes County Superior Court on January 5, 2009.

In August, the parties agreed to a settlement that would permit Ms. Ferrell and N.C. Peace Action to have access to Wilkes County high school



Sally Ferrell tabled for NC Peace Action at West Wilkes High School in 2007 before the ban was reinstated.

students the same terms and under the same conditions as military recruiters, which is exactly what Ms. Ferrell had been seeking for more than four We will years. continue to monitor the situation closely as the school year progresses. If the school district honors its end of the agreement, then the lawsuit will be dismissed.

Cooperating attorneys on the case are Charles Johnson, Pearl Houck and Rich Worf of Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson in Charlotte and Katherine Lewis Parker, Legal Director of the ACLU-NCLF.

Rule of Law / Due Process

(Continued from page 1) education.

The following joint statement was issued by Carlos E. Mahoney, President of the ACLU of North Carolina, and Jennifer Rudinger, Executive Director of the ACLU of North Carolina:

We understand that the next step in this process, as ordered by the Court of Appeals last year and as approved by the state's Supreme Court in October, is for Mr. Bowden and the other inmates who are similarly situated to go before a trial court judge and show that they have been awarded enough credits during their more than three decades of incarceration to qualify for release. And if the Governor and Attorney General believe that some of those credits were improperly counted, they may certainly argue to the court that a recalculation is necessary. But the right to Due Process guaranteed under both the North Carolina and United States Constitutions prohibits the State from retroactively changing the rules that were applied by the DOC and deducting credits now that were properly calculated under the rules that existed at the time they were awarded. At the time in question, the Secretary of the DOC was granted the clear statutory authority to establish the rules for awarding sentence reduction credits. The inmates followed those rules and were awarded credits as deemed appropriate by the DOC. So the State can double-check the math, but Due Process requires that they cannot now change the rules retroactively.

Our Governor and Attorney General have sworn an oath to uphold the laws as they were actually written at the time they were applied, not as they wish they were written. We remind them of their oath and call upon them to respect the rule of law rather than sacrifice the Constitution for political expediency.

Forsyth County Residents Win in Legal Challenge to the Use of Sectarian Invocations to Open County Commissioners' Meetings: Magistrate Court Finds That County Prayer Policy Is Unconstitutional Government Endorsement of Religion

he American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina Legal Foundation (ACLU-NCLF) and the Winston-Salem Chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State applauded a court ruling on November 9, 2009, by Magistrate Judge Trevor Sharp finding that the use of sectarian invocations to open official meetings of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners violates the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The lawsuit was filed in 2007 on behalf of Janet Joyner and Blackmon, longtime residents of Forsyth County who have attended meetings of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners at which sectarian prayers were used and who object to this practice as a violation of the Constitutional rights of all residents of the County.

"The prayers given at the invitation of the Forsyth County Commissioners at meetings that I have attended made me feel not just unwelcome, but coerced by my government into endorsing Christian prayer," said Plaintiff Janet Joyner. "I am very happy with the Court's ruling today because our government is supposed to be inclusive of all Forsyth County residents."

Judge Sharp's ruling explained that the prayers that were used to open County Commissioners' meetings "referred to Jesus, Jesus Christ, Christ, or Savior with overwhelming frequency," and that such prayers "display a preference for Christianity over other religions by the government." Judge Sharp further explained that "[the County's] prayer alienates those whose beliefs differ from Christian beliefs and divides citizens along religious lines." Existing case law under the U.S.



Our legal team exits the courthouse after oral arguments in October 2009. Pictured left to right: Emily-Mary Brown, ACLU-NCLF paralegal; Forsyth County residents Constance Blackmon and Janet Joyner, Plaintiffs; and Katherine Lewis Parker, ACLU-NCLF Legal Director.

Supreme Court and also the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, which governs North Carolina, has held that government entities are constitutionally permitted to open their meetings with a prayer if – and only if – those prayers are nonsectarian, meaning the content of the prayer may not favor any particular religion nor disparage any particular religion.

The County argued that its policy of inviting outside clergy to deliver the invocations meant that the government was staying neutral with regard to the prayers. However, the law in this jurisdiction clearly establishes that each and every prayer that opens a government meeting must be nonsectarian in order for the government to be truly neutral. In accordance with well-settled case law, Judge Sharp found that the County's policy violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and recommended that the County should be ordered to end or change its current prayer policy. This recommendation will be sent up to the U.S. District Court judge for a final ruling on the

lawsuit, and the District Court judge is expected to take the Magistrate judge's recommendation very seriously.

"We are pleased for our clients and for all religious minorities in Forsyth County who have felt shut out and alienated by their own government because of its public stance in favor of one particular religion — in this case, Christianity," said ACLU-NCLF Legal Director Katherine Lewis Parker.

The case is called *Janet Joyner*, et al. v. Forsyth County, North Carolina, Case No. 1:07 cv 00243, and is pending in the Middle District of North Carolina.

A Father's Frustrated Plea for Help: "My Daughter's Freedom of Speech is Under Attack by Her School"

hen Lauren Hunter Ratliff was threatened with inschool suspension wearing a pink stripe in her hair to commemorate Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, her father first middle school's "zero tolerance"

tried to reason with the Assistant Principal at Corriher-Lipe Middle School in Landis, North Carolina. After all, Hunter was a model student who had never been disciplined for any violation of school rules, and the Ratliffs had lost family members to breast cancer. He asked that the Assistant Principal make an exception to the school's dress code policy just until the end of October so his daughter could show her heartfelt support for this

worthy cause. Furthermore, he explained, his younger daughter Savannah at Enochville Elementary School, in the same Rowan-Salisbury

School District as Corriber-Lipe, had been commended by her teachers for wearing the exact same pink stripe in her hair.

