

# LIBERTY



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## **Responding to ACLU-NC Complaint, US Department of Education Finds Dillard Drive Middle School Segregated Students by Race and National Origin for School Assemblies**

### **Wake County School District Finally Apologizes for Race-Based Disciplinary Measures**

The American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina Legal Foundation (ACLU-NCLF) and the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now of Raleigh (Raleigh ACORN) are proud to announce that after more than a year of investigation and advocacy by the two groups, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (OCR) found that Dillard Drive Middle School in Wake County did segregate students by race and national origin following an incident in December 2007. Further, the Wake County Public School System has acknowledged that an apology is owed to parents and students of the school and has promised to take measures to prevent such dis-

crimatory treatment in the future.

"We are so happy to finally achieve vindication for these parents and students," stated Rebecca Headen, staff attorney for the ACLU-NCLF's Racial Justice Project. "These children were punished by school officials for no reason other than the color of their skin. The findings of the U.S. Department of Education make it clear that this type of discrimination will not be tolerated in Wake County Schools."

The events that gave rise to the OCR complaint are as follows: On December 4, 2007, Dillard Drive Middle School Principal Teresa Abbron pulled all African-American and Hispanic students from seventh grade classes following an altercation between an African-American

student and a Hispanic student, in which some of the students' friends also became involved in a verbal exchange. Teachers were directed to send all African-American sev-

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Special Election Issue! Vote for Candidates for ACLU-NC and ACLU-NC Legal Foundation Boards of Directors. Ballots and Candidate Statements Inside this Edition.**

## **Lesbian High School Students Suspended for Hugging in Forsyth County**

In February 2009, the ACLU-NCLF received a request for assistance from a Forsyth County mother whose daughter and her girlfriend were disciplined by Reagan High School in Pfafftown, NC and informed that they would be placed on in-school suspension for "face-to-face" hugging in violation of the school's "public displays of affection" (PDA) policy.

ACLU-NCLF Legal Director Katy Parker contacted the Forsyth County school board attorney to object to this homophobic ridiculousness.

When the school's attorney defended the suspension, Parker requested evidence that heterosexual couples are suspended for similar conduct and urged the school district to delay the in-school suspen-

sion until they could provide the ACLU-NCLF with such evidence. In response, the school district reduced the in-school suspension to a warning. However, the school district still maintains that the students violated their PDA policy, so the ACLU-NCLF will continue to press for evidence that heterosexual students are subjected to the same treatment.

*(Continued from page 1)*

enth graders to the auditorium at 1:55 p.m. for an assembly on gangs, the school's zero tolerance policies and the importance of following school rules. Teachers were further instructed that once the African-American students returned to class, they should then dismiss all Hispanic seventh graders to the auditorium for a similar assembly. At these assemblies, students reported that Principal Abron stated that she was "ashamed" of them. Asian-American and non-Hispanic Caucasian students were excused from attending either assembly.

"Many of the students hauled into these assemblies didn't even know a fight had taken place. There was no reason to remove these innocent students from the classroom but not the white students who also had nothing to do with this particular fight," said Jennifer Rudinger, Executive Director of the ACLU-NCLF. "By removing only the students of color from the learning environment and subjecting them to this lecture, Principal Abron unwittingly perpetuated the stereotype that students of color are 'problem students' who must be dealt with, while white students do not need to attend the assembly because white students are less likely to get into trouble."

After Principal Abron refused to acknowledge that this discriminatory treatment was unfair and illegal and insisted that she would do it again if she felt the circumstances warranted such segregation, a group of parents, students and concerned citizens complained to the Wake County School Board. When the school board declined to take any action, the ACLU-NCLF and Raleigh ACORN filed a complaint with OCR in May 2008 in support of two parents of African-American students at Dillard Drive Middle School who objected to

their children being subjected to disciplinary lectures based solely on the color of their skin.

On February 26, 2009, OCR issued its Letter of Findings in this case, stating that "there is sufficient evidence to find that the District did, in fact, treat students differently based on their race when School administrators made the decision to require African-American and Hispanic students to attend two separate assemblies based on their race." In response to communications with OCR about this case, the Wake County Public School System finally issued a public apology to school students and parents on February 20, 2009, and agreed in writing that it will never again "separate students based solely on their race or national origin to address issues relating to student conduct and discipline." This acknowledgement will appear on the Wake County Public School System's permanent OCR record.

The Department of Education's Letter of Findings can be found on the ACLU-NCLF's website at [www.acluofnorthcarolina.org](http://www.acluofnorthcarolina.org).

### **ACLU-NCLF Files Lawsuit Against North Carolina Prison Officials for Violating The Free Speech Rights of a Published Author/Prisoner:**

In February 2009, the ACLU-NCLF filed a lawsuit in the federal district court for the Eastern District of North Carolina on behalf of inmate Victor L. Martin. Mr. Martin, who is currently incarcerated in the custody of the North Carolina Department of Correction (DOC), is a critically acclaimed author who has published a series of books in a highly popular literary genre known as "urban fiction." Authors within the urban fiction genre are often younger African-Americans who describe urban settings in ways that readers – many of whom have never

read books before – can identify with and understand. Many readers and reviewers have recognized Mr. Martin as an important voice within urban fiction. This lawsuit arises from efforts by the DOC to silence Mr. Martin's voice, and it appears that these efforts were based at least in part on the DOC's disdain for what Mr. Martin writes.

The lawsuit names as defendants certain officials of the North Carolina Department of Correction, alleging that these individuals are violating Mr. Martin's free speech rights under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution by arbitrarily and capriciously disciplining Mr. Martin for writing urban fiction during his incarceration. In addition, the lawsuit alleges that the defendants unlawfully seized and destroyed a 310-page handwritten urban fiction manuscript that Mr. Martin spent countless hours working on while housed at Central Prison in Raleigh. The lawsuit alleges that the defendants did so as punishment for Mr. Martin's acts of literary expression without providing Mr. Martin with due process before the manuscript was destroyed.

Mr. Martin is represented by ACLU-NCLF Cooperating Attorney W. Swain Wood of Wood Jackson PLLC, in Raleigh and Katy Parker, ACLU-NCLF Legal Director.

