



2018 Annual Report

JUSTICE TAKES A FIGHT.

DISMANTLING

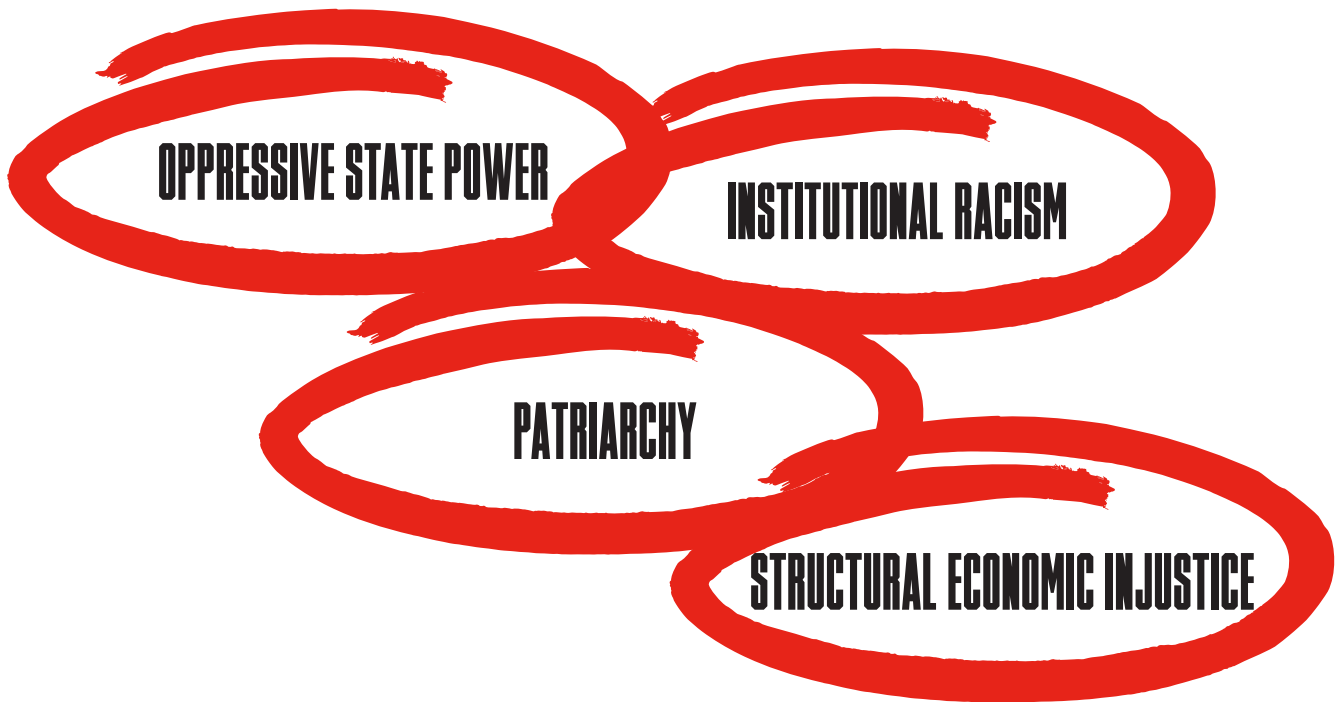
INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

PATRIARCHY

STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC INJUSTICE

OPPRESSIVE STATE POWER

CENTER FOR
CONSTITUTIONAL
RIGHTS



**JUSTICE
TAKES
A FIGHT.**

VISION

The Center for Constitutional Rights fights for a world without oppression—where people use their power to achieve justice and guarantee the rights of all.

MISSION

The Center for Constitutional Rights stands with social justice movements and communities under threat—fusing litigation, advocacy, and narrative shifting to dismantle systems of oppression regardless of the risk.

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Together, we are a force for justice!

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR KATHERINE FRANKE

The Center for Constitutional Rights' roots was born 52 years ago in the Mississippi Delta. We represented Fannie Lou Hamer and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in the struggle to secure the right to vote for African Americans. We went on to open an office in Greenville, Mississippi, and for over 20 years the Center for Constitutional Rights used that foundation to wage a radical, strategic, and movement-based fight to defend the right to vote, combat racist policing, and stand up for low-income workers of color. We even sued the Klan and won! We were forced to close that office in the 1990s, but we never backed away from a commitment to working with social movements in the South. Why? Because in so many respects the South in general, and Mississippi in particular, is the incubator for white supremacy in this country. The seeds get planted there and then propagate throughout the entire U.S.

As Ella Baker taught us: In order to see where we are going, we must remember where we have been. For this reason, last February the Center for Constitutional Rights' board and staff returned to Mississippi to make good on a pledge that we would not abandon our allies there. Vic McTeer, Judge Margaret McCrary, and Jaribu Hill – former Center for Constitutional Rights lawyers who led our work in the 1980s and 90s – welcomed us back to Jackson and Greenville, and laid out for us the devastating need for increased legal resources in the region – not just a national group parachuting in, extracting stories and plaintiffs, and then heading back home, but sustained local engagement with the community.

As chair of the Center for Constitutional Rights' board, I am delighted to share the news that we're going back to the South. We're already underway in launching – actually relaunching – the Center for Constitutional Rights South, and in making a significant commitment of people, time, and resources to build new capacity regionally in the South.

Of course, when we closed the Greenville office, our Southern work did not come to a halt. A couple of years ago we won a significant victory for women in Louisiana, ending a system by which they were selectively prosecuted under the state's sodomy statute and put on the sex offender registry. Right now, we're working hand-in-hand with racial and environmental justice activists in Louisiana to block the Bayou Bridge pipeline. In November, Vince Warren, the Center for Constitutional Rights' executive director, Omar Farah, one of our senior staff attorneys, and I were hosted by our board member Colette Pichon Battle, of the Gulf Coast Center for Law and Policy, on a tour of the Louisiana Delta South of New Orleans, to the land

of the United Houma Nation. We met with the current and former Houma Chiefs as well as other tribal leadership and witnessed the devastating consequences of rising seas on the traditional homeland of the Houma people. They are among the first “climate refugees” in the U.S. – a people being forcefully relocated to land on which they have no history or tradition because of government and corporate policies that have resulted in the flooding of their homeland.

With the Center for Constitutional Rights South initiative we are now planning a much more engaged presence by rekindling our longstanding alliances and building new ones so that we can help enhance social justice infrastructure in the region.

Of course, our other national and global work continues, with greater ferocity than ever. The Center for Constitutional Rights is working at the Southern border in partnership with local advocates, such as El Otro Lado, fighting the federal government's refusal to recognize the rights of refugees seeking asylum. We initiated new litigation challenging racist police stops in Buffalo, New York. Our advocates traveled to Yemen to document the outrageous reality of the Trump Administration's Muslim Ban, denying refuge in the U.S. to people fleeing a horrendous war zone. And we won important court victories against oil pipeline companies that are destroying the environment and people's lives at Standing Rock and in Louisiana.

Finally, as you may notice from this year's annual report, we've refreshed our look. We've got a new logo, tagline, and key messages that are compelling and eye catching, and which allow us to talk and showcase our work in a fresh, persuasive way. With this new look, we're trying to reach new audiences, primarily unaffiliated progressives who are aligned with the Center for Constitutional Rights' values and history, and are outraged at the politics of hatred, greed, nationalism, corruption, and authoritarianism that increasingly characterizes public and civic life both in the U.S and globally. Take a look at the Center for Constitutional Rights' new swagger – I think you'll agree that we're looking better than ever.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of the Center for Constitutional Rights' supporters: our donors, our movement partners, and our allies in the struggle for a more just and kind world. We're ready for the fight. Indeed, that's our new tagline: Justice Takes a Fight!!



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VINCE WARREN

In April, I was deported from Israel. Our board president, Katherine Franke, and I were leading the Center for Constitutional Rights' second delegation to Palestine to meet with Palestinian and Israeli lawyers and activists. When we arrived at Ben Gurion International Airport in Tel Aviv with the twelve other delegates – a cross section of progressive activists, lawyers, and artists – we were pulled from the delegation by Israeli security, interrogated about our political beliefs, separated from each other, with some of us put into detention cells, and detained for 14 hours before being put on a plane and sent back to New York. I shared a cell with travelers from different countries who had languished in lock-up for days and had no idea when they would be released.

I didn't know the exact hour I would be freed, but I knew I was going home, which is more than can be said for the people with whom I shared a cell, the many Palestinian people who seek to be reunified with their families, or our clients currently in Guantánamo and in immigrant detention. I wasn't beaten like Fannie Lou Hamer in Mississippi. I wasn't teargassed like my friends in Ferguson. I wasn't shot at like my colleagues at Standing Rock. And I wasn't tortured like our clients in Abu Ghraib. In short, the state of Israel gave me only a small taste of what repressive state power doles out across the world. There are many takeaways from my experience. The two most important are, first, that human rights and justice are often subject to whim and have to be constantly fought for, particularly on behalf of those who are the most vulnerable to abusive systems of oppression. Second, when people do fight for justice, there is always a powerful push back from those in power. Thus, our core mission to stand with social justice movements, human rights defenders, and those who protest human rights abuses regardless of the substantial risks they face is more important today than ever.

