IDAHO LIBERTY



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FALL / WINTER 2010

WILL THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE FOLLOW ARIZONA'S LEAD?

BY HANNAH BRASS, PUBLIC POLICY DIRECTOR/COUNSEL AND
HEATHER SMITH, CIVIL RIGHTS AND IMMIGRANTS' JUSTICE INTERN

Arizona immigration law S.B. 1070 has been riddled with controversy. On May 17, 2010, the American Civil Liberties Union and a coalition of civil rights groups filed a class action lawsuit seeking a motion for preliminary injunction to stop S.B. 1070 from going into effect.

Friendly House et al. v Whiting et al. charges that the Arizona law interferes with federal power to control and regulate immigration under the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution; violates the prohibition on unreasonable search and seizures under the Fourteenth and Fourth Amendments; infringes on the free speech rights of laborers in Arizona and impinges on the right to travel.

The lawsuit was parallel to federal lawsuit U.S. v Arizona as filed on July 6, 2010 by the Department of Justice which sought a preliminary injunction to stop the law in its entirety from going into effect until the constitutionality of the law could be determined. The Department of Justice lawsuit, U.S. v Arizona only represents the interests of the federal government whereas Friendly House et al. v Whiting et al. represents the interests of individuals and organizations whose civil liberties will be affected if and when the entire law goes into effect. A second lawsuit filed by the ACLU and a coalition of supporters was that of Friendly House et al. v. Halliday et al., which is currently pending in the Arizona District Court. This third lawsuit includes the claims listed above but additionally challenges the law based on racial profiling in violation of the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution.

On July 28, 2010 Justice Susan Bolton, presiding over U.S. v Arizona, granted the

motion for a preliminary injunction and blocked the most controversial provisions of the law, including the sections which authorize officers to make a warrantless search of a person, make it a crime for failing to carry immigration papers, and make it illegal for undocumented individuals to solicit, apply for or perform work. Judge Bolton provided a notice of order in the above case to the ACLU and its coalition partners relating to their involvement in Friendly House et al. v. Whiting et al. The state of Arizona immediately appealed the decision which is set to be heard by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on November 1, 2010.

Although the most controversial provisions of SB1070 were blocked, other worrisome provisions remain intact. For example, the portion of the law which provides that it is a crime for drivers to pick up day laborers soliciting work and for day laborers to enter a stopped car for work purposes still stand. The American Civil Liberties Union is currently monitoring the implementation of these and other provisions which are in effect.

In response to the Arizona law, President Obama remarked, "If we continue to fail to act at a federal level, we will continue to see misguided efforts opening up around the country." On September 3, 2010, Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter and Attorney General Lawrence CONTINUES ON PAGE 4



FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY MONICA HOPKINS, CFRE. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

inety years ago, America was reeling from a post-World War I fear that the Communist Revolution that had taken place in Russia would spread to the United States. As is often the case when fear outweighs rational debate, civil liberties paid the price. In what notoriously became known as the "Palmer Raids." Attorney General Mitchell Palmer began rounding up and deporting so-called radicals. Thousands of people were arrested without warrants and without regard to constitutional protections against unlawful search and seizure. Those arrested were brutally treated and held in horrible conditions.



In the face of these egregious civil liberties abuses, a small group of people decided to take a stand, and thus was born the American Civil

Liberties Union.

The ACLU has evolved over the past 90 years from a small group of idealists committed to protecting Americans' civil liberties into the nation's premier defender of the rights enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. With more than 500,000 members, 53 state affiliates, nearly 200 staff attorneys and thousands of volunteer attorneys, the ACLU of today continues to fight government abuse and to vigorously defend individfreedoms including speech and religion, a woman's right to choose, the right to due process, citizens' rights to privacy and much more.

The ACLU stands up for these rights even when the cause is unpopular, and sometimes when nobody else will.

As an affiliate, the ACLU

of Idaho was founded in 1993. Your support of the ACLU helps us to preserve, protect and defend individual liberties on a state level, but also helps us fight legislation like SB1070 in Arizona, win a monumental case in Florida allowing same-sex parent adoption, and win reinstatement for a lesbian Air Force Major discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in Washington.

The ACLU has been at the forefront of every civil rights battle and argued more cases in front of the Supreme Court than any other non-governmental organization. As we celebrate the last ninety years, we look forward to the next ninety. With your continued support we will be ready when the next civil liberties battles emerge.