But as is too often the case, the



Savannah Ratliff and Hunter Ratliff

policy regarding clothing and hair styles was being applied without any regard for common sense, and the Assistant Principal vowed to uphold the suspension if Hunter did not remove the stripe from her hair. That's when Hunter's father emailed the ACLU-NCLF for help.

"I completely understand that freedom of speech and expression do

> not cover disruptive behavior," wrote. "However, I do not consider her silent display to be disruptive, instead, a demonstration of character."

> With one phone call to the school board's attorney, our Legal Director, Katy Parker, was able to get the school to back down. Hunter proudly wore her

pink stripe for the rest of the month with no further incident.

Job Opportunity: Healthy Youth Campaign Coordinator

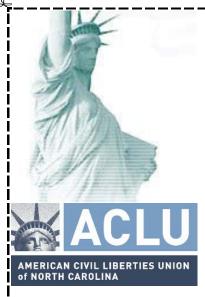
In 2009, we succeeded in getting the Healthy Youth Act signed into law, mandating that all public schools in North Carolina must offer comprehensive sexuality education in Grades 7 - 9. Now, the task is to make sure that local school districts implement this new law by choosing scientifically based, medically accurate teaching materials!

The ACLU-NC seeks applicants for a fulltime campaign coordinator to complete a temporary project, expected to be completed by mid-summer 2010. The Coordinator will work closely with local coalition partners and will develop relationships with pediatricians, gynecologists, obstetricians, social workers, educators, local politicians and school officials, and others who may be helpful in ensuring that appropriate comprehensive sex education policies, training and curricula are adopted and implemented at the start of the 2010-2011 academic vear.

For job description and how to apply, go to http://www.acluofnorthcarolina.org/



ACLU-NCLF Immigrants' Rights Fellow Kristen Hefner (left) staffed our table at Fiesta del Pueblo in Raleigh in September and handed out informational materials in English and Spanish to passersby who wanted to learn more about their civil rights. ACLU-NCLF staff attorneys also joined with attorneys from the NC Justice Center to conduct Know-Your-Rights trainings in Spanish and English at regular intervals throughout the two-day festival.



Join our Action Alert E-mail List... Be a part of the solution!

Join the ACLU-NC's Action Alert list and you will not only learn about upcoming ACLU events in your area, but you will also receive e-mail alerts on pending legislation, complete with talking points and contact information for communicating with key legislators. We need you!

Our strength truly lies in our numbers, so please fill out this form and return it to us at ACLU-NC, P. O. Box 28004, Raleigh, NC 27611 or e-mail the information to lan Mance, Program Associate, at aclunc@nc.rr.com.

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|--|
| Name: |
| Address: |
| Work Phone #: Home Phone#: E-mail: |
| If you know it: |
| Congressional District:NC House District:NC Senate District: |

Justice Denied: Voices From Guantánamo

ost Americans have only seen Guantánamo detainees as one-dimensional caricatures. But a new American Civil Liberties Union video shows the full range of their lives before, during and after their captivity. The video, "Justice Denied: Voices from Guantánamo," is part of an ACLU initiative against the practice of detention without due process that violates fundamental principles of American Despite plans to close justice. Guantánamo, the Obama administration has continued this unconstitutional practice.

The five men featured in the video were all held at Guantánamo for years without any meaningful opportunity to challenge their detention. They were denied their due process rights, which might have established the lack of evidence against them much earlier and spared them years of torture, abuse and imprisonment. The men were eventually released, and as they explain in the video, are now attempting to put their lives back together.

"I experienced sadness in a state that I have never had, cruelty in a depth that I'd never seen in my life," Omar Deghayes tells the camera. He had graduated from law school in England and was studying the legal system in Afghanistan when he was captured and sent to Guantánamo for nearly six years. "You will not leave a similar person anymore. You will leave as broken, physically broken, psychologically broken."

Ruhal Ahmed and Shafiq Rasul grew up together in England. They went to Pakistan for a friend's wedding and took a short trip to neighboring Afghanistan where they were captured. It would be two and a half years before they could go home.

"Guantánamo Bay was hell for us," Shafiq says. But Ruhal says their friendship helped them survive the brutal experience: "Anything that happened to me I could relate to somebody that was very close to me. Being friends from a young age – who else would you want in that kind of situation?"

Back home in England, Shafiq and Ruhal say the American leaders who allowed the injustices of Guantánamo should be held accountable. But they



do not hold a grudge against the American people.

"The drinks we drink, Coca Cola – it's American. We still drink it," Ruhal says. "We still go to the movies. So we don't hate Americans as American people."

Omar says he feels the same way, but he wants Americans to know exactly what happened at Guantánamo: "I want the people themselves, the people in America, the good people – which I met many of – to realize what ugly things were done to others in their names."

The new ACLU video, "Justice Denied: Voices From Guantánamo," can be viewed online at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=vm-tFt3Itoc

For more information on the ACLU's efforts to fight indefinite detention without charge or trial, go to www.aclu.org.

9/11 Families Want Guantánamo Detainees Prosecuted in Federal

Adele Welty Firefighter son killed on 9/11

new video released by the American Civil Liberties Union and posted on YouTube features family members of 9/11 victims calling for federal trials of terrorism suspects. The Obama Administration is expected to announce by November 16th whether certain Guantánamo detainees will be transferred to the U.S. for trial in

Court — New ACLU Video Features 9/11 Families Asking for True Justice

federal courts or be tried in the illegitimate military commissions.