### **ACLU-NCLF Files Lawsuit Against Wilkes County Schools for Violating Free Speech Rights:**

In January 2009, the ACLU-NCLF filed a lawsuit in the superior court of Wilkes County on behalf of NC Peace Action, state Peace Action coordinator Bill Towe, and Boomer resident Sally Ferrell, who seek 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 mili-

*(Continued on page 4)*

# ACLU-NC Legal Foundation Celebrates 40th Annual Frank Porter Graham Awards Ceremony and Looks to the Future of our Fight to Protect Civil Liberties Under a New Administration

Over 250 supporters of the ACLU-NC Legal Foundation joined us for our 40th Annual Frank Porter Graham Awards Ceremony on Saturday, February 7th, held at the American Tobacco Campus in Durham. We were also joined by members of the press and received both print and television coverage, a Frank Porter Graham Awards Ceremony first! Together, ACLU-NC members and supporters enjoyed good food and great conversation and celebrated the achievements of honorees Bertha “B” Merrill Holt, Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II, and Shirley Andersen.

Susan Herman, the ACLU’s national President, also gave a rousing keynote address on the crucial importance of remaining vigilant in protecting our civil liberties under the new presidential administration.

The ACLU-NCLF wishes to thank Replacements, Ltd. for their continuing generosity in supporting the event as Title Sponsors. We



We were thrilled to have ACLU President Susan Herman as our keynote speaker.



Frank Porter Graham Award winner B Holt reflects on a lifetime of fighting for the Bill of Rights.

would also like to thank Charlotte Claypoole for donating her photography services, Ken Broun for once again delighting our audience with live jazz during the reception (with fellow musicians Bill Eagen and Mike Chrzanowski), and a big thanks to all of our volunteers for their tireless efforts to help make this event such a success.



Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II accepts the Paul Green Award for his phenomenal commitment to abolishing the death penalty.



Shirley Andersen (left) accepts the Norman Smith Award from Board member Jennifer Lorenz for her more than two decades of service to the ACLU in North Carolina.



**Special thanks to our devoted friends at Replacements, Ltd. for once again sponsoring the Frank Porter Graham Awards Ceremony.**



ACLU-NC President Mark Kleinschmidt fires up the crowd to donate much-needed funds to support the work of the ACLU.

## Latest Addition to ACLU-NC's Wall of Shame: "Don't tase me, Cumberland County!"

To the wall of shame this spring, we add officers in the Cumberland County school system for leading the state with eight in-school student tasings by officers with stun guns just since the beginning of 2009! This information came to light when, in the span of a week in February, three students were tased in three separate incidents at two schools in Fayetteville. According to news reports, in none of the incidents were students carrying weapons.

Many schools across the state have law enforcement officers, often called School Resource Officers, working daily in a school placement. As part of the ever-shortening school-to-prison pipeline, these officers are getting called more often by teachers and school administrators when issues arise where students challenge authority.

But law enforcement officers seem to have similar problems with students as school officials do. In fact, Tim Kinlaw, interim Superintendent of Cumberland County Schools, told North Carolina's News 14 that there has been **no increase in school violence** but that students "are not intimidated by law enforcement officers anymore," which in his opinion leads to an increase in tasings when students encounter law enforcement. So much for teaching students their civil rights – it seems an educated student is now viewed as a threat to society.

Last year, the ACLU-NCLF worked as part of a broad coalition – the TASER Safety Project – to research and produce a report on TA-

SER use by sheriffs' offices across the state. The coalition's evaluation of TASER training and regulation in each of 100 sheriffs' offices revealed a serious lack of training and regulation in North Carolina when compared with the rest of the country. Most disturbing was a lack of regulation on TASER use against particularly vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, people with disabilities, obviously pregnant women, people who are handcuffed and others in vulnerable positions. Cumberland County has almost no limits to TASER use in its policy, although a sheriff's department spokesperson told the media in February that



there is a ban on tasing children younger than seven (7) years old. As inadequate as that may be, even that regulation was not part of the written policy that Cumberland County provided to the TASER Safety Project in its response to our public records request last year.

If you are interested in learning more about TASER use and regulation in North Carolina, including in schools, go to our website at [www.acluofnorthcarolina.org](http://www.acluofnorthcarolina.org), or link directly to the report at <http://acluofnc.org/files/NotThereYet.pdf>.

If you would like to get involved in working to change TASER use policies in your county or city, please contact ACLU-NC Program Associate Ian Mance at [aclunc@nc.rr.com](mailto:aclunc@nc.rr.com) or (919) 834-3466.

## Wilkes County schools ban peace activists

*(Continued from page 2)*

tary recruiters are 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 have repeatedly refused NC Peace Action's request to distribute literature and to speak with students about alternative career options.

In 2005, Superintendent Stephen Laws denied Ms. Ferrell's request for access, and Laws and members of the Wilkes County School Board verbally informed Ms. Ferrell that she was "just being negative" and that the "students should not hear anything that shows the military in an unfavorable light." Ms. Ferrell was also told that granting her access to students "was not necessary because they were already exposed to the other side of the debate from watching television." Since that time, Ms. Ferrell and NC Peace Action have repeatedly attempted to resolve this matter informally. However, Superintendent Laws and the Wilkes County School Board continue to prevent NC Peace Action representatives to have access to the students equal to that given to military recruiters.

"I explained to the Superintendent that my approach was not anti-military; nevertheless, I was continually denied access to speak with students in our local high schools who were being aggressively recruited by the military," said Sally Ferrell. "My goal is simply to help young people look at career, vocational and educational funding opportunities outside of military service – for example, Job Corps and AmeriCorps – so that they may make informed decisions about

*(Continued on page 8)*

# 2009 ACLU-NC/LF Board Elections

**I**t is time to act on nominations for (two!) Boards of Directors. Elected Directors run two corporate entities: the ACLU of North Carolina (ACLU-NC) and the ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation (ACLU-NCLF). The ACLU-NC is engaged in legislative work and membership recruitment and therefore is a separate organization, while the Legal Foundation is our charitable 501(c)(3) entity which runs our legal program and most of our educational activities.