LGBT VICTORIES

eptember was a month of important victories for the LGBT community in the areas of adoption, military discrimination, and relationships.

In Florida, an appellate court affirmed a lower court's

IN FLORIDA, AN
APPELLATE COURT
AFFIRMED A LOWER
COURT'S RULING
THAT FLORIDA'S BAN
ON ADOPTION BY
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ruling that Florida's ban on adoption by people who are gay is unconstitutional. While this victory is cause for all to celebrate, no one is more pleased than ACLU client Martin Gill, who challenged the law so he and his partner could adopt the two brothers who have been in their foster care for years. The state has a few more weeks in which it could appeal the ruling, but for now, fairness has prevailed.

A U.S. federal court ruled in favor of Washington's Major Margaret Witt-a decorated U.S. Air Force flight nurse who had been dismissed under the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy because she is a lesbian—and ordered the U.S. Air Force to reinstate her. After six days of trial, Judge Robert Leighton found that Major Witt's sexual orientation does not negatively impact unit morale or cohesion. **ACLU** Washington attorneys have represented Major Witt since her case began in 2006.

A city in Montana took a

strong stand in support of domestic partnerships. On September 27, 2010, the

JUDGE ROBERT
LEIGHTON FOUND
THAT MAJOR WITT'S
SEXUAL
ORIENTATION DOES
NOT NEGATIVELY
IMPACT UNIT
MORALE OR
COHESION.

Bozeman City Commission unanimously passed a resolution affirming every couple's right to individual dignity, privacy, due process and the pursuit of life's basic necessities guaranteed under the Montana Constitution's Declaration of Rights. The

resolution also expressed support for the ACLU of Montana's lawsuit on behalf of seven same-sex couples suing the state for domestic partnership protections. Bozeman Mayor Jeff Krauss urged the state not to fight the lawsuit. "I believe this is the greatest country on Earth, and it starts with our respect for individual rights," Krauss said

LGBT Setbacks—or Not?

midst all these victories we have seen setbacks. While Idaho is home to several organizations established to serve the needs and interests of LGBT people, the ACLU of Idaho is the only statewide organization working to achieve policy change to advance and protect the rights of LGBT Idahoans. In 2009 Idaho Equality, the only LGBT

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Lea Cooper Staff Attorney

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CONTACT INFORMATION

ACLU of Idaho & ACLU of Idaho Foundation
PO Box 1897
Boise, ID 83701
Phone (208) 344-9750
Fax (208) 344-7201
admin@acluidaho.org
www.acluidaho.org

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

he ACLU of Idaho is always faced with a mounting number of requests for assistance from individuals and organizations yet has limited staff and funding. Volunteer attorneys work in cooperation with our staff donating time and expertise to our Legal department thereby increasing our impact around the state. For over 90 years, volunteer lawyers have been the backbone of the ACLU's legal program. These volunteers include sole practitioners, recent law school graduates, attorneys with a long history of civil rights advocacy, and in some cases, attorneys that have never worked on civil rights issues, but are still willing to go above and beyond. Instead of recounting our Legal Docket (which can be found on our website at www.acluidaho.org), Legal Program would like to introduce you to one such attorney.

Above and Beyond

BY LEA COOPER. STAFF ATTORNEY

e have a number of extraordinary attorneys volunteering their time for us simply

JIM DIDN'T EVER
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ACLU WHEN HE
CONTACTED THE
LOCAL FEDERAL
COURT FOR
ASSIGNMENT TO A
PRO-BONO CASE.

because of their passion for civil liberties. Jim Huegli, however, really breaks the mold. Jim didn't ever think he would be involved with the ACLU when he contacted the local federal court for assignment to a pro-bono case. (We hope he's becoming fonder of us the more he gets to know us.) On our side, we wondered about this guy with no civil rights work on his resumé, but with extensive experience in the arenas of insurance defense, commercial litigation, medical malpractice, aviation law, and surety litigation.

Jim received his Juris Doctor from Willamette University College of Law in 1972 and has since practiced law in Oregon, Idaho, California, Washington State and Massachusetts. Mr. Huegli has tried to conclusion over 200 cases and has mediated for over 20 years. In addition to his private prac-

JIM HAS REVEALED
HIMSELF TO BE A
CIVIL LIBERTARIAN
NONPAREIL.

tice, Mr. Huegli is also a published author, pilot, sailor, enjoys playing golf, skiing and is a devoted grandfather. He is currently a volunteer for Angel Flight West, an organization that provides free air transportation to medical

treatment facilities for patients and their families. Jim is also a volunteer lawyer for Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), which is a program committed to the protection and healing of abused and neglected children who have been placed in foster care.