"It is of utmost importance to me that those who were responsible for the attacks of

9/11 face a court," says Adele Welty in the ACLU video. Her son was a New York firefighter killed at the World Trade Center.

"It's very important to me that we get the right people," says John Leinung, whose stepson was killed while working in the Twin Towers, "that the right people are punished or held to account for what happened

on 9/11."

Pat Perry, whose son was a police offer killed on 9/11, says she would rather see the Guantánamo detainees who have been held without charge "appear in open court where we can all sift out what we feel is really the truth and the judges can make a decision based on our Constitution."

These 9/11 family members all say they agree that holding detainees without charge in Guantánamo is a betrayal of American values and they look forward to true justice being served in federal court.

2009 Legislative Scorecards

The ACLU-NC has compiled the voting record on the Top Ten priority bills that we actively supported or opposed during the 2009 session and were voted on by both the House and Senate of the NC General Assembly. They are:

- 1. **HB 88 Healthy Youth Act**: The ACLU-NC supported this bill which requires that all schools teach comprehensive sex education as well as abstinence education in grades seven through nine. The bill passed the House 62-52 and the Senate 25-21.
- 2. **HB 218 Parent & Student Educational Involvement Act**: The ACLU-NC supported this bill which requires that parents receive written notice of their child's rights when s/he faces a long term suspension or expulsion. The bill passed the House 108-5 and the Senate 48-0.
- 3. **HB 442 Parental Involvement in School Discipline**: The ACLU-NC supported this bill which would better regulate and monitor the use of corporal punishment in schools. The bill passed the House 91-24 and **failed** in the Senate 21-25.
- 4. HB 1261 Protect Our Kids/Cyber Bullying Misdemeanor: The ACLU-NC opposed this bill which criminalizes certain speech made online if directed towards a minor. We proposed narrowing language to protect First Amendment rights, but the bill was not sufficiently narrowed to garner our support. The bill passed the House 112-4 and the Senate 39-2.
- Proceedings: The ACLU-NC opposed this bill which creates a pilot program to test the use of videoconference technology for initial appearance, first appearance, and arraignment without informed consent, meaning that the defendant would not be in the courtroom and would not be in the presence of his or her attorney during these proceedings. With informed consent, the court could also take guilty pleas through videoconferencing with the defendant out of the presence of counsel in violation of the defendant's Sixth Amendment right to counsel. The bill passed the House 117-0 and the Senate 46-1.
- 6. **SB 461 North Carolina Racial Justice Act**: The ACLU-NC supported this bill which allows a defendant to challenge his sentence of death if he can show that race played a substantial role in the prosecutor's decision to seek the death penalty or the jury's decision to recommend a death sentence. The bill passed the House 61-54 and the Senate 25-18.
- 7. **SB 464 Prevent Racial Profiling**: The ACLU-NC supported this bill which makes it easier to identify law enforcement officers who are racially profiling and establishes a minimum standard of care for children

whose parent or other supervising adult is arrested. This bill passed the House 95-20 and the Senate 40-8.

- 8. **SB 526 School Violence Prevention Act**: The ACLU-NC supported this bill which is commonly known as the "bullying bill." The bill requires schools to adopt appropriate policies to teach school personnel and students about bullying and requires equitable discipline of bullying and harassing behavior. All schools must adopt as part of their policy a definition of bullying which includes bullying based on certain enumerated categories including race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability. The bill passed the House 58-57 and the Senate 26-22.
- 9. **SB 763 Legal Services Clarification**: The ACLU-NC supported this bill to clarify that lawyers employed by nonprofit organizations may practice law and represent individual clients if they are doing so to further the mission of the nonprofit, thereby allowing nonprofits such as environmental groups, consumer groups, social justice groups, and the ACLU-NCLF to safely practice law in North Carolina. The bill passed the House 119-0 and the Senate 48-0.
- 10. **SB 920 Probation Reform**: The ACLU-NC opposed this bill which authorizes warrantless searches by probation officers and law enforcement officers of all probationers' persons, property, and vehicles regardless of their crime. The bill also prohibits probationers from associating with any known drug user, possessors, or sellers. The bill passed the House 111-0 and the Senate 47-1.
- * For more information on these bills or others that the ACLU-NC worked on during the 2009 Legislative Session, check out our complete Legislative Report on our website.

Legislative Scorecard Key:

- Supported the ACLU-NC position.
- O = Opposed the ACLU-NC position.
- A = The legislator had an excused absence and was not present for voting on this bill.
- NV = Not Voting, the legislator was either present but did not vote on the bill or was not present due to the fact that s/he did not serve for the full legislative session (see footnotes).
- PV = Pair Vote, the Senate has a procedure by which a Senator who is present to vote may "pair" his or her vote with a Senator who is absent who would have voted in the opposite way from the present Senator. In effect, both votes are thereby cancelled out.