Our Board members serve three-year terms and may be elected for no more than two consecutive terms. No petitions were received from any individual ACLU members seeking to be placed on the ballot. Three incumbents who are eligible for nomination this year have said that they would like to remain on the

Board. They are **Phyliss Craig-Taylor, Jennifer Lorenz and Angelica Reza Wind.**

In addition, four new voices are seeking to be added to the Board: **Dan Blau, Vernon Cloud, Chuck Fager and Tin Nguyen.** All seven nominees are recommended by our Nominating Committee, and this slate has been approved for your consideration by the current ACLU-NC and ACLU-NCLF Boards of Directors.

Please read the candidates' statements inside this election pamphlet and mail in your ballot today.

**Ballots must be received by (not postmarked by) Friday, May 8th at 5:00 p.m.**

The ballot is located on Pages 9-10 of this newsletter. Please remove

the ballot, vote for the candidate(s) of your choice, and return it to the ACLU-NC office so that the ballot is received no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 8, 2009. **Please both print and sign your name on the back of your envelope (on or near the flap of the envelope).**

To maintain voter confidentiality, please do not place any identifying marks on the ballot itself, and please fold the ballot as indicated in the instructions on Page 10.

Board elections will take place at the ACLU-NC's Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, May 9, 2009 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 820 Hamilton Street, Suite B-11, Charlotte, NC 28206.

Members who have not voted by mail may vote in person at this meeting. For more information, call the ACLU-NC at (919) 834-3466.

## MEET THE BOARD CANDIDATES:



### **Dan Blau, Raleigh:**

Thank you for considering me for the Board of Directors of the ACLU of North Carolina. I grew up in Chapel Hill, received a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy Studies from Duke University, and attended law school at UNC-Chapel Hill. Following law school, I served as a clerk to the Honorable Judge Linda M. McGee of the North Carolina Court of Appeals. I currently practice criminal defense law in

downtown Raleigh with the firm Robert H. Hale, Jr. & Associates.

I first became involved with the ACLU of North Carolina when I served as a legislative clerk in the Raleigh office during the summer of 2005. Inspired by that experience, I devoted much of my remaining law school education to First Amendment scholarship. I served as Executive Editor of UNC's First Amendment Law Review and also published an article on the ACLU of North Carolina's recent "Qur'an case," where the ACLU-NC fought for the rights of all people to swear courtroom oaths on the religious text of their own choosing. Now, as a criminal defense attorney, I encounter civil rights and liberties issues on a daily basis, including fair

trial protections, invasions of privacy interests, and racial profiling. No matter the case, I always strive to protect my clients' rights to a fundamentally fair criminal justice system.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I will bring to the Board my energy, enthusiasm, and the knowledge and perspective I have gained as a daily advocate in our courts. I would appreciate your vote.

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

(Vernon Cloud's photo not available)

**Vernon Cloud, Jr., Charlotte:**

I am Vernon E. Cloud Jr., and I am an attorney with Cloud, Navarro & Williams, PLLC, a small law firm located in Charlotte, NC. I am a graduate of North Carolina Central University School of Law (NCCU). I went to law school to become empowered so that I, in turn, could empower others. As a student at NCCU, I worked diligently to advance a variety of special causes. From protecting voters' rights to working on the behalf of wrongly convicted individuals, I was dedicated to assisting others.

Presently, equipped with the knowledge of the law and a passion for justice, my primary goal continues to be assisting others. I consider myself not only a leader, but a worker in the fight for justice. Carter G. Woodson effectively expressed my sentiments in this regard: "We need workers, not leaders. Such workers will solve the problems which race leaders talk about."

Serving on the Board of Directors for the ACLU of North Carolina and its Legal Foundation would allow me to be a worker. The ACLU historically consists of leaders, fighters and most importantly, workers, all united behind the common goal of fighting for and protecting people's rights. These are the same goals that brought me to NCCU and the same goals that propel me to practice law every day. I feel that my thoughts, ideas and energy would be a great addition to an already thriving and successful Board. Thank you for your consideration.

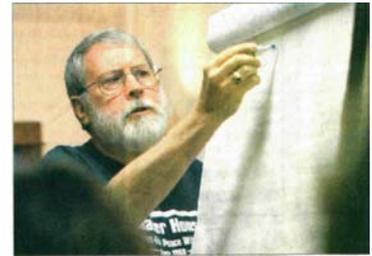


**Phyllis Craig-Taylor, Charlotte:**

Over the past twenty years, in both North Carolina and in Alabama, I have served on a number of boards and worked in a number of roles to fight for the rights and equal treatment of minorities and women. This work is my passion; thus, serving on the Board for the ACLU of North Carolina is a natural extension of this passion. Although my service keeps me busy, I feel that the work of the ACLU is more critical now than ever. Surviving the past eight years in this country has proved difficult and painful for many of us who worked in the Civil Rights Movement, as we watch hard fought for gains diluted and eliminated. The ACLU must lead many of the fights to come, and to have the opportunity to assist in that effort is an honor.

I currently serve as a Professor of Law and the Director of Teaching Excellence at the Charlotte School of Law. I have taught at several other law schools around the country and served as a Professor in Residence at the University of Warsaw in Poland. Before entering academia, I clerked for the Alabama Supreme Court and practiced law for seven years.

My other areas of service include Division Director, and member of the Civil Trial Practice Task Force, for the American Bar Association, and the Minorities in the Profession Committee for the North Carolina State Bar Association and the North Carolina State Bar Ethics Committee.



**Chuck Fager, Fayetteville:**

Chuck Fager has been Director of Quaker House in Fayetteville since the end of 2001. Quaker House has been an active peace witness close by Ft. Bragg since 1969.

Besides being an ACLU member for several years, Chuck's work at Quaker House has intersected with that of ACLU more than once: for one, he is an active participant with NC Stop Torture Now. For another, in the ACLU-NC Legal Foundation's Wilkes County lawsuit, Truth In Recruiting materials produced by Quaker House are key items of dispute.