We are two years into the Trump administration and, yes, it is as bad as we thought it would be. The administration and its allies are working overtime to strengthen the tools of oppression, rewrite the rules, weaken international legal systems and stack the domestic ones. But at the Center for Constitutional Rights, we're working overtime as well. In our view, there is great cause for hope despite

the darkness of the current age. When an organization is committed to transforming the systems that maintain structural racism, structural gender oppression, economic oppression, and abusive state power, as the Center for Constitutional Rights is, it can always make clear and positive impacts no matter what they throw at us. When an organization sees social change as its client and dismantling oppressive power as its issue, as the Center for Constitutional Rights does, it can work both domestically and internationally; it can draw the connections between its racial and religious profiling work, its immigration work, and its work challenging the overreach of executive power. And when an organization works closely with the people committed to change, like the Center for Constitutional Rights does, it can support the important work of environmental activists, LGBTQI communities, Black organizers, and undocumented and Native communities who actually make change happen. Most organizations strive to do one of these things, but I'm proud to say that the Center for Constitutional Rights works to do all of them, and more.

Because of all of this, we have a lot of very good news to share in this report. We pledged to be a formidable foe to the new and deepening assaults on justice as long as our supporters stood with us, and you indeed remained by our side. Thank you. Once again, through your generosity, you are demonstrating what is possible when people use their power to achieve justice for all. This has been an excellent year for the Center for Constitutional Rights. We have achieved groundbreaking results on behalf of communities under constant siege and built stronger ties with the progressive movements fighting alongside them. I hope you will join me in taking great pride in the contents of this report and the work it represents. None of this work would be possible without you.

In gratitude and solidarity,

INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

Dismantling White Supremacy



“Well, if one really wishes to know how justice is administered in a country, one does not question the policemen, the lawyers, the judges, or the protected members of the middle class. One goes to the unprotected—those, precisely, who need the law’s protection most!—and listens to their testimony. Ask any Mexican, any Puerto Rican, any Black man, any poor person—ask the wretched how they fare in the halls of justice, and then you will know, not whether or not the country is just, but whether or not it has any love for justice, or any concept of it. It is certain, in any case, that ignorance, allied with power, is the most ferocious enemy justice can have.”

– James Baldwin



We want to thank our supporters for allowing the Center for Constitutional Rights to continue the bold civil rights legacy that was the seed of our organization more than 50 years ago. In 2018, we brought new challenges initiated by communities who are the target of racist policies and practices. Our longstanding and new cases moved forward successfully because of you.

Transforming the Police State

For years, police officers in St. Louis and surrounding Missouri counties have been given the power to arrest and detain residents without probable cause or judicial oversight by issuing what they call a “wanted.” A wanted is, essentially, the equivalent of a statewide arrest warrant that permits summary arrest and 24-hour detention without the safeguards of the warrant process. Wanted, used for serious state-level crimes and minor code violations alike, including traffic offenses, are part of the pernicious race- and class-based law enforcement practices that have gone largely unchecked in the St. Louis area despite the intense scrutiny that accompanied the killing of Michael Brown four years ago. In a state of six million people, two million wanteds have been issued, leading to innumerable unconstitutional arrests of Black residents. In 2016, the Center for Constitutional Rights joined a class action lawsuit, *Furlow v. Belmar*, with Arch City Defenders of St. Louis, a grassroots poverty law and criminal defense organization, to challenge this unconstitutional practice. The suit’s lead petitioner, Dwayne Furlow, was pulled over for traffic infractions – including having his temporary dealer’s plates displayed in the front of his car instead of the back – and then arrested and detained after police ran his name and discovered an old wanted that had been issued simply because Mr. Furlow had refused to answer an officer’s question in connection with a minor dispute with his neighbor. The wanteds practice causes low-income residents and people of color to fear leaving their house for routine life activities because they can be subject to such arbitrary and summary arrest and detention. This case is in the late stages of discovery, and oral argument on class certification and cross motions for summary judgment took place February 28. At the judge’s request, we subsequently submitted a briefing on the question of whether it is constitutional under the Fourth Amendment to detain someone solely for purposes of interrogation. We await the court’s ruling.

Confronting Racist and Economically-Driven Traffic Enforcement Practices

In June, the Center for Constitutional Rights joined with the National Center for Law and Economic Justice and the Western New York Law Center to file a federal class action lawsuit, **Black Love Resists in the Rust v. City of Buffalo**, on behalf of residents of Buffalo, New York, who are suing the City for a traffic enforcement program designed to ensnare poor and Black and Latinx residents. The plaintiffs are Black Love Resists in the Rust, a grassroots racial justice and police accountability organization, and individual Black Buffalo residents who are demanding an end to vehicle checkpoints and abusive traffic-ticketing practices targeting the poor neighborhoods on Buffalo's highly segregated East Side. Not only do the checkpoints target and demean people of color, they are economically exploitative. Since 2015, when the State of New York allowed Buffalo to keep all of the revenue from traffic tickets, Buffalo police officers dramatically increased the number of tickets they issued and added significant revenue (\$4



PROVIDING ACTIVISTS WITH IMPORTANT TOOLS AND INFORMATION TO FURTHER THE MOVEMENT

COINTELPRO 2.0: The RACE PAPER

In July 2016, the Center for Constitutional Rights and Color of Change filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking information from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the FBI on the surveillance and monitoring of Black activists. After DHS and the FBI refused to comply with our FOIA request, a district court judge ordered the agencies to turn over all relevant documents. The hundreds of pages of emails, reports, policies and other documents we discovered confirm the targeted surveillance that many Black activists and organizers around the country have reported and raise troubling questions about the agency's approach to Black people engaging in protected First Amendment activity. One set of documents show how federal agencies characterized Black protestors as "Black Supremacist Extremists" and portrayed protected First Amendment protest activity as violence-inciting in order to provide justification for the surveillance of activists. Among those documents publicly released was a report entitled "Growing Frequency of Race-Related Domestic Terrorist Violence," referred to by DHS as the "Race Paper." The "Race Paper" was sent to us in completely redacted form. When we sued to uncover its contents, the court unfortunately ruled against us. However, its existence provides another opportunity to push lawmakers to stop the blatant government surveillance and criminalization of Black organizing.



Briefing Guide: The DHS "Race Paper"

Color of Change (COC), the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR), and the Kramer Law Clinic are currently litigating under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to uncover how the FBI and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are monitoring and surveilling public protests regarding police violence, racial justice, and the Movement for Black Lives (MABL). Between May and December of 2017, DHS and the FBI turned over hundreds of pages of emails, reports, policies, and surveillance documents to us. While many of these documents were fully or partially redacted, it is clear from their substance that the FBI and DHS (including their sub-agencies) are surveilling the MABL as well as Black activists and organizers, reinforcing a law enforcement narrative that broadly criminalizes Black protestors.

One of the most concerning documents turned over to us is a fully-redacted report referred to as "the Race Paper." On March 16, the Center for Constitutional Rights and the Kramer Law Clinic filed a motion in federal court in order to force DHS to turn over an unredacted version of the document.

Email: The "Race Paper"

The DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis ("I&A") produced several emails sent in early 2017 between their personnel concerning a document they referred to as "the Race Paper." Each email attached a separate version of the document, and some emails contain some feedback from DHS personnel on the structure of the document, call for in-person meetings to discuss the paper, and expressly mention "drivers" and "indicators."

All versions of the "Race Paper" itself were produced to us, but in completely redacted form – nothing, not even the official title of the document, is visible. DHS claims the document is exempt from release to the public under certain statutes. Considering the documents are all fully black out, we are thus left to speculate, as to why DHS would prepare a document it refers to only as "the Race Paper" and then closely guard its contents, even to the point of concealing its actual title and a basic description.

LINKS:

- [Redacted version of the "Race Paper" \(Bates IA 508-516\)](#)
- [Race Paper Email \(Bates IA 259-70\)](#)



During the press conference to announce the filing of Black Love Resists in the Rust v. City of Buffalo, Dorethea Franklin, one of the plaintiffs, explains how the Buffalo Police Department has been targeting Black and poor communities for money.

million in 2017 alone) to the city budget. Buffalo's use of this program to balance the City's budget on the backs of low-income people of color whom it has historically deprived of economic resources is a form of racialized economic exploitation. The checkpoints block off residents' streets and prevent them from traveling in and out of their neighborhoods without being stopped and possibly searched as they go about their daily activities, such as going to work or school. One resident had checkpoints setup directly in front of her driveway on many occasions requiring her to go through a roadblock just to enter or exit her home. Thousands have had their licenses suspended because they could not pay the substantial fines accrued from all of the tickets they received. One Black Buffalo driver received four expensive tickets during one traffic stop for having tinted windows—one ticket for each window. This lawsuit represents the Center for Constitutional Rights' long-term goals of dismantling structural racism and economic injustice.