| Representative | District | Party | % | HB 88 | HB 218 | HB 442 | HB 1261 | HB 1438 | SB 461 | SB 464 | SB 526 | SB 763 | SB 920 |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|----|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Adams, Alma | 58 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Alexander, Kelly | 107 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | Ō |
| Alexander, Martha | 106 | D | 60 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | Α | • | • | • | O |
| Allen, Lucy | 49 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Allred, Cary ¹ | 64 | R | | • | • | • | 0 | Α | NV | NV | NV | NV | NV |
| Avila, Marilyn | 40 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Barnhart, Jeff | 82 | R | 20 | 0 | • | Α | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Α | • | Α |
| Bell, Larry | 21 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Blackwell, Hugh | 86 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Blackwood, Curtis | 68 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Blue, Dan ² | 33 | D | | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | NV | NV | NV | NV | NV |
| Blust, John | 62 | R | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Boles, James | 52 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Bordsen, Alice | 63 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Brisson, William | 10 | D | 50 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | A | • | 0 |
| Brown, Larry | 22 | D | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Brubaker, Harold | 78 | R | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | NV | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Bryant, Angela | 7 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Burr, Justin | 67 | R | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Burris-Floyd, Pearl | 110 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Carney, Becky | 102 | D | 40 | Α | A | Α | A | Α | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Cleveland, George | 14 | R | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Coates, Lorene | 77 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Cole, Nelson | 65 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Cotham, Tricia | 100 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | Α |
| Crawford, James | 32 | D | 50 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Current, William | 109 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A | 0 | • | Α |
| Daughtry, Leo | 26 | R | 10 | Α | A | Α | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Dickson, Margaret | 44 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Dockham, Jerry | 80 | R | 20 | Α | A | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Dollar, Nelson | 36 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Earle, Beverly | 101 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| England, Bob | 112 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Faison, Bill | 50 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Farmer-Butterfield, | 24 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Jean | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fisher, Susan | 114 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | Α |
| Floyd, Elmer | 43 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |

| Representative | District | Party | % | HB 88 | HB 218 | HB 442 | HB 1261 | HB 1438 | SB 461 | SB 464 | SB 526 | SB 763 | SB 920 |
|------------------------------|----------|-------|----|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Folwell, Dale | 74 | R | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Frye, Phillip | 84 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Gibson, Pryor | 69 | D | 50 | A | Α | • | NV | Ō | • | • | • | • | Ō |
| Gill, Rosa ³ | 69 | D | | ИV | NV | NV | NV | ИV | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Gillespie, Mitch | 85 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Glazier, Rick | 45 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Goforth, Bruce | 115 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Goodwin, | 66 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Melanie Wade | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grady, Robert | 15 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Guice, David | 113 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Gulley, Jim | 103 | R | 40 | 0 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Hackney, Joe ⁴ | 54 | D | | ИV | NV | ИV | NV | ИV | ИV | ИV | • | ИV | ИV |
| Haire, Phillip | 119 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Hall, Larry | 29 | D | 60 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | Α | • | 0 |
| Harrell, Ty ⁵ | 41 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Harrison, Pricey | 57 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Hill, Dewey | 20 | D | 60 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Hilton, Mark | 96 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Holliman, Hugh | 81 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Holloway, Bryan | 91 | R | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Howard, Julia | 79 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Hughes, Sandra | 18 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Hurley, Pat | 70 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Iler, Frank ⁶ | 17 | R | | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Ingle, Dan ⁷ | 64 | R | | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Insko, Verla | 56 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | ИV |
| Jackson, Darren ⁸ | 39 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | A |
| Jeffus, Maggie | 59 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Johnson, Linda | 83 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | ИV | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Jones, Earl | 60 | D | 60 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | ИV | • | • | • | 0 |
| Justice, Carolyn H. | 16 | R | 30 | 0 | • | Α | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Justus, Carolyn K. | 117 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Killian, Ric | 105 | R | 50 | 0 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Langdon, James | 28 | R | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Lewis, David | 53 | R | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | Α | 0 | • | 0 |
| Love, Jimmy Sr. | 51 | D | 50 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Lucas, Marvin | 42 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |

| Representative | District | Party | % | HB 88 | HB 218 | HB 442 | HB 1261 | HB 1438 | SB 461 | SB 464 | SB 526 | SB 763 | SB 920 |
|------------------------------|----------|-------|----|----------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| Luebke, Paul | 30 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Mackey, Nick | 99 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Martin, Grier | 34 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| McComas, Daniel | 19 | R | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| McCormick, Darrell | 92 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| McElraft, Pat | 13 | R | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | Α | 0 | • | NV |
| McGee, Bill | 75 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| McLawhorn, Marian | 9 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Michaux, Henry | 31 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | O |
| Mills, Grey | 95 | R | 20 | <u> </u> | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | O |
| Mobley, Annie | 5 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Moore, Tim | 111 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Neumann, Wil | 108 | R | 30 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Owens, Bill | 1 | D | 60 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | Α | • | • | Α |
| Parmon, Earline | 72 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | O |
| Pierce, Garland | 48 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Randleman, Shirley | 94 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Rapp, Ray | 118 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Rhyne, Johnathan | 97 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Ross, Deborah | 38 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Sager, Efton | 11 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Samuelson, Ruth | 104 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Setzer, Mitchell | 89 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Spear, Tim | 2 | D | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Stam, Paul | 37 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Starnes, Edgar | 87 | R | 20 | O | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | O | • | 0 |
| Steen, Fred | 76 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Stevens, Sarah | 90 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Stewart, Randy | 25 | D | 50 | Α | Α | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Stiller, Bonner ⁹ | 17 | R | | O | • | • | 0 | 0 | NV | ИV | NV | ИV | ИV |
| Sutton, Ronnie | 47 | D | 50 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | NV | • | 0 |
| Tarleton, Cullie | 93 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Tillis, Thom | 98 | R | 40 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Tolson, Joe | 23 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Tucker, Russell | 4 | D | 50 | • | Α | • | 0 | 0 | NV | • | • | • | 0 |
| Underhill, Alice | 3 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Van Braxton, R. | 10 | D | 50 | 0 | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Wainwright, William | 12 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | O |