Chuck began his activist efforts as a junior member of Dr. Martin Luther King's staff in Selma, Alabama. His work in and around the civil rights movement was the basis for four books he published, including *Selma 1965*, *the March That Changed The South*, the definitive account of that historic struggle. He has continued to write and publish, most recently as General Editor of the new book, *YES To The Troops - NO To The Wars*, a history of the first four decades of peace work at Quaker House.

More recently Chuck has been focused on issues relating to militarism and the so-called "war on terror," especially torture, violence within the military, recruiting abuses, and spying on citizens. He welcomes the opportunity to help grow the ACLU-NC in the Sandhills region, an area where civil liberties concerns abound, but ACLU

connections are sparse.

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**Jennifer Lorenz, Pittsboro:**

I am currently the Secretary for the ACLU of NC Foundation Board. I have been a member of the ACLU for 20 years and, in that time, my enthusiasm for and engagement in the very important work of the ACLU has never waned. I am a retired molecular biologist, so I bring a scientific mind to the Board which I believe is beneficial.

My particular areas of interest are abuse of power issues and the death penalty, which I have been working to abolish. I believe that it is the role of ACLU members and Board members to educate the public on issues of civil liberties and I have been a strong proponent of educating the public about the death penalty and why it is a blot on America's moral standing. I would like to remain on the Board and lend my expertise to the important work that this Board does.

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**Tin Nguyen, Charlotte:**

Attorney Tin Thanh Nguyen was born in Nome, Alaska on March 5, 1980. He did his undergraduate studies at the

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University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), where he graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in International Studies. After graduation, he worked with organizations assisting people living with HIV/AIDS in Thailand and Viet Nam.

Nguyen then matriculated at North Carolina Central University School of Law in Fall 2003. While at NCCU, he was co-founder of the Hispanic Law Students Association. He spent a summer in Mexico City where he studied immigration law. He also spent a semester as a clinical student in the University of California at Davis School of Law's Immigration Law Clinic where he represented clients facing removal before the San Francisco Immigration Court.

After law school, he worked as an Associate Attorney for the Law Offices of Smith & Todd in Davis, California, where he worked on post-conviction cases. In December 2007, Mr. Nguyen returned to his hometown to open the first Vietnamese-American law firm in Charlotte, NC. The law firm provides legal services to the underserved Vietnamese and Southeast Asian communities in Charlotte and the surrounding areas.

Nguyen's interest in civil liberties and immigration law stems from his experience as a first-generation Vietnamese American. Both of his parents were refugees who had fled Viet Nam in search of freedom from an oppressive communist regime. Many of his family members and clients were imprisoned and subjected to severe restrictions on fundamental freedoms by the Vietnamese government. Consequently, he understands the absolute necessity of an organization like the ACLU in safeguarding civil liberties and freedoms for the people in this country.

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**Angelica Reza Wind, Asheville:**

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve on the Board of Directors for the ACLU of North Carolina and the ACLU-NC Legal Foundation for the past few months. Originally, I was appointed to fill a vacancy last fall, but recognizing the critical work that the ACLU has ahead of them, I would like to continue to serve.

Although we are under a new presidential administration, we must not assume that ACLU's work is not as equally important as before. I work as a Court Advocate for the Mountain Violence Prevention Project at Pisgah Legal Services in Asheville, where I work with battered immigrants. Working primarily with the immigrant community of Buncombe and Henderson County, I have seen first hand the devastating effects of the improper use of programs such as the 287(g) program and the Criminal Alien Program. North Carolina has become the "testing ground" of these immigration enforcement programs, often at the expense of our civil rights and liberties. Fortunately, we have the ACLU-NC and ACLU-NCLF.

In the past year, I have witnessed ACLU-NC/LF make great strides in the defense of civil rights and liberties for citizens and non-citizens alike. If elected, I will continue to dedicate my time to provide the support needed to maintain ACLU's position as one of the foremost organizations protecting our rights under the United States Constitution.

## Wilkes County schools ban peace activists

(Continued from page 4)  
their futures.”

The lawsuit asks the Court: (1) to compel Wilkes County Schools to give NC Peace Action representatives access to Wilkes County high schools in order to provide students with information regarding military service and alternatives to military service; (2) to declare that NC Peace Action representatives are entitled to access to Wilkes



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

County high schools on the same basis and to the same extent as military recruiters; and (3) to declare that NC Peace Action representatives are entitled to present truthful, job-related information about material careers, even when such information is negative towards the military.

The plaintiffs are represented by Charles Johnson, Pearlynn Houck and Richard Worf of Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, P.A., in Charlotte, as Cooperating Attorneys for the ACLU-NCLF, and by Katy Parker, ACLU-NCLF Legal Director.

## ACLU-NC Members March for Justice, Fairness and Civil Rights for All!



Left to right: Volunteer Chris Headen and ACLU-NC staffers Rebecca Headen, Emily-Mary Brown, Katy Parker and Sarah Preston carry the ACLU-NC's banner in the Martin Luther King Day Parade in Raleigh along with other members and volunteers. (Photo by Ajamu Dillahunt)

**A**CLU members have been on the move in the new year. On January 19th, we marched in the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Martin Luther King Day March in Raleigh, organized by Raleigh's Martin Luther King Celebration Committee. The day began with a rally, and at the conclusion of the march, an event was held at the Progress Energy Center commemorating Dr. King. All of the events were well attended by a diverse group of individuals, organizations and public officials. And on Valentine's Day, the ACLU celebrated its love of justice by marching with the Historic Thousands on Jones Street (HK on J) coalition in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual HK on J People's Assembly. The ACLU-NC is a founding member of this 85-partner statewide coalition that represents a justice agenda to the state legislature and brings communities together with organizations to further a civil rights agenda. Both events were welcoming, and we hope to see you there with us next year.



Cartoon by Mike Keefe, Denver Post, 2001.