Reforming the NYPD

In July, the court-appointed facilitator issued his final report and recommendations for community-generated reforms in the Center for Constitutional Rights' landmark class-action lawsuit **Floyd v. City of New York**. Less than a month later, Judge Analisa Torres issued two orders stemming from the facilitator's recommendations. The first instructed the New York Police Department (NYPD) to begin a pilot program for electronically recording all police-citizen low-level investigative encounters to study the potential benefits and costs of implementing the requirement department-wide.

The second ordered the NYPD to create an additional pilot program that would record many of those encounters on officers' body-worn cameras. Our work to change the NYPD's culture of hostility to Black and Latinx people is far from complete. We continue to work with the Department to develop new procedures and training materials for NYPD investigations of racial profiling complaints, the NYPD's handling of substantiated civilian complaints, and internal NYPD monitoring of the constitutionality of officer stop-and-frisk activity.



Replanting and Rebuilding the Center for Constitutional Rights' Roots in the Crucible of White Supremacy



Center for Constitutional Rights Board and Staff at Fanny Lou Hamer Monument in Ruleville, Mississippi, February 2018

In February 2018, the Center for Constitutional Rights Board of Directors traveled to Greenville and Jackson, Mississippi, to reconnect with our work and allies there. Mississippi is the programmatic birthplace of the Center for Constitutional Rights, Greenville was the home of our southern office which operated for more than 20 years, during which time we engaged in groundbreaking work with movements across the south. Our goal is to rekindle longtime partnerships and build new ones with groups and people on the ground who continue to do the work necessary to dismantle the unique forms of oppression that manifest in the American South.

PATRIARCHY

Fighting Gender Oppression



"There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because WE DO NOT LIVE SINGLE-ISSUE LIVES."



- Audre Lorde

We thank our supporters who have made possible the Center for Constitutional Rights' efforts to expand our role in the fight for gender justice and to deepen our work as fierce allies of survivors of sexual violence and other torture.

Stopping the Export of Hate

Our path-breaking lawsuit on behalf of Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG), a non-profit LGBTQI advocacy organization in Uganda, against Massachusetts-based anti-gay extremist Scott Lively (*Sexual Minorities Uganda v. Scott Lively*), was ongoing this year. In a scathing ruling, the court granted Lively the dismissal he sought but made clear it was on the basis of a technical, jurisdictional ground, while at the same time validating—in the strongest terms—SMUG's central claims as to Lively's active participation in the conspiracy to strip away fundamental rights of LGBTQI people in Uganda. In an effort to erase the court's damning language excoriating his persecution of LGBTQI people, Lively appealed his victory. The move failed. In August, the First Circuit Court of Appeals denied his appeal. The record of his bigotry and persecution will remain intact. The work of SMUG and the Center for Constitutional Rights will go on as we look to use our experience in this case in support of the ongoing fights against the export of hate and persecution.

Demanding Vatican Accountability for Sexual Violence and Torture

For the past eight years, the Center for Constitutional Rights has worked closely with the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) to hold the Vatican accountable for practices and policies that enable widespread rape and sexual violence by Catholic clergy (*SNAP v. the Pope*). Following this summer's release of a grand jury report detailing pervasive sexual violence across the state and a cover-up by senior leaders of the Catholic Church in Pennsylvania and at the Vatican, the Center for Constitutional Rights and SNAP sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Justice demanding a full-scale, nationwide investigation of those responsible for the system that has enabled such crimes. We also joined SNAP and the global human rights organization Ending Clergy Abuse in a protest and press conference outside the Vatican embassy in Washington, D.C. to demand the release of church files. Additionally, we called upon the Vatican to condemn any suggestion by some church officials that rape and sexual violence against children is linked to or caused by sexual orientation of either the victim or the offender.

The Case against SCOTT LIVELY

Produced for the Center for Constitutional Rights by Andy Warner

In 2009, radical U.S. evangelical minister Scott Lively headlined an anti-gay conference in Uganda.

Lively discussed legislation to target the LGBTQI community with Ugandan politicians, and planned ways to drum up public support for it.

The gay movement is an evil institution that's goal... is to defeat the marriage-based society... and replace it with a culture of sexual promiscuity...!

An effective strategy is to emphasize the issue of homosexual recruitment of children.²

Ugandan MP David Bahati then introduced a harsh anti-gay law, which would ban LGBTQI groups and force families to report gay relatives.

Here in Uganda we have a problem of people promoting homosexuality, especially using money and materials to recruit young people.³

Ugandan Member of Parliament, David Bahati

That anti-gay legislation has just been signed into law by the President of Uganda.

But now an umbrella organization of Ugandan LGBTQI groups called Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG) has brought the fight back to its source - all the way back to the man who laid out a clear battleplan for their oppression.

U.S.A. Uganda

SMUG is suing Lively in U.S. courts for persecution.

Ending Discrimination in the Public and Private Spheres

In the landmark 2003 decision in *Lawrence v. Texas*, the United States Supreme Court declared that state statutes criminalizing sodomy are unconstitutional, in part because of the broader stigma such laws project onto same-sex couples. But more than a decade later, Mississippi still has an “Unnatural Intercourse” statute on the books – and is enforcing it by requiring people with convictions under this statute to register as sex offenders. *Doe v. Hood* argues that Mississippi’s Unnatural Intercourse statute, as well as its sex offender registration requirement, is unconstitutional, violating both due process and equal protection principles.

In 2013, the Center for Constitutional Rights successfully challenged Louisiana’s requirement that people convicted under the Crime Against Nature by Solicitation (CANS) statute register as sex offenders. Our work resulted in the removal of more than 800 people from Louisiana’s sex offender registry, alleviating the onerous and humiliating conditions it imposed, predominantly upon poor people of color. *Doe v. Hood* similarly challenges the application of Mississippi’s unconstitutional Unnatural Intercourse statute to those with CANS convictions from Louisiana.

The Center for Constitutional Rights and co-counsel filed our complaint in October 2016. In May 2018, we reached a partial settlement to remove from the Mississippi sex offender registry four plaintiffs and 26 others who had out-of-state convictions under the Louisiana CANS statute. These 30 women and men were able to start new lives having expunged the unlawful requirement that they register. The case continues in the name of one plaintiff, Arthur Doe, whose guilty plea to Unnatural Intercourse in Mississippi dates to 1978. In May, we also filed a motion for summary judgment to strike down the statute and to remove Arthur Doe from the registry on due process and equal protection grounds.

On October 1, the court issued an order stating that Mississippi’s statute “appears to be unconstitutional” and that Doe “should not be subject to the stigmatizing requirements imposed by” the Mississippi Sex Offender Registry, but questioned whether Doe needed to undo

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
NORTHERN DIVISION

ARTHUR DOE; BRENDA DOE; CAROL DOE;
DIANA DOE; and ELIZABETH DOE

PLAINTIFFS

V.

CAUSE NO. 3:16-CV-789-CWR-FKB

JIM HOOD; MARSHALL FISHER;
CHARLIE HILL; COLONEL CHRIS
GILLARD; and LT. COLONEL LARRY
WAGGONER

DEFENDANTS

ORDER

In 1978, Arthur Doe¹ pleaded guilty to violating Mississippi’s “Unnatural Intercourse” law. Miss. Code Ann. § 97-29-59. The statute prohibits oral and anal sex, or what is also known as sodomy. As a result of his conviction, Doe was later required to register as a sex offender.

In *Lawrence v. Texas*, 539 U.S. 558 (2003), the Supreme Court held that a Texas statute, criminalizing same-sex sodomy, violated the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. That decision overruled *Bowers v. Hardwick*, 478 U.S. 186 (1986), in which the Supreme Court had upheld the constitutionality of a Georgia statute that criminalized sodomy.

Fifteen years later, Mississippi continues to enforce its pre-*Lawrence* prohibition on “unnatural intercourse.” Mississippi requires persons convicted under the statute, or an equivalent out-of-state offense, to register with the Mississippi Sex Offender Registry (MSOR).

Doe asserts that the anti-sodomy law is unconstitutional on its face and as applied to him under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Alternatively, he argues that his inclusion on the MSOR violates the Equal Protection Clause. Mississippi responds that

¹ The Court granted Plaintiffs’ Motion to Proceed Under Pseudonyms. See June 2, 2017 Order.

his conviction in state court prior to seeking relief in federal court. A hearing on the parties' motions for summary judgment was held on October 10, 2017 and we continue to await a decision.

The Center for Constitutional Rights Family, Past and Present, Honored for Gender Justice Work

Center for Constitutional Rights Senior Staff Attorneys Katherine Gallagher and Pam Spees and their mentor and former Center for Constitutional Rights Staff Attorney and Board Member, the late Rhonda Copelon, were inducted onto the International Criminal Court's (ICC) inaugural Gender Justice Wall. Along with friend, colleague and client, the late Barbara Blaine, who founded the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP), their names will be inscribed on the installation, which will be permanently housed at the ICC's headquarters in The Hague.

Those selected for this prestigious honor were chosen because their work contributed to advances in the gender justice field over the past 125 years.

Copelon spearheaded much of the Center for Constitutional Rights' early reproductive justice work, was one of the lead attorneys in the first human rights case brought under the Alien Tort Statute, and went on to found the International Women's Human Rights Clinic at CUNY School of Law and the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice, which provided the legal support for a gender perspective in the negotiations of the treaty that established the ICC.