SIMPLE THINGS LIKE
REINSTATEMENT OF
A DRIVER'S
LICENSE CAN BE
INSURMOUNTABLE
IF YOU HAVE NO
RESOURCES.

Jim has revealed himself to be a civil libertarian nonpareil. We have been astonished at the brutal workload he has shouldered on behalf of assault victims at the Idaho Correctional Center, Idaho's only private prison. To date, he has donated over 500 hours of legal work to the ACLU of Idaho, including personally flying the legal team (see photo below) to interview prisoners in such far-flung locales as St. Anthony and Orofino.

Beyond his work with the ACLU, Jim has provided assistance to some recently released prisoners. He sees

CONTINUES ON PAGE 6



From left to right: Stephen Pevar, Lea Cooper and James Huegli.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND VOTING

Exercise Your Voting Rights
Each year one third of the Board
is elected by ACLU of Idaho
members. All current members
will be receiving ballots and voting instructions by mail in
December with the election
results being announced at the
Annual Membership Meeting on
January 13, 2011.

If you are a member and do not receive your ballot by the end of December, you may request a replacement ballot by contacting the ACLU of Idaho office (208-344-9750 x201). In order to be counted, your ballot must be received at the ACLU of Idaho office by close of business January 12, or submitted by hand at the beginning of the Annual Membership Meeting.

Do you cherish your constitutional right to vote but are not a member? Become a member of the ACLU of Idaho today, and we will make sure you get to make your voice heard in the next Board of Directors election.

Annual Membership Meeting

When: Thursday, **January 13**, 2011, 6:30 pm

Where: Log Cabin Literary Center, 801 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise, Idaho 83702



...ARIZONA, CONTINUED FROM PG 1

Wasden filed an amicus curiae, or "friend of the court". brief on behalf of the state of Idaho with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in support of Arizona's appeal and defense. In a press release Governor Otter announced. "State officials have the right under existing federal law to identify illegal aliens and report them to federal authorities. It's our affirmative duty to protect states' rights, and that's particularly important when a lawsuit seeks to punish a state for doing what the federal government has failed to do-protect our borders and American citizens." The Governor has certainly changed his tune. Earlier this year, Governor Otter voiced his concerns about whether local police officers should be permitted to enforce federal immigration policy and the resulting implications on civil liberties stating, "It would take a person, I suspect, bigger than I not to immediately begin to profile."

The American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho is active in defending immigrant rights and is concerned that bills similar to Arizona's SB1070 may be introduced during the 2011 legislative session. The Idaho Legislature has seen its fair share of antiimmigrant legislation over the past few years, and since the passage of SB1070, several legislators have commented that Idaho may follow Arizona's lead while others have stated that it would be ill-advised until the lawsuits against SB1070 have been

"IT WOULD TAKE A
PERSON...BIGGER
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—GOV. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

resolved. The ACLU of Idaho is concerned that if a similar law is passed in Idaho, local police will be charged with determining the immigration status of individuals they expect to be undocumented, something local law enforcement is not trained to do. In addition, the ACLU of Idaho is concerned that such laws may lead to racial profiling and ultimately deter immi-

grants, both documented and undocumented, from reporting crimes. Passage of this type of anti-immigrant law in Idaho would erode trust between police officers and the community, creating an unsafe community for all of us.

Immigration and immigrants' rights have been hot topics in the media over the past year with states like Arizona and Idaho attempting to address these issues in a piece-meal, state by state manner, rather than allowing the federal government to these address issues Immigration will likely continue to be discussed with increasing frequency as we gear up to November elections both at the state and federal level. The ACLU of Idaho will continue to monitor developments in the Arizona case as well as at the state level when the 2011 Idaho Legislative Session convenes in January. In the mean time, we remain committed to defending the individual civil rights and liberties guaranteed to all people in the United States by the Constitution, regardless of their immigration status.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

ach year our Board Development Committee carefully considers the applications of potential board members to join the group of people who govern and direct the Idaho affiliate of the ACLU. If you would like to be considered for nomination by the Board Development Committee, you must be a member in good standing and submit a brief statement of interest.