## Election Ballot for the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina



**IMPORTANT VOTING INSTRUCTIONS:** Individual Memberships: Vote for a maximum of 7 candidates under the column marked 'Individual.' An individual member may not vote for the same candidate twice. Joint Memberships (two members with the same mailing address voting on the same ballot): Vote for a maximum of 14 candidates, one member voting for up to 7 candidates under the column marked 'Individual' and one member voting for a maximum of 7 candidates under the column marked 'Joint.' If you have a joint membership with the ACLU, you will have two names on the mailing label of this Election-edition newsletter. To vote, simply place an 'X' in the box before the name you select.

Individual	Joint	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan Blau
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernon Cloud, Jr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Phyliss Craig-Taylor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chuck Fager
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Lorenz
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tin Nguyen
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Angelica Reza Wind

**Each member may vote for up to seven (7) candidates. Voting for more than seven (7) candidates, or voting for a candidate twice in the case of an Individual member, will result in the disqualification of the ballot.**

**IMPORTANT:** To maintain vote confidentiality, please see the reverse of this ballot for folding instructions.

**REMEMBER:** Your ballot must be received by (not postmarked by) by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8, 2009, or you may cast your vote in person at the Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, May 9, 2009.



SEAL HERE  
WITH STAPLE OR TAPE

ACLU-NC ELECTION  
BALLOT

C

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR BALLOT FOLDING AND MAILING!!!

1. Before starting, read through these instructions.
2. Please note the four capital letter A's in the corners on front side of the ballot and the capital letter B's and C's located on this (the reverse) side of the ballot.
3. After reading these instructions, turn the ballot back over, so the ballot is face up.
4. Fold the ballot in half, from the bottom up, matching (touching) the A's in the four corners.
5. Fold the remaining half in thirds, first matching the B's and then matching the C's.
6. If you folded the ballot correctly, you should be looking at the words "ACLU-NC Election Ballot" on top.
7. Seal the ballot, as indicated, with some tape or a staple.
8. Mail the ballot to:  
ACLU-NC Board Elections  
P.O. Box 28004  
Raleigh, NC 27611-8004
9. BOTH SIGN AND PRINT your name on the back of your envelope on or near the flap (two names for a joint membership) and be sure to include your return address on the envelope (legibly) in order for us to verify your membership status. We must be able to verify that you are/were an ACLU-NC member in good standing as of December 31, 2008 before counting your vote.
10. Put a stamp on your envelope and mail to the ACLU-NC as soon as possible. It must be received in our office by Friday, May 8, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

You may also vote in person at the Annual Membership Meeting, which will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2009 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 820 Hamilton Street, Suite B-11, Charlotte, NC 28206.

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B

← B

## ACLU-NC Welcomes MeShon Watkins as our first Membership Coordinator!

The ACLU-NC is thrilled to announce that MeShon Watkins started work in our office in February 2009 as our new Membership Coordinator. Watkins received her Bachelor of Science in Management from NC A&T State University and her Master of Social Work (with a Minor in Community Organizing) from the University of Michigan. Her previous experience includes Membership Coordinator positions for roughly two years with the Society for Imaging Science and Technology and the Newspaper Association of America, and she has also worked with local nonprofits in Michigan through a program sponsored by the University of Michigan, assisting the nonprofits with development and training, among other things. She also interned this

past summer with the ACLU of Mississippi.

She will be working to strengthen our existing ACLU chapters, working to build new ACLU chapters in North Carolina, and conducting membership recruitment and retention activities throughout the state with an eye toward building a solid grassroots force for civil liberties and social change over the next few years.

“I am excited to be part of the ACLU team and to work in such an interesting capacity that includes membership, outreach and working toward social change!” says Watkins. “I look forward to mobilizing North Carolinians to join the fight to preserve our individual rights and civil liberties.”

If you are interested in organiz-



MeShon S. Watkins

ing an ACLU chapter in your area or deepening your involvement with an existing local or student chapter, please contact MeShon Watkins at [aclunc\\_membership@nc.rr.com](mailto:aclunc_membership@nc.rr.com) or (919) 834-3466.

### Join the ACLU-NC on April Fool's Day!

Please join us for our Annual ACLU Member/Supporter Lobby Day.



#### WHERE

Legislative Auditorium, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
The NC General Assembly  
16 W. Jones Street  
Raleigh NC, 27601

#### WHEN

Wednesday, April 1, 2009  
9:00 AM

Join the ACLU-NC for our member and supporter lobby day. On Wednesday morning, we will brief you on the important civil liberties issues being debated at the General Assembly and prepare you to lobby on those issues. Then you will have the opportunity to lobby your elected representatives. If you RSVP now, we will make an appointment for you with your State Senator and House Representative on April 1st.

**Can we count on you?** Please RSVP by emailing your contact information to Sarah Preston, ACLU-NC Legislative Counsel, at [aclulegis@nc.rr.com](mailto:aclulegis@nc.rr.com)

## ACLU-NC Legislative Update on Bills and Issues Pending in the North Carolina General Assembly

tended the hearing and erupted in cheers and applause when the bill was passed.

### ***Racial Profiling***

The ACLU-NC has also worked to have two bills introduced to help shine light on and diminish racial profiling in North Carolina. Pre-

This year, as part of our proactive legislative agenda, the ACLU-NC continues to support the Racial Justice Act and the School Violence Prevention Act. The Racial Justice Act (HB 472/SB 461) would allow defendants on death row to challenge their sentence if they could prove that race played a role in the sentence or in the decision to seek the death penalty. The bill would allow the use of statistical evidence, which is currently not admissible to prove racial bias. This bill was introduced in the House with 41 sponsors and in the Senate with 14 sponsors on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

The School Violence Prevention Act (HB 548/SB 526) would require that all schools have a policy to deal with bullying which would include a minimum standard definition of bullying and harassing behavior. The definition includes enumerated categories of students most at risk of bullying and students shown to be most negatively affected by bullying. The enumerated categories include, but are not limited to: race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender and disability. In the House, 53 Representatives have sponsored this bill, showing a great deal of support.