| Representative | District | Party | % | HB 88 | HB 218 | HB 442 | HB 1261 | HB 1438 | SB 461 | SB 464 | SB 526 | SB 763 | SB 920 |
|------------------|----------|-------|----|------------|--------|------------|---------|------------|------------|--------|------------|--------|---------|
| Warren, Edith | 8 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Warren, Ray | 88 | D | 60 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | Α | • | 0 |
| Weiss, Jennifer | 35 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | O | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| West, Roger | 120 | R | 30 | 0 | • | $^{\circ}$ | 0 | 0 | O | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Whilden, Jane | 116 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Wiley, Laura | 61 | R | 40 | $^{\circ}$ | • | • | 0 | $^{\circ}$ | $^{\circ}$ | • | $^{\circ}$ | • | \circ |
| Wilkins, W.A. | 55 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | \circ |
| Williams, Arthur | 6 | D | 50 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | $^{\circ}$ | • | $^{\circ}$ | • | 0 |
| Womble, Larry | 71 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | O | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Wray, Michael | 27 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Youngue, Douglas | 46 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |

North Carolina Senate

| Senator | District | Party | % | HB 88 | HB 218 | HB 442 | HB 1261 | HB 1438 | SB 461 | SB 464 | SB 526 | SB 763 | SB 920 |
|-------------------------|----------|-------|----|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|----------|--------|--------|
| Albertson, Charles | 10 | D | 40 | Α | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | 0 |
| Allran, Austin | 42 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | O | • | 0 |
| Apodaca, Tom | 48 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Atwater, Bob | 18 | D | 60 | • | • | • | Α | 0 | PV | • | • | • | 0 |
| Basnight, Marc | 1 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | Α | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Berger, Doug | 7 | D | 60 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Berger, Phil | 26 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Bingham, Stan | 33 | R | 40 | • | • | 0 | Α | 0 | PV | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Blake, Harris | 22 | R | 10 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Α | NV | Α | Α |
| Blue, Dan ¹⁰ | 14 | D | | • | Α | • | Α | 0 | • | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV |
| Boseman, Julia | 9 | D | 60 | • | Α | • | Α | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Brock, Andrew | 34 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Brown, Harry | 6 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Brunstetter, Peter | 31 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Clary, Debbie | 46 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Clodfelter, Daniel | 37 | D | 60 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Dannelly, Charlie | 38 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Davis, Don | 5 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Dorsett, Katie | 28 | D | 60 | • | • | Α | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| East, Don | 30 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |

| Senator | District | Party | % | HB 88 | HB 218 | HB 442 | HB 1261 | HB 1438 | SB 461 | SB 464 | SB 526 | SB 763 | SB 920 |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|----|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|----------|
| Foriest, Tony | 24 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | O |
| Forrester, James | 41 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Garrou, Linda | 32 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | ИV | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Goodall, Edward | 35 | R | 40 | 0 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | O | • | 0 |
| Goss, Steve | 45 | D | 50 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | Α | • | • | • | 0 |
| Graham, Malcolm | 40 | D | 70 | • | • | • | Α | 0 | • | • | • | • | O |
| Hartsell, Fletcher | 36 | R | 30 | 0 | • | Α | 0 | 0 | PV | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Hoyle, David | 43 | D | 40 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | 0 | • | O |
| Hunt, Neal | 15 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | O |
| Jacumin, Jim | 44 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Jenkins, Clark | 3 | D | 70 | • | • | • | Α | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Jones, Ed | 4 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Kinnaird, Eleanor | 23 | D | 90 | • | • | • | 0 | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| Malone, Vernon ¹¹ | 14 | D | | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV | ИV |
| McKissick, Floyd | 20 | D | 70 | • | • | • | Α | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Nesbitt, Martin | 49 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Preston, Jean | 2 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Purcell, William | 25 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Queen, Joe Sam | 47 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Rand, Tony | 19 | D | 50 | PV | • | • | 0 | 0 | PV | • | • | • | 0 |
| Rouzer, David | 12 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Rucho, Bob | 39 | R | 30 | 0 | • | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Shaw, Larry | 21 | D | 50 | Α | • | Α | ИV | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Snow, John | 50 | D | 40 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | \circ | • | 0 |
| Soles, R.C. | 8 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Stein, Josh | 16 | D | 70 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |
| Stevens, Richard | 17 | R | 30 | PV | • | Α | Α | Α | PV | • | 0 | • | O |
| Swindell, A.B. | 11 | D | 40 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | 0 | • | 0 |
| Tillman, Jerry | 29 | R | 20 | 0 | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | 0 |
| Vaughan, Don | 27 | D | 60 | • | • | • | 0 | 0 | PV | • | • | • | 0 |
| Weinstein, David ¹² | 13 | D | 60 | • | • | 0 | 0 | 0 | • | • | • | • | 0 |

Footnotes:

- 1. Resigned 06/01/09. 2. Resigned 05/19/09. 3. Appointed to replace Representative Dan Blue 06/18/09.
- 4. It is customary that the Speaker of the House not vote except in cases of a tie vote. 5. Resigned 09/20/09.
- 6. Appointed to replace Representative Bonner Stiller 06/18/09. 7. Appointed to replace Representative Cary Allred 06/12/09.
- 8. Appointed to replace Representative Linda Coleman who resigned prior to session 01/26/09. 9. Resigned 06/15/09.
- 10. Appointed to replace Senator Vernon Malone 05/19/09. 11. Deceased 04/18/09. 12. Resigned 09/30/09.