Nominations may also be submitted by petition. Nomination petitions must

include a statement of interest with a short statement of petitioner's background and qualifications and be signed by ten (10) current ACLU of Idaho members that includes the name and address of the nominee. The submissions must be received in the ACLU of Idaho office at PO Box 1897, Boise, ID 83701 by November 30, 2010. This information shall be summarized and included on or with the ballot to the same extent as is such information of persons nominated by the nominating committee.

Members of the ACLU of Idaho Board of Directors serve three year terms and are voted in by the membership. All ACLU of Idaho members will receive their ballots and voting instructions by mail in December with the election results being announced at the Annual Membership Meeting on January 13, 2011.

For more information, or if you do not receive your ballot by the end of December, please contact our offices at (208) 344-9750 ext. 201 or admin@acluidaho.org.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE—AGAIN!

BY PHILIP A. DEUTCHMAN

There have been extremist voices advocating for a Christian government of the United States, or one based on Christian principles. Once again, we have to remind ourselves that the dangerous mixing of Church & State is what our Founders avidly wished to avoid, since they understood the disastrous results of religious wars in Europe.

Nowhere in our Constitution is it mandated that the United States was to be a religious state or have a state religion. There is no such wording in the Preamble, which sets out the aspirations for the establishment of government. Also, the Oath of Office taken by the President (Article II, Section 1.) is explicitly spelled out in the Constitution, and there is no wording referring to God or

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—U.S. CONSTITUTION, FIRST AMENDMENT

RELIGION..."

religion. The only mention of a supreme being is related to the date of ratification in 1787: "...in the Year of our Lord..." (Article VII), which was typical parlance of the day. This boiler-plate wording is a badly broken hook upon which to hang the heavy mantle of a state religion.

However, there is explicit wording contrary to the formation of a national religion. In Article VI, "...no religious Test shall ever be required..." This applies to all executive, legislative, and judicial officials at the state and federal level. And, as strongly stated, in the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion..."

The lack of explicit wording for, and the prohibition against, a religious state makes the Constitution a decidedly secular document.

Furthermore, in the 1797 Treaty of Tripoli, in which the Kingdom of Tripoli promised to constrain the pirates under its jurisdiction from intercepting American merchant ships, Article 11 begins: "As the government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the

"THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA
IS NOT IN ANY
SENSE FOUNDED ON
THE CHRISTIAN
RELIGION."
—TREATY OF TRIPOLI, 1797

Christian Religion..." This treaty was negotiated under the watch of President George Washington and later, in 1797, the treaty was read aloud on the Senate floor, approved unanimously by the

Senate, and then signed by President John Adams with an official declaration that he

BECAUSE FREEDOM
OF THOUGHT AND
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NON-BELIEVER IS
PROTECTED.

had seen and considered every clause and article in the Treaty. Obviously, the first two presidents and senators were well aware of the importance of Separation of Church & State.

Our Constitution protects an expanded tolerance for all believers and non-believers. Not only is the free exercise of all religions protected, but because freedom of thought and conscience are tightly entwined with the freedom of speech, the rights of an individual to be a non-believer is also protected. U.S. Courts have supported this tolerance by regularly interpreting the Constitution as protecting the freedoms of non-believers.

The danger today is that, in a time of great economic

stress, anxiety and fear, in a time of hateful scapegoating, with self-righteous demagogues waiting in the wings to grab political power, a breakdown of the Separation of Church & State could happen. This could lead towards a state religion as the Founders feared, or at its worst, towards a fascist theocracy. Either condition would be totally antithetical to any representative democracy.

THIS COULD LEAD
TOWARDS A STATE
RELIGION AS THE
FOUNDERS FEARED,
OR AT ITS WORST,
TOWARDS A FASCIST
THEOCRACY.

The ever wise and quotable Founding Father, Benjamin Franklin, was asked outside Independence Hall, when the Constitutional Convention ended: "Well, Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" He famously replied, "A republic, if you can keep it." This warning still holds for us all today.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH & STATE—
AGAIN! WAS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN
JUNE, 2010 IN THE SANDPOINT READER
AND THE BONNER COUNTY DAILY BEE

E-ALERT

Join our e-alert list to receive the most current civil liberties news from the ACLU of Idaho:

- Get updates during the legislative session and take action on bills of interest or concern
- Learn more about ACLU cases in the news
- Find out about upcoming ACLU events—parties, seminars and special happenings such as January's annual Bill of Rights Dinner.