### ***The Healthy Youth Act***

The ACLU-NC is one of the leading members of Healthy Youth North Carolina, a coalition supporting the Healthy Youth Act (HB 88/SB 221). The Healthy Youth Act would add abstinence-based comprehensive sexuality education to the state requirement that abstinence until marriage be taught as part of the healthy living curricula

in grades seven through nine. This bill would require all public schools to offer both programs and allow parents to decide in which one to enroll their student. Abstinence-only programs are often based on one particu-



Sydney Brunson, a senior at CE Jordan High School in Durham, spoke in favor of the Healthy Youth Act on March 10th at the General Assembly, flanked by supportive legislators and coalition allies.

lar religious viewpoint, create a hostile learning atmosphere for gay and lesbian students and promote gender bias. The comprehensive track would not only provide medically accurate information, but would also give parents the opportunity to enroll students in a program that does not create a hostile atmosphere, discriminate based on gender or proselytize. The ACLU-NC helped to arrange a press conference at the legislature to announce the introduction of the Healthy Youth Act. The press conference was attended by supportive legislators as well as students from around the state who came to Raleigh to show their support. The Healthy Youth Act was heard in the House Education Committee on March 10<sup>th</sup> and passed in committee by a vote of 32-21. Approximately 200 students who were at the legislature for Adolescent Health Advocacy Day at-

vent Racial Profiling (SB 464) was introduced with bipartisan support in the Senate. This bill amends general statute § 114-10.01 which requires law enforcement to report certain identifying characteristics such as race, ethnicity, age and gender of people who are stopped for traffic violations. The data are collected, correlated and publicly reported so that law enforcement and community advocates can identify when profiling is taking place. SB 464 would require that law enforcement report whether there were children in the car and whether they were left with a responsible adult if the driver is arrested, and would make law enforcement agencies ineligible for any grants created by the General Assembly if they fail to report their data within 30 days of the end of each month. Additionally, the current statute does not apply to

checkpoints except when those stops result in a warning, search, seizure or arrest. SB 464 would change that.

Finally, under the *current* statute, law enforcement officers subject to the statute may be assigned an anonymous identifying number, but the number is not public information. Therefore, litigators must obtain a court order to get the anonymous number to identify officers who violated people's civil rights if they wish to pursue a racial profiling case. SB 464 would make the anonymous identifying number public information. While this bill has already been introduced, a separate companion bill requiring law enforcement agencies to keep written records on driving-while-impaired and license checkpoints has yet to be introduced. We expect that this companion bill will be introduced shortly and will bolster efforts to monitor checkpoints being set up primarily in Latino and African-American neighborhoods or near vendors and churches that cater primarily to Latinos.

### ***The School-to-Prison Pipeline***

The ACLU-NC is also working to address the school-to-prison pipeline in North Carolina through legislation. Surprisingly, one in ten children in North Carolina faces suspension. Students who are suspended are three times more likely to drop out of school and are at greater risk of ending up in the juvenile justice system. The Student and Parent Education Involvement Act (HB 218) is a step toward addressing the suspension crisis. The bill requires that parents be notified of their child's due process rights when the child is facing a long-term suspension – a suspension lasting more than ten days. Specifically, the bill requires that parents be notified that the student may appeal the recommendation

for suspension to an impartial hearing officer or to the school board, and the parents must be informed on how the appeals process will work. The ACLU-NC has worked hard to build a strong coalition in support of this measure.

### ***Immigrants' Rights***

The ACLU-NC is opposing both the House and Senate versions of a bill to deny access to community colleges and universities to undocumented students even when paying out-of-state tuition rates (HB 155/SB 294). These bills discriminate against students based on national origin and create a permanent underclass of workers without recognizing that some of these young people will likely become eligible for citizenship.

On the other hand, the ACLU-NC supports Representatives Harrison, Luebke, Glazier and Insko's bill, Access to Higher Education (HB 362), which would prevent colleges and universities from considering immigration status in making admission determinations. We believe this provides equal access to public institutions for any student academically qualified to attend.

We also oppose attempts in both the House and Senate to deny bail to undocumented immigrants even for minor traffic violations (HB 84/SB 337). These bills could encourage racial profiling and further unfair targeting of the Latino community. The House version, No Bail for Certain Illegal Aliens, makes it much more difficult for undocumented persons to get bail where there is cause to believe that the detainee committed virtually *any* crime. These bills would be quite costly to enforce, fail to narrow enforcement against violent criminals, and do not limit application to those who have actually been proven guilty of criminal charges. They also further involve state and local law enforcement officers in enforcement of federal immigration

law, which is a federal matter.

### ***The Fourth Amendment***

Warrantless Searches/Probation & Parolees (SB 123) would all but eliminate Fourth Amendment rights for probationers and parolees, allowing them to be searched at any time by any law enforcement agency for any reason, eliminating the current requirement that the search have some connection with the probationer's crime. This bill would not only affect the probationer or parolee, it would also affect anyone sharing a vehicle or home with that person. This could be a costly and time-consuming law that will not address any of the failings in North Carolina's probation system. The ACLU-NC opposes this bill.

### ***Capital Punishment***

The ACLU-NC continues to oppose any efforts to restart executions in North Carolina. At the moment, there is a judicially imposed moratorium in place while legal issues are being sorted out in state court. The main reason that executions are currently on hold is, in order to avoid causing undue pain to the condemned person, North Carolina's courts have required that a doctor must be present during the execution to monitor the proceedings. But the North Carolina Medical Board has deemed it unethical for doctors to participate in executions, thus halting any further executions. SB 161 would change that by removing the authority of the Medical Board to discipline doctors who take part in capital punishment proceedings. The ACLU-NC opposes this measure which could restart executions.

The ACLU-NC has its work cut out trying to defend the constant

*(Continued on page 14)*

(Continued from page 13)

attacks on civil liberties on Jones Street and pass these important protections for North Carolinians. We need your continued support. Please join us on April 1st for the ACLU-NC's second annual member and supporter Lobby Day and sign up to receive Action Alerts which will let you know when your voice could make the difference on important civil liberties legislation.



Rep. Larry Hall, a Democrat representing Durham County, speaks with students who were present at the General Assembly to support the Healthy Youth Act on March 10th.




## Join our Action Alert E-mail List...

### Be a part of the solution!

Join the ACLU-NC's Action Alert list and receive e-mail alerts on pending legislation, complete with bill summaries, 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 MeShon Watkins, Membership Coordinator, at [aclunc\\_membership@nc.rr.com](mailto:aclunc_membership@nc.rr.com).