ACLU-NC/LF Staff and Volunteers Promote Civil Liberties Every Chance We Get!

Reaching out to communities across the state and providing educational materials and informational speakers is a core component of the mission of the ACLUNC. We seize every opportunity to help people know — and exercise — their constitutional rights. If you have a group or gathering whom we could address, please call our office at (919) 834-3466 to request a speaker from our staff or Board of Directors.

Pictured above: Rebecca Headen, ACLU-NCLF Racial Justice Project Attorney, discussed North Carolina's school-to-prison pipeline.

Pictured right: ACLU-NC Membership Coordinator MeShon Watkins, Board member Tariq Butt, and volunteers Maria Labbato and Loretta Mershon staffed our informational table at PrideFest in Durham in September.



ACLU-NC's TASER Safety Project Generates Improvements to Policies Regarding Use of TASERs

he ACLU-NC's 2008 report, Not There Yet: The Need for Safer TASER Policies in North Carolina, continues to raise awareness around the state. month, Program Associate Ian Mance, co-author of the report, appeared alongside the High Point Chief of Police and a TASER International Regional Manager on a panel discussion and debate hosted by the High Point Human Rights Commission. The discussion proved lively and was well received by the audience of assembled social workers and human relations commission officials from around the state. On November 19th, Mance will again appear on a similar panel, this time with Guilford County Sheriff BJ Barnes. The discussion is expected to explore the controversial issue of TASER use in public schools, as Guilford County is one of the few counties in the state where the Sheriff has ordered his School Resource Officers to carry and deploy the device. The department's current policy is considered to be especially weak and lacking in meaningful oversight.

The upcoming panel has already drawn interest from a local group of parents that has been lobbying since 2007 to have TASERs banned from the school system. Despite concern from the county school board.

the decision ultimately lies with Sheriff Barnes, who has made clear that he would sooner pull his officers out of the schools than restrict their ability to use the device on children. This position drew the ire of a substantial and vocal group of parents at a recent school board meeting, in light of the recent TASER-proximate death of 17 year



ACLU-NC Program Associate Ian Mance (pictured left) discusses use-of-force policies with High Point Chief of Police Jim Fealy and TASER International Regional Manager Brian Tillman at a panel discussion in High Point, North Carolina, on October 8, 2009.

old Darryl Turner in Charlotte, which renewed questions about the safety of using the device on minors. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department recently agreed to pay more than half a million dollars to Turner's family to settle claims associated with his death.

Since the release of *Not There Yet* in April 2008 and the creation of the North Carolina TASER Safety Project, the ACLU-NC has

established itself as a go-to source of information on TASER use and regulation in the state. We presented on this issue at a statewide Amnesty International conference this past summer, and our efforts were recognized in USA Today, in an article detailing the numerous

policy changes secured in the wake of our intensive lobbying campaign in 2007-08. Since being contacted by the ACLU-NC, 17 sheriffs' offices in North Carolina have rewritten their TASER use of force policies, considerably restricting the circumstances in which the device can be used in the field. These counties include Anson, Ashe, Beaufort, Chowan, Davidson, Edgecombe,

Forsyth, Hoke, Lenoir, Montgomery, Rockingham, Rutherford, Sampson, Stanly, Union, Wayne and Wilson. While it is still too early to measure the effects the new policies will have on overall TASER deployment rates, it is notable that in the year and a half since being contacted by the ACLUNC and the release of our report, North Carolina law enforcement agencies reported two TASER-proximate deaths, a significant reduction from the seven reported during the year and a half prior to the campaign.

The primary focus of the TASER Safety Campaign was to encourage law enforcement agencies to think critically about the circumstances under which the use of TASERs may be inappropriate. North Carolina has already seen TASER-related deaths in which the device was used against handcuffed and passively resisting suspects, minors, and people in the presence of flammables. By drawing attention to these tragedies and illustrating how strong policies in some cases might have averted them, the ACLU-NC has been able to achieve meaningful reform thanks to the cooperation of sheriffs from around the state who share our concerns.



ACLU-NC Regional Chapter Updates

Charlotte ACLU

The ACLU of Charlotte has been very active in the community since our last update. We co-hosted an event called "Real Sex Ed Saves Lives" with NOW, NARAL, Planned Parenthood, Time Out Youth and the Unitarian church. ACLU-NC Legislative Counsel Sarah Preston served as a panelist and explained the Healthy Youth Act (House Bill 88) in detail. The event was a great success. We had approximately 30 people in attendance, including a representative from the local school system.

We also tabled at an event at UNC-Charlotte called "OUTSpoken." Keith Boykin spoke to what turned out to be quite a large turnout. Our chapter was successful in generating interest in a campus chapter of the ACLU, and there should be regular meetings planned soon. We tabled at the Colombian Independence Day Festival as well.

We are currently implementing our immigrants' rights campaign, trying to systematically distribute "Know Your Rights" literature in the area. Sara Williams, chapter member and committed civil libertarian, has agreed to serve as our chapter's Immigrants' Rights Coordinator and head up this effort. We are also looking at hosting a concert for civil liberties to generate interest in the ACLU and to sign up new members. If you would like to get involved and help, please contact us at ACLUCharlotte@hotmail.com.