To join sign up on our website at www.acluidaho.org/enewsletter or email us at admin@acluidaho. org and ask to be added to our e-alert list. Take a moment and do it today!

SHARING ACLU STORIES

Why do you support the ACLU? When did you become an ACLU member or donor?

Over the past years we have heard amazing stories of ACLU supporters, some of whom had been supporters since the 1950s, some as recently as last month. The ACLU of Idaho is collecting stories of people's dedication and commitment to civil rights. With permission these stories will be used in presentations and publications, such as our newsletter. Telling our stories helps personify the struggle for civil rights and personalize the work we do.

Won't you share your story with us? Contact our office at admin@acluidaho.org or (208) 344-9750 x201

ACLU WISH LIST

The ACLU of Idaho can always use in-kind donations of office furniture and equipment. To help with any of these items contact Liberty at (208) 344-9150 or at Iklautsch@acluidaho.org

- Web design volunteer
- 4 cases of paper
- Paper folding machine
- 5 desk chairs
- Digital Camera

...LEGAL DEPT., CONTINUED FROM PG 3

that the obstacles they face in accomplishing simple things like reinstatement of a driver's license can be insurmountable if you have no resources. He has driven a newly released felon to the DMV and to job interviews, petitioned the Parole Board for the compassionate release of an elderly man suffering from Stage 4 liver cancer who has never seen his daughter, and met with a

family when violence claimed the life of an ACLU client's younger brother—then met with the prosecutor and attended the memorial service at the family's request. His compassion and efforts extend far above and beyond the scope of work he is doing for the ACLU.

Jim has earned our deep gratitude and respect for the work he has done, and continues to do, on behalf of the ACLU of Idaho and the people we serve. And while it seems a meager response to the compassion and dedication he has shown, we say "Thank you."

Cooperating Attorneys

Are you an attorney interested in becoming more involved with the ACLU? Contact our Legal Department at (208) 344-9750 x205 for more information

...LGBT, CONTINUED FROM PG 2

statewide advocacy organization, and Idaho Women's Network, the only other major coalition partner in this advocacy work, closed their doors.

We will continue working on amending laws and policies to include protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity at both state and local levels. We will continue advancing freedom and defending civil liberties. The ACLU of Idaho has been a stalwart defender of LGBT rights and the creation of an ACLU of Idaho LGBT Project is more important than ever. And we need your support.

To make a contribution to

our LGBT work simply contact our office at (208) 344-9750 x201, send a donation marked "LGBT Project" to our office at PO Box 1897, Boise, ID 83701, or give online at http://acluidaho.org/

Together we will continue to celebrate victories for LGBT equality across the country, and here in Idaho.

YOU SAY GOODBYE, I SAY HELLO

t's been a summer of significant staff change at the ACLU of Idaho. First we said goodbye to Office Administrator and Volunteer Coordinator, Lily Caywood. Lily's organizational skills, patient attitude and willingness to learn new things helped the office run smoothly and expanded our ability to communicate with members. As volunteer coordinator she was the first point of contact for many of you - and we believe her drive to secure more volunteers helped grow our program to capacity. Lily started at the ACLU of Idaho in 2007, and left in August of this year to pursue a Masters degree in Speech Language Pathology at the ISU Meridian campus.

We also bid farewell to Financial Administrator, Suzanne Woodcock, who retired at the end of August. Suzanne came to the ACLU of Idaho office in 2002, and watched the office grow from two employees to five.

WE HOPE YOU JOIN
US IN BIDDING FOND
FAREWELLS TO
SUZANNE AND LILY
AND IN WELCOMING
LIBERTY TO THE
ACLU OF IDAHO.

Suzanne helped with every aspect of our work - from office administration to fundraising, financial management to legal intake. She leaves the organization with a firm foundation—although many of us will miss her wit (and turtle brownies).

We have no doubt that Lily and Suzanne will remain an active presence with the ACLU of Idaho, and wish them both the best in their future endeavors.

In July we welcomed Liberty Klautsch (yes, her name is really Liberty!) who has become our new Office Administrator and Program Coordinator. Liberty hit the ground running in her new position immediately training on everything from financial management to planning public education events.