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## Know Your Rights: The latest ACLU-NC sessions

By Lauren Hurley, ACLU Racial Justice Project Volunteer

It's not always easy for an average American citizen to understand what rights he or she has, so what happens when you are an undocumented worker or a person of indeterminate legal status who may or may not speak English well? The answer is easy: you are harassed and taken advantage of by local and federal law enforcement. Not knowing what rights you are entitled to, regardless of your legal status, seems to be a common factor that some law enforcement officers depend on to inspire fear and confusion among immigrant populations.

Rebecca Headen and other attorneys with the ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation have been giving "Know Your Rights" presentations in the greater Triangle area to help solve this dilemma, and I attended the latest of these recently. They are not formal lectures given in grand halls; rather they are informal and community based. For instance, a local minister asked her to talk to members of his congregation on knowing their rights. These meetings are relaxed and informative.

The Know Your Rights presentation in this context starts off with a basic "what do you know about what rights you actually have?" There are basic rights that officers know we have and yet we are often deprived of them because we are uninformed. It comes down to the sad truth that people in America – documented, undocumented, citizen and non-citizen alike – have to know their rights because demanding them is the only way to get them. This is exactly what the Know Your Rights Program with the ACLU-NC strives to do.

This particular part of the program was specifically geared toward the Latino/a populations in the Triangle area because they are the most targeted people in the area when it comes to immigration and Immigration and Customs Enforcement programs. Anecdotal evidence shows they are racially profiled and disproportionately stopped by officers. It is important to know what to do if stopped by an officer. Headen uses skits involving

law enforcement.

The main questions asked were not about preventing being stopped but about what happens to one's belongings if one gets deported and, most importantly, what happens to one's children. Can they stay in the U.S. if they were born here or do they have to come home with the parent? If they do stay here, who takes care of them? Each situation is different, but Headen informed listeners that they have a right to grant individuals power over their money, their belongings and their children in what is called "power of attorney."



a Latino/a and an officer in scenarios such as "what happens if you get pulled over?" or "what happens if an officer asks you questions in your workplace?"

Above all else, one needs to stay calm. Unless you are pulled over in a vehicle, you do not have to give an officer North Carolina documents and that you have the right to remain silent. You also generally have the right not to let officers enter your house unless they have a clear search warrant, and you have the right to speak with an attorney. Also, it is very important not to give an officer false documents of any kind or lie to

These sessions are question-and-answer based, and it is disheartening to realize that people do not know their rights, which allows others to take complete advantage of the situation. These are people trying to make a better living for themselves and their children, and to have to worry about this constant fear of deportation and harassment is simply deplorable. This is why the programs the ACLU is working on are essential to fighting discrimination and to helping people know that they do have rights.

## Chapter Updates

### ACLU at Appalachian State University

The ACLU Student Chapter of Appalachian State University (ASU) held a drug policy panel discussion in late February. The event, "Safety, Freedom and the War on Drugs," was co-sponsored with the Campus Anti-War Network. There was high quality discussion by the panelists, which included two university professors and an assistant district attorney. The panel discussion was a success with many students in attendance who listened and asked questions about the different approaches to U.S. drug policy.

This year, our ACLU chapter will continue to work with the ASU administration to clarify university policies that involve free speech. We will also monitor how these free speech policies are enforced. In addition, we will be sponsoring more education events that raise awareness about individual rights.

### Campbell University Law School ACLU Chapter

During the first semester of Campbell Law's last year in Buies Creek before our law school relocates to downtown Raleigh, the ACLU of Campbell Law has again been active as a shining beacon in the fight for civil rights in one of the most conservative law schools in the country. ACLU-NCLF Legal Director Katherine Parker spoke to law students for the second straight year about recent and pending cases involving statewide civil liberties issues, and ACLU-NC Legislative Counsel Sarah Preston also made the trip down to Buies Creek to discuss lobbying on behalf

of the ACLU in the North Carolina General Assembly. Also, former W.W. Finlator award winner Reverend Jimmy Creech, who works with numerous same-sex marriage equality and death penalty abolition groups, held a seminar at Campbell Law on the status of marriage as a civil institution in November 2008.

ACLU of Campbell Law also continued its dedication to organizing student events with an eye toward civil liberties. In November, we held our annual Free Speech Party at Santina's in Lillington. Attendees were encouraged to wear shirts with controversial/political/witty statements and slogans. With more than 50 attendees, many clothed in shirts such as "The South will not rise again. Give it up." and "I'm Republican because we can't all be on welfare," the event turned out to be a great success and exposed many students to the ACLU who would not normally be brought to our cause.

ACLU of Campbell Law members have also been active in the fight for civil liberties throughout the state. Long-time member Matt Quinn was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Wake County Chapter of the ACLU, while ACLU-Campbell Law Secretary Gigi Gardner was awarded the N.C. Bar Pro Bono Service Award for her work in the Hispanic/Latino Legal Division of the North Carolina Advocates for Justice and the Actual Innocence Project. The Campbell Law chapter of the ACLU is extremely proud of the contributions of both Matt and Gigi to the mission and ideals of the ACLU.

### Charlotte ACLU Chapter

The ACLU of Charlotte would like to welcome new volunteer chapter leader Paul Funderburk. Paul was the ACLU of Appalachian State's Co-President from 2003-2004 and President from 2005-2006. He served as the Youth Outreach Coordinator for the ACLU of North Carolina from 2006-2007 and recently worked as a Field Organizer on Kay Hagan's successful U.S. Senate campaign. As a new ACLU chapter member, he hopes to bring some grassroots organizing experience to the group and incorporate an activism component to the chapter in addition to conventional educational campaigns.

Charlotte members are preparing for the ACLU-NC's statewide annual membership meeting, coming up on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The Charlotte chapter is currently teaming up with MeShon Watkins – the new and much appreciated Membership Coordinator for the ACLU-NC – to organize the event. We are working with the Charlotte Gay and Lesbian Community Center to reserve space for the event and to build bridges with an important ally in the fight for equal rights for the LGBT community.