Wake County

The Wake County Chapter of the ACLU continues to be busy spreading the word about civil liberties in the Triangle. Board members Loretta Mershon and Michelle Kaufman assisted the ACLU-NC's Membership Coordinator, MeShon Watkins, by staffing an information table at PrideFest in Durham at the end of September. They passed out information about the ACLU and our



Charlotte ACLU Chapter Co-Presidents Paul Funderburk and Samantha Gellar (center) hand out information and recruit volunteers and members at Charlotte Black Gay Pride with ACLU-NC Membership Coordinator MeShon Watkins (left) and volunteer Neil Broncaccio (right).

work in support of LGBT rights, answered questions, and signed up new members.

Board members Slater Newman and Michelle Kaufman have also been active with a newly-formed group, the NC Committee for CEDAW/CSW. This organization serves to educate the public about the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). While only in its infancy, the committee is very active and is working hard to get support in North Carolina for the ratification of CEDAW (ratified by 186 countries, but *not* the U.S.).

Finally, the Wake Chapter is moving along in the revamping of its website, thanks to the help of member Charles Simcha Johnson and Vice President of the Board, Matt Quinn. We hope to have the new site up and running, as well as a Facebook page ready to go in the near future.

We are looking for more board

members! If you or someone you know is interested, please contact our Vice President, Matt Quinn, at mattdquinn@gmail.com.

Campbell Law

The Campbell Law Chapter is really enjoying our school's new location in Raleigh. The new, more centralized, location makes it much easier to garner interest in our events and to establish a presence in the community. We kicked off the school year with our annual Free Speech party, which was a rousing success! As the semester progresses, we're looking forward to joining forces with several other groups to plan events. Already in the works are plans to work with Women In Law to bring a speaker to discuss sex trafficking, as well as plans to work with our nonpartisan conservative counterpart, The Federalist Society. We would also like to organize a student panel on the subject of free exercise of religion, which we feel is an especially

ACLU-NC Regional Chapter Updates

important issue at Campbell. Our number one goal this year is to use our new location to get involved in events around the Triangle and to spread awareness about our presence at Campbell Law.

International Human Rights Committee

Current Status of The United Nations Human Rights Treaty System

The United Nations Human Rights Treaty System is comprised of 15 treaties which have entered into force. Two others have not yet attained that status. Information about this treaty system which was initially presented here last year (LIBERTY, Autumn 2008) has recently been updated as of October 1, 2009, and can now be accessed at the ACLU-NC website - http://www.acluofnorthcarolina.org/? q=human rights.

Here are some noteworthy events that have occurred since last fall: (a) The United States signed Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. (b) The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was opened for signing. When entered into force, it will permit an individual or group of individuals from a ratifying country to lodge a human rights complaint with the Committee monitoring the Covenant. (c) In April, Qatar became the 186th country to ratify CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms Discrimination against Women); Iran, Nauru, Palau, Somalia, Sudan, Tonga and the United States have yet to do so. (d) The United States was elected to serve on the 47-member Human Rights Council, the UN body responsible for



The WNC Chapter of the ACLU-NC registered new voters, including renowned painter Vadim Bora, pictured above, who immigrated from Russia many years ago and finally earned his U.S. citizenship in 2009.

advancing and monitoring adherence to human rights treaties around the globe.

Western NC

The ACLU banner was raised high as WNC Chapter volunteers registered voters and talked to visitors at the Coalition for a Moratorium's booth at Asheville's Goombay Festival on August 28th and 29th. The WNC Chapter also represented the ACLU at Blue Ridge Community College in Tryon for Constitution Week, making pocket-sized U.S. Constitutions and ACLU membership forms available to students there.

On Constitution Day, September 17, 2009, the Chapter hosted Rebecca Headen and Sarah Preston from the state office of the ACLU-NC/LF at a public education forum on "Racial"

Justice in North Carolina" at UNC-Asheville's Highsmith Center grotto. The excellent panel assembled by ACLU-NC Membership Coordinator MeShon Watkins also included Jeremy Collins of the NC Coalition for a Moratorium, Mark Kleinschmidt of the Fair Trial Initiative, and Shelagh Kenney representing the Center for Death Penalty Litigation. The following day at UNC-Asheville, Rebecca Headen and Sarah Preston conducted an informative and inspiring workshop on civil liberties advocacy and grassroots organizing.

The Chapter is planning a booth at WNC's Fiesta Latina and other immigrants' rights and free speech initiatives for the near future, as well as supporting the UNC-Asheville student chapter in its endeavors for the 2009-2010 academic year.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 8th - 6:30 p.m. - International Human Rights Award Dinner, honoring Jerry Markatos. NC State University Club, Raleigh. \$35/person, make checks payable to HRCNC. For more info, call Joyce Scapicchio at (919) 876-0501. December 10-16 is Human Rights Week.

December 15th at 12:15 - Anniversary celebration for the Bill of Rights (218th) and for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (61st), location: Old Capitol Building (House chamber), Raleigh. Co-sponsored by the ACLU-NC.

'Tis the season to give the gift of liberty!



ACLU-NC Logo T-SHIRT

Free with new ACLU-NC membership at \$35 level or higher.

Printed on front: ACLU-NC logo.

Printed on back LIBERTY, JUSTICE, EQUALITY.

Available in small, medium, large, or x-large.

Are you looking for meaningful holiday gifts for your colleagues, friends and loved ones? Look no further! This holiday season, help strengthen our base by giving the gift of an ACLU of North Carolina membership. Membership with the ACLU is a perfect gift for any liberty-minded individual, whether young or old, American-born or foreign-born, gay or straight – every person who cherishes civil liberties. By filling out the form to the right, the recipients of your gift memberships will each receive a one-year subscription to Liberty, our quarterly newsletter, and for memberships at the \$35+ level, an ACLU-NC T-shirt (please see above).