Pam had served as program director of the Women's Caucus, where she played an important role in having the prosecution of crimes of sexual and gender violence become a basic part of the treaty that established the ICC.

With Pam, Barbara Blaine, and SNAP, Katie has worked to have widespread rape and other forms of sexual violence within the Catholic Church recognized as torture and a crime against humanity. She is also working to solidify such legal principles at international institutions.



Rhonda Copelon



Katherine Gallagher



Pamela Spees



Barbara Blaine

OPPRESSIVE ECONOMIC STRUCTURES

Combating Abusive Corporate Power

“When morality comes up against profit, it is seldom that profit loses.”
– Shirley Chisholm



Much of the Center for Constitutional Rights' work in 2018 challenging the outsized power of corporations and the ensuing injustices involved field work by our staff. None of it would have been possible without a critical substantial investment by you and other dedicated supporters.



Local community members held a rally demanding an evacuation route for residents in the area from the continuing construction of the Bayou Bridge Pipeline, September 2018. Taken by the Louisiana Bucket Brigade, the Center for Constitutional Rights' client in our No Bayou Bridge Pipeline litigation and advocacy project.

No Bayou Bridge Pipeline

No Bayou Bridge Pipeline is a Center for Constitutional Rights' litigation and advocacy project to help communities and groups in Louisiana halt a proposed oil pipeline set to run through some of the state's most sensitive and important wetlands and sources of drinking water. Energy Transfer Partners (ETP), the company behind the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL), is in the process of constructing a 162-mile pipeline in Louisiana that would run through 11 parishes and cut across 700 waterways, including the Atchafalaya Basin, disproportionately affecting Black and indigenous communities. The Center for Constitutional Rights has joined local faith leaders, fishermen, conservationists, and advocates for environmental and social justice in their united opposition to the pipeline. Our public records requests have revealed that Louisiana state intelligence officers surveilled community groups opposed to the pipeline, and that ETP had access to, and coordinated efforts with, high-level government employees. Emails released

through this request also revealed that Louisiana officials are aligned with a growing national trend of surveillance intended to intimidate those who exercise their First Amendment rights. The Center for Constitutional Rights is also representing activists opposing the pipeline who have been charged under a new law that punishes protests at pipeline construction sites with felonies and up to five years' imprisonment. We are also defending landowners in a significant case brought by the pipeline company in which they are trying to seize their land.

Pushing Back on Lawsuits Aimed at Silencing Protest—You Can't Sue a Movement!

Large corporations are again turning to Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs) to silence criticism and chill protest against their harmful practices by individual activists and nonprofits. A favorite tool used in these suits is the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), which was designed to make it easier for the government to sue the Mafia, but now is being used to recast activists as organized criminals and cripple their ability to organize against abusive corporate acts. In August, the Center for Constitutional Rights



Center for Constitutional Rights Managing Attorney Shane Kadidal speaks at a New York rally to launch the national Protect the Protest task force, September 2018. Taken by Protect the Protest.

defeated an effort by Energy Transfer Partners and Trump's law firm, Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP, to sue the Earth First! movement in a far-fetched and sprawling case against a number of environmental groups and activists. Earth First! is the name of a philosophy of environmental activism based on biocentrism, direct action to protect the Earth, and refusing to compromise with earth-destroying corporations. The Center for Constitutional Rights represents the Earth First! Journal in district court in North Dakota and won dismissal of Earth First! from the case because you can't sue a movement, idea, or philosophy.

Confronting Corporate Human Rights Violations Inside the Courtroom

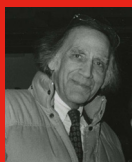
In 2008, the Center for Constitutional Rights filed a federal lawsuit, ***Al Shimari v. CACI***, on behalf of four Iraqi civilians who were tortured at the notorious Abu Ghraib prison. Hired by the U.S. government to perform interrogation services, CACI Premier Technology, Inc. conspired to commit torture and other war crimes at the prison. Despite CACI's many efforts to have the case dismissed, the Center for Constitutional Rights is headed to trial April 23, 2019. This year brought two successes. Following victories before the Fourth Circuit and the district court, where our plaintiffs' international human rights claims brought under the Alien Tort Statute (ATS) were found to sufficiently "touch and concern" the United States as to warrant being heard in a U.S. court, and that claims of illegal conduct, including torture and war crimes, do not raise a "political question." In February, the district court affirmed that our clients had sufficient evidence to support their claims of torture, war crimes, and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment. And in July, the court ruled that the recent U.S. Supreme Court case, ***Jesner v. Arab Bank***, did not bar our case against a domestic corporation. (the Center for Constitutional Rights had filed an amicus brief in *Jesner*).

CONFRONTING CORPORATE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OUTSIDE THE COURTROOM

The Center for Constitutional Rights has been active in trying to hold corporations accountable for human rights abuses, be they military contractors who conspired to torture detainees at Abu Ghraib or perpetrators of wanton pollution of communities.

To that end, we have advised those advocating for a new U.N. treaty to regulate corporations with respect to international human rights violations, pressing for provisions that would restrict the undue influence that corporations have over the policy and law making process – a phenomenon known as 'corporate capture.' We support local fights against corporate capture in places like Louisiana, where we have revealed how oil companies engage in secretive lobbying efforts, leverage connections to develop special access to decision makers, and have a revolving door of company staff working inside public agencies. We are building on these activities by convening strategy gatherings for allied organizations, progressive lawyers, and movement partners to collectively develop a deeper and more sustained strategy for directly addressing the impacts of trade associations and other vested money interests in the democratic process.

"I SUSPECT THAT MORE PEOPLE HAVE GONE TO THEIR DEATHS THROUGH A LEGAL SYSTEM than through all the illegalities in the history of man: six million people in Europe during the Third Reich. Legal. Sacco and Vanzetti. Legal. The hundreds of great trials throughout the South where black men were condemned to death.



All legal. Jesus. Legal. Socrates. Legal...All tyrants learn that it is far better to do

this thing through some semblance of legality than to do it without that pretense."

- Bill Kunstler

ABUSIVE STATE POWER

Challenging Unjust Government Policies

Activists and organizers need very strong partnerships to challenge abuses of power by government institutions, which have virtually endless resources to beat back those who seek to hold them accountable. This is where the Center for Constitutional Rights' supporters are like no other; you are resolute in your solidarity with the most vulnerable communities and people in the biggest fights of their lives. You make sure that the Center for Constitutional Rights has the capacity to be as relentless in our fight for social change as our adversaries are in maintaining their systems of oppression.

Fighting for Asylum Seekers: When the State Criminalizes Refugees

Dating back to at least 2016, the Center for Constitutional Rights and other immigrants' rights advocates received reports that the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) was unlawfully turning away asylum seekers along the U.S.-Mexico border. Every year, many of thousands of people flee state-sponsored or gang violence in Central America and Mexico and seek safe haven in the U.S. In response, CBP callously and unlawfully turns away these asylum seekers to face violence or death. In July 2017, the Center for Constitutional Rights, along with American Immigration Council and Latham & Watkins LLP, filed *Al Otro Lado v. Kelly*, a class action lawsuit against officials at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and CBP in federal court in California. In September 2018, the court ruled that our lawsuit could proceed, affirming our claim that DHS and CBP officials have the obligation to process asylum seekers and that they would be held liable if our allegations were proven true. The judge further held that those asylum seekers can proceed with legal action against high-level officials for not fulfilling their responsibilities under domestic and international law. It was a momentous ruling. We look forward to the possibility of finding information that may uncover many policy-level decisions that stem directly from Trump's nativist vision for America.

Seeking Justice for the Victims of Extrajudicial Killings

After a historic trial in April, a federal jury found the former president of Bolivia and his minister of defense responsible for the 2003 killings of 58 civilians – many of them indigenous people—in a military crackdown to suppress popular protests against government policies, including plans to privatize the country’s natural gas reserves by selling them to foreign corporations. The verdict in **Mamani v. Sánchez de Lozada and Sánchez Berzaín** came after a ten-year legal battle spearheaded by family members of those killed in what is known in Bolivia as the “Gas War.” Both the former Bolivian president, Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, and his former defense minister, José Carlos Sánchez Berzaín, have lived in the United States since they fled Bolivia following the massacre in 2003. All nine plaintiffs, survivors of loved ones killed, attended the trial, marking the first time in U.S. history a former head of state has sat before his accusers in a U.S. human rights trial. After the Center for Constitutional Rights and our co-counsel conducted a four-week trial in Fort Lauderdale, FL, the jury awarded \$10 million in compensatory damages to the plaintiffs. The defendants filed a motion asking the court to set aside the jury’s findings – which, remarkably, the judge granted. The plaintiffs have appealed, and the Center for Constitutional Rights will continue to represent them along with co-counsel, Harvard Law School’s International Human Rights Clinic; and the law firms of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP; Schonbrun, Seplow, Harris & Hoffman, LLP; and Akerman LLP. Additionally, lawyers, Judith Chomsky and Beth Stephens, from the Center for Law, Justice and Society (Dejusticia) are cooperating attorneys.