To learn more about our chapter or to attend our meetings, contact us at [aclucharlotte@hotmail.com](mailto:aclucharlotte@hotmail.com).

# United Nations Adopts Treaty on Enforced Disappearance

by Slater E. Newman, Chair,  
ACLU-NC Committee on International Human Rights

The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance was adopted by the United Nations on December 20, 2006 and was opened for signature on February 6, 2007. As of February 28, 2009, 81 nations (though not the United States) had signed it, thereby expressing their intention to become a party at some future date. It has been ratified by nine countries (Albania, Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, France, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Mexico and Senegal) which have thus become parties to the treaty and are bound to observe its provisions.

The treaty is comprised of a Preamble and 45 articles. (Its full text can be accessed by Googling its name.) Among its major provisions are:

Part 1 Article 1 Section 1 – “No one shall be subjected to enforced disappearance.”

Part 1 Article 1 Section 2 – “No exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification for enforced disappearance.”

Part 1 Article 17 Section 1 – “No one shall be held in secret detention.”

This treaty will enter into force 30 days after it has been ratified by 20 countries. Thus, it is not yet eligible to be a part of the United Nations Human Rights Treaty System currently comprised of eight human rights treaties (and seven optional protocols). When this treaty does enter into force, a committee of independent experts will be elected by the ratifying countries to monitor its implementation.

The length of time between the United Nations’ adoption of each of these eight treaties and their entry into force ranges from approximately 10 months (Convention on the Rights of the Child) to about 12 and a half years (International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families). Should ratifications for this treaty continue as they have so far, then it is likely to enter into force some time during 2011. We’ll let you know what happens.

## 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 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:

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For more information or to charge your contribution on a credit card, contact Development Associate Perryn Reyelts at 919-834-3466 or [acluncdev@nc.rr.com](mailto: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: <https://www.acluofnorthcarolina.org/?q=donate>



# JOIN TODAY!

Your dues include memberships for the national ACLU, ACLU of North Carolina, and your local chapter if one exists in your region. You will also receive *Liberty*, the quarterly ACLU-NC newsletter, along with the national newsletter and other mailings. If you have email, your name will be added to our listserv upon your request. You will be able to vote in our statewide Board elections and will be invited to ACLU events like the Frank Porter Graham Awards Ceremony and the annual membership meeting. Simply fill out the form below and return it in a stamped envelope.

### GUARDIANS OF FREEDOM

The ACLU is our nation's guardian of liberty, working daily in courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and laws of the United States guarantee to everyone in this country. Our job is to conserve America's original civic values and defend the rights of every man, woman and child; rich or poor; straight or gay; black or white or brown; urban or rural; American-born or foreign-born; able-bodied or living with a disability — *every person* in this country. We're there for you! Since our founding in 1920, we've been working hard to make sure no one's rights are taken away.

### LEGAL PROGRAM

Our legal program has been the most successful avenue for protecting and enhancing the constitutional rights and civil liberties of North Carolinians. Of the thousands of requests for assistance received each year, we litigate and provide amicus curiae assistance (friend of the court briefs) in approx. 15-20 cases. We respond to every request we receive, and in non-civil liberties matters, try to make appropriate referrals. Our current docket includes cases on Freedom of Speech/Religious Liberty, Privacy Rights/Right to Travel, Disability Rights, Equal Protection, Right to Trial, Search and Seizure, Voting Rights, and the Right to a Sound, Basic Education.

### LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

We provide a constant reminder to our legislators that our civil liberties should not be compromised as a result of legislative jockeying and political posturing. The ACLU-NC's full-time lobbyist is a permanent presence at the North Carolina General Assembly and influences public policy debates and legislation that involve civil liberties issues. We invite you to visit our website to receive legislative "Action Alerts."

### PUBLIC EDUCATION OUTREACH PROGRAM

Through our website, literature, speaking engagements, public forums, visits to schools and universities, press interviews and television and radio appearances, we educate North Carolinians about their rights. Only when each person is informed of his/her rights can we achieve the ideals set forth in the Constitution.

#### Enclosed is my check for:

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*\*Please give this amount or more if you can*

**Make check payable to the ACLU. Please note that membership dues are not tax-deductible because the ACLU engages in lobbying and direct advocacy.**

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# THE LEGACY CHALLENGE DEFEND FREEDOM TODAY WITH YOUR GIFT FOR THE FUTURE

## Did you know you can support the ACLU today with your future gift?

Through the **Legacy Challenge**, if you name the ACLU Foundation to receive a bequest through your will or living trust, the Robert W. Wilson Charitable Trust will make a *cash donation today equal to 10% of your future gift's value*, up to the maximum match of \$10,000. Your gift will provide the ACLU Foundation, at the national and local level, with the resources it needs to protect civil liberties for future generations.

To learn how to accept the Legacy Challenge or get the latest information on planned gifts and estate planning, please call the Office of Gift Planning, **toll-free at (877) 867-1025**, and our staff will personally answer all your questions. Or if you prefer, e-mail us at [legacy@aclu.org](mailto:legacy@aclu.org).

Wondering where to start? How to update your will? How to avoid probate court? How a charitable gift will affect your estate? Visit [www.legacy.aclu.org](http://www.legacy.aclu.org) for complete estate planning information, checklists, gift calculators, articles and Legacy Challenge information.

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*The Quarterly Newsletter of the ACLU of North Carolina*

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January, March, July, and October

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### **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/>

## Save the Date!

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the ACLU-NC's Annual Membership Meeting!

Saturday, May 9, 2009

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location:

Lesbian & Gay Community Center  
820 Hamilton Street, Suite B-11  
Charlotte, NC 28206

ACLU-NC President Mark Kleinschmidt will lead a panel discussion on contemporary issues facing the LGBT community in North Carolina and across the nation.

Light lunch will be provided, no charge to attend. Bring a friend!

To RSVP, contact MeShon Watkins, the ACLU-NC's Membership Coordinator, at [aclunc\\_membership@nc.rr.com](mailto:aclunc_membership@nc.rr.com), or call 919-834-3466.



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

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