We will also include a personalized holiday note to welcome them to the ACLU-NC and to inform them that you have sent them this gift! In addition, between now and December 31, 2009, each new membership gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar, thanks to ACLU-NC supporter J. Adam Abram of Chapel Hill. When you give a gift of membership, you are not only helping the ACLU-NC in our fight to protect the Constitution, but you are also educating another person about his or her civil rights and liberties!

ACLU-NC logo found on front left breast of promotional T-shirt:



| ₹ | |
|--------------------------|---|
| i ! | Enclosed is my check for: |
| | \$20 Basic Membership |
| | \$30 Joint Membership (Two People) |
| | _ \$35 Contributing Membership* |
| | \$50 Joint Contributing Membership |
| | \$75 Supporting Membership |
| | \$125 Sustaining Membership |
| | \$1,000 Lifetime Membership |
| | \$5 Limited Income Membership |
| | S Other |
| *Ple | ease give this amount or more if you can |
| N | Take check payable to the ACLU. |
| | ease note that membership dues are not x-deductible because the ACLU engages in lobbying and direct advocacy. |
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| | ME: |
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| l | Y/ZIP: |
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| This | s membership is a gift from: |
| | uld you like information regarding chapter vities in your area, if available? YES NO |
|] [| Please return this form to: |

ACLU-NC P.O. Box 28004 Raleigh, NC 27611-8004 Phone: (919) 834-3466

Special Announcement!

In order to encourage more people to join the fight for civil liberties in North Carolina, supporter J. Adam Abram of Chapel Hill made the following offer:

For anyone in North Carolina who has <u>never</u> financially supported the ACLU before, Mr. Abram will match that person's membership dues and/or tax-deductible contribution up to a total of \$5,000.00.

So please ask your friends, family and coworkers to make a tax-deductible contribution to support the ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation or ask them to join the ACLU-NC as a new member, and **their contributions or dues will be matched dollar for dollar if received by December 31, 2009!**

Just have them fill out the contribution form on Page 2 or the membership form on Page 18 and mail it with their payment to:

> P.O. Box 28004 Raleigh, NC 27611-8004

Or to charge a contribution by phone using MasterCard or Visa, they can call (919) 834-3466 and ask for Perryn Reyelts.





The Quarterly Newsletter of the ACLU of North Carolina

4 issues per year:

January, March, July, and October

STAFF:

Jennifer Rudinger, Executive Director
Katherine Lewis Parker, Legal Director
Sarah Preston, Legislative Counsel
Rebecca Headen, Racial Justice Project Attorney
Perryn Reyelts, Development Associate
MeShon Watkins, Membership Coordinator
Ian A. Mance, Program Associate
Emily-Mary Brown, Paralegal
Kristen Hefner, Immigrants' Rights Fellow

INTERNS (Fall 2009):

Curtis Griner, Duke University School of Law; Tom Kim, UNC School of Law; Vanessa Smart, UNC School of Law; Valeria C. VanTilburg, UNC School of Law; Cherie Wilson; North Carolina Central University School of Law

Contact Us:

P.O. Box 28004 * Raleigh, NC 27611-8004 Phone: (919) 834-3466 * Fax: (866) 511-1344 www.acluofnorthcarolina.org * E-mail: aclunc@nc.rr.com



Working for a more progressive North Carolina.

The ACLU-NC Legal Foundation is proud to be a member of North Carolina Community Shares, and we thank all of our members and supporters who contribute to us through regular payroll deductions.

Payroll deduction offered by employers allows employees to make tax-deductible contributions of \$5, \$10, \$15 or more each pay period to the organizations and community initiatives they want to support. It's easy, efficient and voluntary!

To learn more, go to http://www.ncshares.org/



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Attention, Members!

Nominations for the ACLU-NC's Board of Directors are just around the corner, and our Nominating Committee will begin actively recruiting members to serve on our Board after the If you are willing to holidays. take on a leadership role in the ACLU-NC and would like to be considered for nomination to the contact ACLU-NC Board. Executive Director Jennifer Rudinger at aclunc@nc.rr.com to out the duties and expectations o f Board membership.

We are especially interested in hearing from members in rural NC communities, members who fundraising experience, have and members who are racial minorities, LGBT, or people with disabilities.

Introducing the two Boards of Directors of the ACLU of North Carolina and the ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation:

Carlos Mahoney

President of both Boards

Dianna Wynn

ACLU-NC Vice-President

Jennifer Jo Lorenz

ACLU-NCLF Vice-President

Tariq Butt

ACLU-NC Secretary

Esteban Echeverria ACLU-NCLF Secretary

Jack Register

Treasurer of both Boards

Jon Sasser (LF)

Legal Committee Chair

John Boddie (U)

National ACLU Board Representative

Seth Cohen (LF)

General Counsel

Mark Kleinschmidt Immediate Past President Dan Blau

Jim Cavener (U)

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Phyliss Craig-Taylor

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Dylan Duffey (U)

Spender Eldred (U)

Bruce Elmore

Chuck Fager

Paul Funderburk

Samantha Gellar (U)

Michelle Kaufman (U)

Catherine Klein

Julie A. Lapham

Molly Leight

Tin Nguyen

John Rabon (U)

Dave Shumannfang

Blair Vocci (U)

Angelica Reza Wind

Unless otherwise noted, Board members listed above serve on both Boards. A (U) next to a member's name connotes membership on the Union Board only, and an (LF) connotes membership on the Legal Foundation Board only.