Demanding Justice: Abusive State Power Trampling on Religious Freedom

We challenged the FBI’s use of the “No-Fly List” to coerce law-abiding Muslim Americans into spying on their religious communities in our lawsuit **Tanvir v. Tanzin**. In May, a panel of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated the lawsuit against 16 FBI agents in a landmark decision that provides an important tool to protect Muslims and other religious minorities from discrimination by federal officials. The ruling ensures that individuals may sue individual federal officials for money damages under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act for acts of religious discrimination.



Tanvir v. Tanzin co-counsel (faculty from CUNY School of Law’s CLEAR Project and attorneys from Debevoise & Plimpton LLP), current and former CUNY students, Center for Constitutional Rights Legal Director Baher Azmy, and Center for Constitutional Rights Senior Managing Attorney Shane Kadidal.

On April 5, the Center for Constitutional Rights and our co-counsel, Muslim Advocates and Gibbons P.C., announced a landmark settlement in **Hassan v. City of New York**, a federal lawsuit that challenged the New York Police Department’s suspicionless surveillance of Muslim Americans in New Jersey solely because of their Muslim

identity. In a Pulitzer Prize-winning series of stories released in 2011, the Associated Press revealed that after the 9/11 attacks, the NYPD established a sprawling and secretive human mapping and surveillance program that targeted American Muslim communities in New York, New Jersey, and beyond. The litigation produced a landmark appellate court ruling likening the City's specious terrorism-prevention justification for Muslim surveillance to the treatment of Japanese-Americans in World War II, and calling such blatant discrimination unconstitutional.

Fighting Indefinite Solitary Confinement

Ashker v. Governor of California is a federal class action lawsuit on behalf of prisoners in the Security Housing Unit (SHU) at California's Pelican Bay State Prison who spent a decade or more in solitary confinement. In 2015, after years of intensive litigation, the Center for Constitutional Rights reached a landmark settlement with the State of California which effectively ended the state's policy of indefinite solitary confinement and brought broad public awareness to this issue as a human rights violation. Since the settlement, the Center for Constitutional Rights has continued to work with our legal partners and the prisoner representatives to monitor the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's (CDCR's) compliance. While over 1,200 individuals have been moved from solitary confinement into the general population, our work in monitoring the CDCR's compliance with the settlement continues.

In July, we won a motion arguing that CDCR had violated the settlement agreement by transferring our class members from solitary confinement into general population units that have very similar conditions to those we fought against. We are currently in court designing a remedy, and we won the right for our clients to be there with us to take part in the negotiation.

At the same time, we are seeking to ensure the court's protection of our clients on other grounds. In 2017, at the close of the initial two-year monitoring period, our investigation revealed that, despite the reforms required by the settlement, CDCR was continuing to violate the constitutional rights of *Ashker* class members by systemically misusing confidential information to return class members to solitary and denying our clients a fair opportunity for parole. Consequently, in November we filed a motion to enable us to conduct an additional year of monitoring and court supervision and to order CDCR to remedy the continuing constitutional violations. After that motion was filed, we were granted another order from the court stating that CDCR had failed to produce all the documents required by the settlement which then required CDCR to produce thousands of additional pages of rule violation reports. We used this new evidence to file a supplemental brief this past July, documenting a huge number of additional due process violations in CDCR's use of confidential information. A decision on our request for an extended monitoring period is expected soon.

STATE-SANCTIONED TORTURE

Mental Health Consequences Following Release from Long-Term Solitary Confinement in California

Consultative Report Prepared for the
Center for Constitutional Rights

Human Rights in Trauma Mental Health Lab, Stanford University



ADVOCATING FOR PALESTINIANS' RIGHTS

We fight for the rights of Palestinians inside and outside the courtroom. In court, we are defending the right of Olympia Coop board members to boycott Israeli goods and the right of Fordham students to create a Students for Justice in Palestine chapter on campus. Meanwhile, in the United Nations we have been pushing for the development of a database that would publicly list the companies working in settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory. Despite the Trump administration's efforts to limit such public information, this database would create transparency and an important pressure point on private actors to respect international law.

We convene our partners to raise awareness and coordinate strategy. In December 2017, we co-sponsored a discussion during the International Criminal Court's (ICC) Assembly of States Parties session at the United Nations. The panel, "The Situation of Palestine: A Test for the ICC," elaborated upon the challenges faced by those supporting the opening of an investigation by the ICC into crimes committed by Israeli actors on the territory of Palestine. The Center for Constitutional Rights set out the case for war crimes rising out of Israel's 2014 military attack on Gaza and the inhumane 11-year closure of Gaza, and stressed the urgent need to open an investigation into these actions.

In addition, the Center for Constitutional Rights is supporting the building of cross-movement solidarity between Palestinian rights advocates and other communities we work with, including activists in the First Nations, racial justice, feminist, Puerto Rican and immigrant rights communities. We seek to build shared analysis while offering support to these communities' cross-movement actions. We work with partners in making calls for accountability for violations of international law, such as demanding that U.S. officials investigate Israel's use of lethal force against Palestinian protesters during the Great March of Return, and condemning the Trump Administration's recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and moving the U.S. Embassy there.



The Center for Constitutional Rights is on the frontlines of efforts advocating for the rights of prisoners in the U.S. and abroad. In addition to our path-breaking litigation from Pelican Bay to Guantánamo, we have issued reports that shed light on abusive practices and regularly engage with coalitions seeking to end inhumane prison conditions.

Addressing the impact of long-term solitary confinement, the Center for Constitutional Rights and the Stanford University Human Rights in Trauma Mental Health Lab published a report, “Mental Health Consequences Following Release from Long-Term Solitary Confinement in California.” The November 2017 report detailed the myriad and significant ways former inmates have been harmed by long-term isolation. This report supports our clients' experiences in equating such desolation with torture. We have shared this report with various groups and government officials, including state corrections departments, in order to document the shattering physiological and psychological effects of solitary confinement.

Addressing accountability for torture, we worked with dozens of national and grassroots organizations to protest the appointment of Gina Haspel to head the CIA. She had a direct role in the Bush-era torture program, sanctioning the torture of detainees at secret black sites and destroying tapes that documented their abuse. During her confirmation hearings in May, we co-sponsored a protest in Washington, D.C. that showcased her role in the torture of Muslim men abroad and spoke at a press conference with members of Congress.

SEEKING JUSTICE FOR PALESTINIANS

Palestine Delegation: The Center for Constitutional Rights and Interfaith Peace-Builders/Eyewitness Palestine conducted a very successful delegation from April 28-May 6, despite the denial of entry into Israel and detention of executive director Vince Warren and board president, Katherine Franke. The delegation was co-led by Jamil Dakwar (ACLU) and the Center for Constitutional Rights' attorney Diala Shamas — and proceeded with 12 other participants, predominantly Black and Brown social justice leaders. Dubbed the #JusticeDelegation, the group included Tara Houska, tribal rights attorney and National Campaigns Director of Honor the Earth; Ash-Lee Woodard Henderson, Co-Executive Director of the Highlander Center; Chase Iron Eyes, civil rights lawyer and member of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe; Tamika Mallory, National Co-Chair for the Women's March; Justin Hansford, Director of the Thurgood Marshall Center at Howard University; and Natasha Bannan, President of the National Lawyers Guild and the Center for Constitutional Rights board member. This was the Center for Constitutional Rights' second delegation to Palestine and Israel.



Members of the #JusticeDelegation and Center for Constitutional Rights staff at Palestine is Everywhere at DCTV in New York: a night of cultural resistance and a celebration of committing to work in the U.S. to support the realization of the rights of Palestinians, June 2018. (Top row, left to right: Center for Constitutional Rights Board Members Natasha Lycia Ora Bannan and Justin Hansford, Ash Lee Henderson, Center for Constitutional Rights Executive Director Vince Warren, Center for Constitutional Rights Advocacy Program Manager Dominic Renfrey. Bottom row; Jamil Dakwar, Chase Iron Eyes, Center for Constitutional Rights Staff Attorney Diala Shamas. Taken by Jordan E. Photography.

DAVIS V. COX:

“A victory for everyone who supports the right to boycott.” In March, a Washington State court ended a seven-year litigation battle against former volunteer board members of the Olympia Food Co-op over their decision to boycott Israeli goods. The court granted the motion for summary judgment from the former board members, who were represented by the Center for Constitutional Rights and co-counsel Davis Wright Tremaine. Plaintiffs have appealed.

AWAD V. FORDHAM:

In January, in a Manhattan courtroom filled to capacity, the Center for Constitutional Rights, Palestine Legal, and cooperating counsel Alan Levine argued a preliminary injunction motion and Fordham’s motion to dismiss on behalf of four students Fordham University prevented from forming a Students for Justice in Palestine club, because the university thought it would be “polarizing.” No decision has yet been made in this case.