Our five member staff serves the entire state of Idaho, however we couldn't do it without the support of our members, donors and volunteers. We hope you join us in bidding fond farewells to Suzanne and Lily and in welcoming Liberty to the ACLU of Idaho.

ABOUT THE ACLU OF IDAHO

Founded in 1920, the American Civil Liberties Union is a nationwide, nonpartisan organization dedicated to working in the courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights guaranteed to all people in this country by both the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

The ACLU of Idaho began as an independent affiliate in 1990 to work on constitutional issues that are pertinent to Idahoans. Our project priorities include immigrants' rights, LGBT equality, and prisoner rights.

THE UNION & THE FOUNDATION

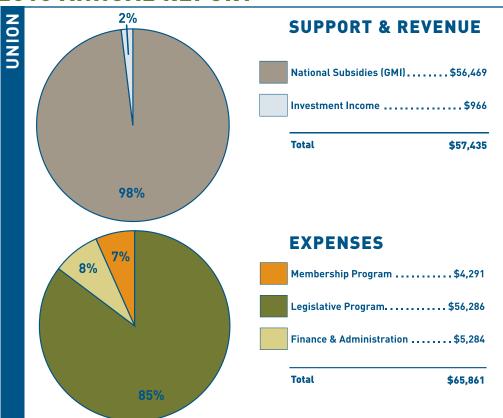
Did you know there are two separate ACLU entities in Idaho?

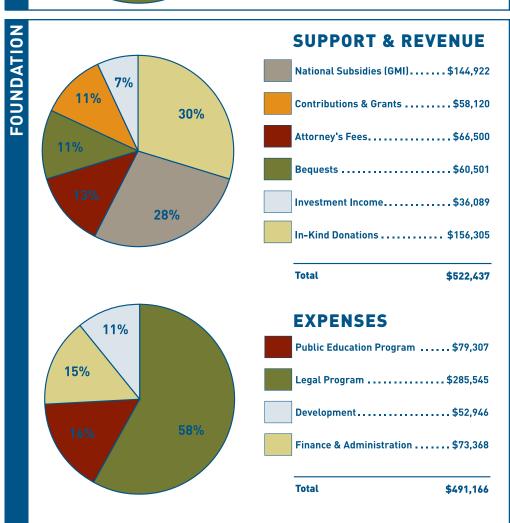
Union — The ACLU of Idaho, Inc. is the non-profit organization to which membership dues are paid. Dues paying members who reside in Idaho are automatically members of both the ACLU of Idaho and the national ACLU. Membership donations and other contributions to the ACLU of Idaho, Inc. or national ACLU support our legislative and lobbying work and are not tax-deductible.

Foundation — The ACLU Foundation of Idaho is a non-profit organization that provides legal assistance and conducts educational programs. Donations to either the ACLU of Idaho Foundation or the national ACLU Foundation are tax-deductible.

Both the ACLU of Idaho and the ACLU of Idaho Foundation are part of the same overall organization — the ACLU. However, it is necessary to have two separate organizations to enable us to do the broad range of work necessary to protect civil liberties.

2010 ANNUAL REPORT*





^{*}Fiscal year ending March 31, 2010. Audited statements available from the ACLU-ID office.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF IDAHO FOUNDATION PO BOX 1897 BOISE, ID 83701 T/208-344-9750 F/208-344-7201

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JANUARY 13TH, 2011 AT 6:30PM LOG CABIN LITERARY CENTER. BOISE

oin us for our annual membership meeting and screening of NO TOMORROW, a film by Academy Award nominee Roger Weisberg and Vanessa Roth. NO TOMORROW focuses on the murder of Risa Bejarano, the principle subject of AGING OUT, a documentary about teenagers leaving foster care.

NO TOMORROW explores how a film about Risa's last year of life unex-

pectedly became the centerpiece of a homicide investigation and a trial that would determine whether the alleged killer would live or die. NO TOMORROW makes viewers question whether the administration of the death penalty is too imperfect, costly, discriminatory, and arbitrary to be a legitimate public policy. Ultimately, NO TOMORROW not only takes viewers inside a sus-

penseful death penalty trial, it challenges their beliefs about capital punishment.

The film will be preceded by an organizational update and followed by an announcement of board election results. Refreshments will be provided.

More information can be found on our website at www.acluidaho.org or by calling (208) 344-9750 x201.