Challenging Trump’s Guantánamo

For more than 17 years, the Center for Constitutional Rights has been at the forefront of the legal battle against indefinite detention and torture at Guantánamo, directly representing dozens of detainees in habeas cases, Periodic Review Boards, damages lawsuits, before military commissions, and engaging in advocacy to shut the prison camp. The Center for Constitutional Rights lawyers regularly travel to the base to meet with our clients. Today, 40 men are still being held at Guantánamo. Of these, approximately 70 percent have never been charged with a crime. Trump has made clear his intention to keep Guantánamo open and his desire to expand it by transferring new prisoners there. This is no surprise given his deep-seated racism and well documented antipathy toward Muslims – all the prisoners at Guantánamo are foreign-born Muslim men.

On January 11, 2018, the 16th anniversary of the opening of Guantánamo, the Center for Constitutional Rights, Reprieve, and co-counsel filed the first major challenge to Trump’s continued detention of men at the prison. Our motion, on behalf of 11 individuals, argues that Trump’s proclamation that he will not release any detainees during his administration, regardless of their circumstances, is arbitrary and unlawful, and amounts to “perpetual detention for detention’s sake.” For detainees like the Center for Constitutional Rights client Sharqawi Al Hajj, a torture survivor who is in poor health, continued detention may mean a death sentence.

The motion argues that prolonged, indefinite detention is unconstitutional because any legitimate rationale for initially detaining these men has long since expired; that it violates due process; and that detention policies are no longer grounded in some tailored national security rationale connected to a particular detainee’s facts but instead are rooted in Trump’s raw antipathy towards Muslims. Our primary goals remain the same – we demand the release of all remaining prisoners the government does not intend to charge, the transfer of military commission cases to federal courts, and the complete closure of the Guantánamo prison.



L-R: Center for Constitutional Rights clients, former Olympia Food Co-op board members, Brooke Howlett and Bruce Johnson (co-counsel at Davis Wright Tremaine), and Deputy Legal Director Maria LaHood outside Thurston County Superior Court in Olympia, WA, after winning our summary judgment motion in *Davis v. Cox*, March 2018.



ART AND ACTIVISM ON GUANTÁNAMO

We continue to raise awareness around the indefinite detention of prisoners at Guantánamo through a variety of means, including public education events.

In October 2017, we collaborated with Debi Cornwall, the prominent conceptual documentary artist, on the launch of her book, *Welcome to Camp America*, which provides a glimpse into everyday life at Guantánamo Bay and the growing diaspora of former prisoners. We held two public events that examined the prison through the lens of art, activism, and the law.

Two of our clients and former Guantánamo prisoners, Djamel Ameziane and Ghaleb Al-Bihani, exhibited their art, alongside works of other released and still-detained men, at a powerful exhibit, “Ode to the Sea,” shown at John Jay College. The exhibit garnered significant attention, from CBS Sunday Morning to arts-based publications like *Artsy*. Because of positive coverage of the exhibit and its artists, the Trump administration banned any more artwork from leaving the prison. The Center for Constitutional Rights partnered with other detainee attorneys on a letter to the Department of Defense urging prison authorities to reverse the policy, conducted media work to bring attention to the current conditions at the base, and hosted a closing panel and reception for the exhibit in January.

“For many years we were pictured as monsters...the worst of the worst, and I am sure many Americans believed that. Displaying the artwork is a way to show that we are people who have feelings, who are creative, that we are human beings.”—Djamel Ameziane, former Guantánamo prisoner represented by the Center for Constitutional Rights.

Artistic expression offers a humane view into the interior lives of our clients, as well as an engaging way to communicate our clients’ experiences to the public. We will continue to use this expressive vehicle to highlight the humanity of our clients and the injustices that state power can unleash.



Artwork by CCR clients and former prisoners
Djamel Ameziane and Ghaleb Al-Bihani



"Thirteen years ago, your country brought me here because of accusations about who I was and what I did. Confessions were beaten out of me in those secret prisons.Your president says there will be no more transfers from here. Am I going to die here?"

SHARQAWI AL HAJJ

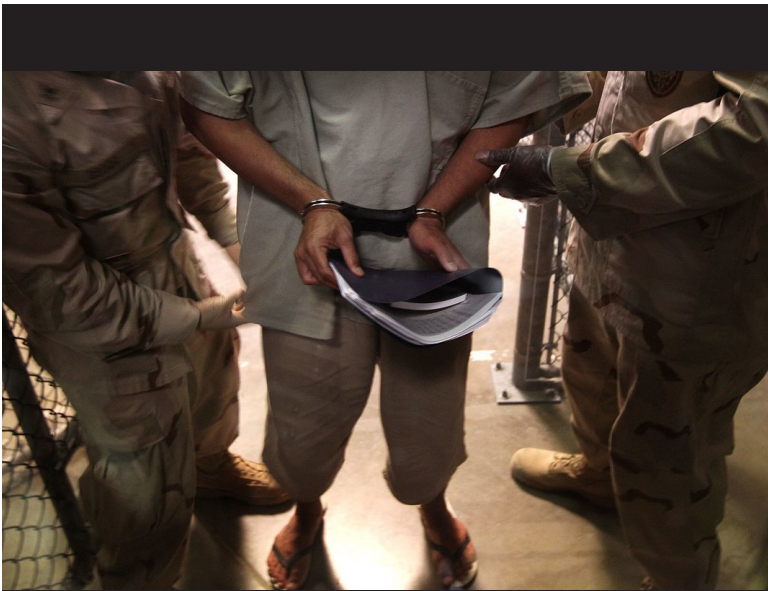
Newsweek

*Will I die at Guantánamo Bay?
After 15 years without charges, I deserve justice.*

January 11, 2018



L-R: Center for Constitutional Rights staff: Pardiss Kebriaei, Omar Farah, Baher Azmy, Aliya Hussain, and co-counsel Martha Rayner rally outside the White House to accompany the Guantánamo mass habeas filing on the 16th anniversary of the opening of Guantánamo, January 2018. Taken by Justin Norman.



“The indefinite detention of Muslim men and boys without charge or fair trial may have been normalized. But it is not normal, and it is not just, and it must end.”

Aliya Hana Hussain
Advocacy Program Manager

Teen Vogue, 9/11’s Anniversary Means 17 Years Since the Guantánamo Prison Opened, September, 2018

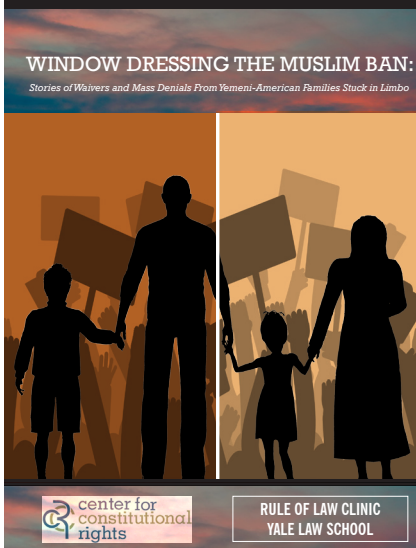
Yemeni American Justice Initiative (YAJI)

Although Yemeni Americans represent a significant immigrant population in the United States, they have historically been underserved. The Center for Constitutional Rights’s Yemeni American Justice Initiative aims to fill this gap by assessing the Yemeni community’s legal and advocacy needs, identifying opportunities for intervention, engaging in advocacy and litigation to support communities, and strengthening the connections between the community and organizations positioned to assist and empower it. Currently, thousands of Yemenis – mostly children and spouses seeking to be reunited with loved ones who are U.S. citizens and green card holders – are stranded abroad, banned from entering this country, and deprived of meaningful legal recourse. Many are escaping war and a humanitarian crisis in Yemen. In many ways, this manifestation of Trump’s Muslim Ban follows from already-entrenched immigration and law-enforcement policies targeting Yemeni communities.



2018 Ella Baker Interns at Yemeni American community press conference and Window Dressing the Muslim Ban Report launch, Foley Square, New York, 2018.

Window Dressing the Muslim Ban, a report by the Center for Constitutional Rights and the Rule of Law Clinic at Yale Law School, documents the impact of the Muslim Ban on Yemeni nationals applying for immigrant visas to the United States, the mass denial of waivers, and the resulting hardships inflicted upon Yemenis and Yemeni Americans.



The report garnered significant media attention. Released days before the Supreme Court issued its decision in *Hawaii v. Trump*, which upheld Trump's Muslim Ban, Justice Breyer quoted the report in his dissent, as part of the evidence before him that called into question the government's purported National Security justification for the Ban.

"Another report similarly indicates that the U.S. Embassy in Djibouti, which processes visa applications for citizens of Yemen, received instructions to grant waivers 'only in rare cases of imminent danger,' with one consular officer reportedly telling an applicant that "[e]ven for infants, we would need to see some evidence of a congenital heart defect or another medical issue of that degree of difficulty that . . . would likely lead to the child's developmental harm or death."

The report features stories of individuals affected by the ban, like Mr. Ali Alsuraymi. Ali's visa ordeal began in 2002 and he was subjected to years of delays, only to receive a denial in 2018 pursuant to the Ban. By including this broader context to the Ban, the Center for Constitutional Rights framed it as only the latest iteration of a long history of unjust exclusion of Yemeni immigrants.

WHAT IS THE MUSLIM BAN'S "WAIVER PROCESS"?

In January, the Center for Constitutional Rights and Muslim Advocates filed a FOIA request demanding documents from federal agencies related to the purported waiver scheme that has become the only avenue for relief for dozens of Iranian, Syrian, and Yemeni families seeking entry to the U.S. Despite the administration's claim that the waiver process would be "robust," we have documented reports of mass denials to people who should, according to the administration's guidelines, be eligible for a waiver, casting doubt on whether a meaningful process exists at all, or whether it is, in fact, left up to consular discretion as alleged.

"Thousands or millions of people's lives now depend on this waiver process. It's become their only hope...It's quite possible there isn't a waiver process along the lines of what's been described to us."

Diala Shamas
Center for Constitutional Rights Staff Attorney

New York Times, Trump's Travel Ban; How it Works and Who is Affected, July 2018

THE CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS IN THE NEWS

The Center for Constitutional Rights Communications Department has had an incredible year, spreading our unapologetically radical perspective—on issues from Guantánamo, to immigration, to policing, and more—to thousands of readers and viewers on traditional and social media, and expanding our use of new media such as videos and podcasts to reach new audiences.

Our strategies include:

- Press releases and statements on breaking news that get to reporters' inboxes first
- Our new podcast, *The Activist Files*, which features the stories of people on the front lines fighting for justice, including activists, lawyers, and artists
- Staying connected with reporters, producers, and bookers to keep them informed of our range of issues
- Op-eds from our clients and legal team offering radical thought leadership on the pages of major newspapers from the *New York Times* to the *Washington Post*
- Frequent appearances on MSNBC, Al Jazeera, Democracy Now! and more, bringing our distinctive analysis to TV audiences
- Facebook live streams to bring our thousands of supporters into the conversation during and after hearings, press conferences, and actions
- Growing engagement on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and our new Instagram account
- *Frontlines of Justice*, our weekly email newsletter that brings you the Center for Constitutional Rights' latest every Monday
- *The Daily Outrage*, the Center for Constitutional Rights' blog
- Emails on breaking news, upcoming events, and more

Your continued support enables the Center for Constitutional Rights to keep amplifying our uniquely radical perspective through diverse media channels, shift public opinion on our critical issues, and expand our audiences.

theguardian

International criminal court

Opinion

The ICC must hold the US accountable for crimes in Afghanistan

Katherine Gallagher

An investigation now would show no one is above the law when it comes to torture
Fri 16 Feb 2018



As dignitaries and civil society gather in The Hague this week to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC), the Court stands poised to



Dolly Filártiga

Oct 24, 2017, From WNYCSTUDIOS

Should the U.S. Supreme Court be the court of the world? In the 18th century, two feuding Frenchmen inspired a one-sentence law that helped launch American human rights litigation into the 20th century. The Alien Tort Statute allowed a Paraguayan woman to find justice for a terrible crime committed in her homeland. But as America reached further and further out into the world, the court was forced to confront the contradictions in our country's ideology: sympathy vs. sovereignty. Earlier this month, the Supreme Court heard arguments in *Jesner v. Arab Bank*, a case that could reshape the way America responds to human rights abuses abroad. Does the A.T.S. secure human rights or is it a dangerous overreach?

The key voices:

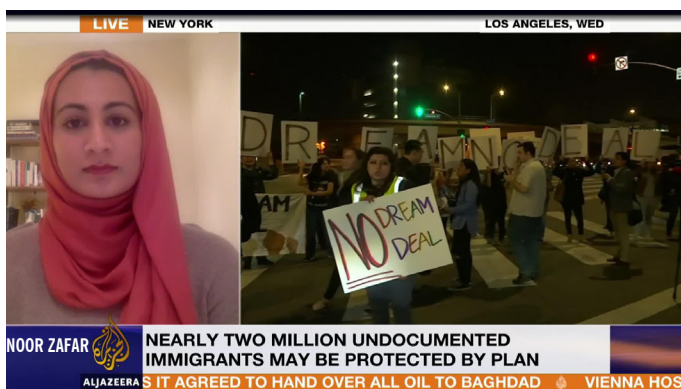
- Ken Saro-Wiwa Jr., son of activist Ken Saro-Wiwa Sr.
- Dolly Filártiga, sister of Joelito Filártiga
- Paloma Calles, daughter of Dolly Filártiga
- Peter Weiss, lawyer at the Center for Constitutional Rights who represented Dolly Filártiga in *Filártiga v. Peña-Irala*
- Katherine Gallagher, lawyer at the Center for Constitutional Rights
- Paul Hoffman, lawyer who represented Kiobel in *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Petroleum*
- John Bellinger, former legal adviser for the U.S. Department of State and the National Security Council
- William Casto, professor at Texas Tech University School of Law
- Eric Posner, professor at University of Chicago Law School
- Samuel Moyn, professor at Yale University
- René Horst, professor at Appalachian State University

The key cases:

- 1984: *Filártiga v. Peña-Irala*
- 2013: *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Petroleum*
- 2017: *Jesner v. Arab Bank*

The key links:

- [Center for Constitutional Rights](#)



BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MOVEMENT LAWYERS

BERTHA JUSTICE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Bertha Justice Fellowship Program is a two-year program for emerging lawyers (0-2 years out of law school) who are interested in gaining both practical experience working on Center for Constitutional Rights cases and a theoretical understanding of how legal advocacy can create social change. The Center for Constitutional Rights hosts four new Bertha Justice Fellows every two years.

The Bertha Justice Fellows are assigned to work alongside lawyers in one of our three docket areas: (1) Guantánamo Global Justice Initiative; (2) Government Misconduct/Racial Justice; and (3) International Human Rights. There are also opportunities to do work that straddles different dockets.

Bertha Justice Fellows at the Center for Constitutional Rights are sponsored by the Bertha Foundation, which hosts emerging lawyers at legal organizations across the world. In addition to gaining legal experience on the Center for Constitutional Rights' cases, Bertha Justice Fellows at the Center for Constitutional Rights have had opportunities to: (1) attend regional and international meetings, (2) network with lawyers from around the world, and (3) receive additional mentoring and non-traditional training in leadership, media and advocacy, activism, and movement building.

A new group of Bertha Justice Fellows started their time with the Center for Constitutional Rights in September 2018 and will be with us through September 2020.

Lupe Aguirre is a proud daughter and sister of immigrants and is dedicated to serving the immigrant-led movement for justice, dignity, and opportunity. Prior to the Center for Constitutional Rights, she worked with the National Immigration Law Center, ACLU of Southern California, Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, Berkeley Law's International Human Rights Clinic, and the Empire Justice Center. **Astha Sharma Pokharel** graduated from NYU School of Law. While there, she was a student advocate in the Global Justice Clinic and the Immigrant Rights Clinic, as well as an Ella Baker intern at the Center for Constitutional Rights. She comes back to the Center for Constitutional Rights from Namati in Washington, D.C., where she was a Global Programs Fellow. Astha is from Kathmandu and grew up in Rome, Italy. **Aya Saed** graduated with a law degree from Harvard and a master's in public affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. She was born in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to Sudanese parents, and migrated to the United States in 1999 to escape political and economic turmoil at home. She was among 30 recipients recently selected to receive the Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans. **Brittany Thomas** graduated from the University of Miami Law School. Prior to law school, Brittany worked with Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, where she promoted nonviolence and advocated for defendants' rights. Brittany also served as a HOPE Summer Public Interest Fellow with The Legal Aid Society of New York in the Criminal Division.

The Center for Constitutional Rights' Bertha Justice Fellows are at the heart of our mission to train the next generation of radical movement lawyers.



Lupe Aguirre



Astha Sharma Pokharel



Aya Saed



Brittany Thomas

BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MOVEMENT LAWYERS

ELLA BAKER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Center for Constitutional Rights created the Ella Baker Summer Internship Program in 1987 to honor the legacy of Ella Baker, a hero of the civil rights movement, and to train the next generation of social justice lawyers. Through our program, interns gain practical litigation experience and sharpen their theoretical understanding of the relationship between social change, organizing, and lawyering. Ella Baker Interns also become connected to a global community of social justice law students and lawyers through our Ella Baker Alumni Network.

Find out more about two of our 2017 Ella Baker Interns below. Their fresh perspectives and commitment to dedicating their lives to the fight for social justice give us hope for the future!



Carlos A. Castro

Carlos A. Castro has a background serving indigent clients and working in a public defender's office. He graduated from the Santa Clara University in Santa Clara, California with a degree in history, and started providing Spanish translation services for Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto, where he still volunteers.

After enrolling at the Santa Clara University School of Law, he worked and interned at various law offices and organizations, including the Homicide Division at the Santa Clara County, Office of the Public Defender.

At the division, he helped in trial preparation, administrative assistance, investigations, and also provided courtroom assistance.

During his internship at the Center for Constitutional Rights in the summer of 2017, Carlos worked on *Awad v. Fordham University*, a case against Fordham for not allowing students to form a Students for Justice in Palestine organization; *Al Otro Lado v. Kelly*, our class action lawsuit challenging Customs and Border Protection's unlawful practice of denying asylum seekers access to the asylum process; and our multi-pronged fight seeking accountability for torture in various cases.

Since his fellowship at the Center for Constitutional Rights, Carlos has been an extern at K. & G. Alexander Community Law Center's consumer law clinic, the Office of Staff Attorneys at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the Central Capital Staff at the Supreme Court of California.

"The lessons I learned and the people that I met during my time at the Center for Constitutional Rights have been a lasting influence in my professional and personal decision-making. I'm very grateful for having the opportunity to work with the amazing staff and fellow Ella Baker interns at the Center for Constitutional Rights."



Jilisa Milton

Jilisa Milton is a community-organizer-turned-law-student with a background in advocating for immigrants and an interest in policing matters. After graduating from the University of Alabama with a degree in social work, she served for two years in AmeriCorps. While there, she assisted in organizing service learning trips for groups to learn about the many challenges that undocumented immigrants face.

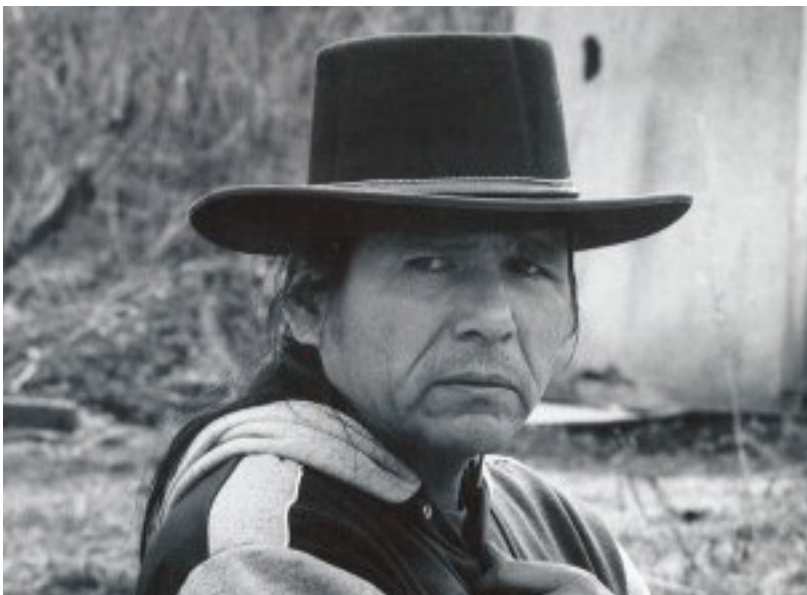
As a student at the University of Alabama School of Law, Jilisa interned at the Adelante Alabama Workers Center in Hoover, where she helped detained immigrants get released and fought for the closure of a poorly-run local detention center. As a law student, she took courses that melded her interest in social justice and using the law to activate reforms. She also became a core member of the Black Lives Matter–Birmingham Chapter.

During her internship at the Center for Constitutional Rights, Jilisa worked on *Floyd v. City of New York*, our case concerning stops and frisks in New York City, and *Color of Change v. DHS and FBI* which aimed to release information about any surveillance conducted against Movement for Black Lives activists. She also researched sex offender registries.

Since her internship, Jilisa has interned with the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery and received a Haywood Burns Fellowship from the National Lawyers Guild.

"My experience at the Center for Constitutional Rights was very impactful. It was inspiring to work with experienced attorneys who have done groundbreaking work, but who also have a philosophy grounded in community-centered litigation. I learned a lot from their skill and their fearless ambition, and the way that they responded immediately and intentionally when they felt compelled to act. My time there made me feel like I was a part of a family of like-minded people who cared about my success and my growth as a creative lawyer."

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
INSTITUTIONAL RACISM		
<p><i>Floyd v. City of New York</i></p>	<p>Federal class action lawsuit against the City of New York that successfully challenged the NYPD’s practice of racial profiling and unconstitutional stop and frisks, and that is now implementing broad reforms to NYPD policing practices.</p>	<p>Jonathan Moore and Luna Droubi of Beldock Levine & Hoffman LLP; Jenn Rolnick Borchetta of Bronx Defenders; Communities United for Police Reform (CPR)</p>
<p><i>Furlow v. Belmar</i></p>	<p>Federal class action lawsuit challenging the so-called Wanted system as used in St. Louis County, Missouri, because it routinely leads to unconstitutional arrests of predominantly Black residents.</p>	<p>Arch City Defenders (St. Louis); Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP</p>
<p><i>Color of Change v. FBI, DOJ & DHS</i></p>	<p>FOIA litigation against federal law enforcement agencies, seeking information on their surveillance of Movement for Black Lives' activists.</p>	<p>Color of Change; Avidan Cover of the Civil Rights and Human Rights Clinic at Case Western University School of Law</p>



Dennis Banks, CCR client in *U.S. vs. Banks* in 1974. Taken by Maddy Miller.

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<p><i>Phillips v. Snyder</i> (formerly <i>Bellant v. Snyder</i>)</p>	<p>Federal lawsuit challenging constitutionality of state-appointed “Emergency Managers” that took away local democratic processes in predominantly Black and Brown communities of Michigan.</p>	<p>John Philo, Anthony Paris, and Stephanie Vaught of Sugar Law Center; Bill Goodman and Julie Hurwitz of Goodman & Hurwitz, P.C.; Herbert Sanders of The Sanders Law Firm; Keith Flynn of Miller Cohen PLC; Cynthia Heenan and Alec Gibbs of Constitutional Litigation Associates; Mark P. Fancher, Michael J. Steinberg and Kary L. Moss of the ACLU Fund of Michigan; Samuel Bagenstos of University of Michigan Law School</p>
<p><i>Gulino v. Board of Education of the City of New York and the New York State Education Department</i></p>	<p>Federal class action lawsuit that successfully challenged the racially discriminatory impact of several standardized tests New York City used in a re-certification process for city public school teachers, and developing large back-pay award for class members.</p>	<p>DLA Piper; Josh Sohn of Watson Farley & Williams LLP; Samuel R. Miller</p>



CCR Staff celebrate their victory in reuniting a father and his young son separated under Trump's asylum ban, October 2018.

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<i>United States of America and Vulcan Society, Inc. v. City of New York</i>	Federal class action lawsuit on behalf of the Vulcan Society of Black firefighters, individual firefighters, and firefighter applicants who successfully challenged the New York City Fire Department’s racially discriminatory hiring and promotions practices.	Richard Levy, Dana Lossia, Robert Stroup, and Rebekah Cook-Mack of Levy Ratner, P.C.; Judy Scolnick of Scott + Scott LLP; The Vulcan Society
<i>Black Love Resists in the Rust v. Buffalo</i>	Federal class action lawsuit challenging racially-discriminatory and economically-exploitative traffic checkpoints in predominantly Black and Brown neighborhoods in Buffalo.	National Center for Law and Economic Justice, Western New York Law Center, Black Love Resists; Covington & Burling LLP
<i>Puerto Rico Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests</i>	Series of FOIA requests for information about the controversial and anti-democratic fiscal control board established in 2016 to address Puerto Rico’s debt crisis pursuant the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA).	Natasha Lycia Ora Bannan of LatinoJustice PRLDEF; Carla Minet of Centro de Periodismo Investigativo (Center for Investigative Journalism)
PATRIARCHY		
<i>Sexual Minorities Uganda v. Scott Lively</i>	Federal lawsuit against a U.S.-based anti-gay extremist for his active role in the conspiracy to strip away fundamental rights from LGBTQI people in Uganda, which constitutes the crime against humanity of persecution under international law.	Jeena Shah; Judith Chomsky; Dorsey & Whitney LLP; Luke Ryan of the Law Offices of Sasson Turnbull Ryan and Hoose; Christopher Betke of Coughlin-Betke, LLP
<i>State of Missouri v. Michael L. Johnson (Amicus)</i>	Amicus brief on behalf of Michael Johnson, a former Missouri college student sentenced to more than 30 years in prison for violating Missouri’s draconian HIV transmission and exposure statute.	Center for HIV Law & Policy; ACLU of Missouri Foundation
<i>Doe v. Hood</i>	Federal lawsuit challenging Mississippi’s ongoing enforcement of its sodomy statute through required sex offender registration, over a decade after such statutes were struck down by the Supreme Court.	Jacob W. Howard; Robert B. McDuff; Matthew Strugar

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) v. the Pope	Legal submissions before international human rights bodies and advocacy on behalf of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP) charging Vatican officials with enabling and concealing widespread and systematic sexual violence against children and vulnerable adults by Catholic clergy.	Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP); Bishop Accountability; Ending Clergy Abuse (ECA)
OPPRESSIVE ECONOMIC STRUCTURES		
Energy Transfer Equity, v. Greenpeace, Earth First!	Defending Earth First! Journal in SLAPP (Strategic lawsuit against public participation) brought by pipeline company designed to harass environmental activists.	Greenpeace, Earth Rights International
Center for Constitutional Rights v. St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office	A case brought under the Louisiana public records law seeking the release of records relating to the travel to Standing Rock of the sheriff, who served as president of the National Sheriffs Association, and his employees, as well as communications with the pipeline company and private security firms.	Bill Quigley
Atchafalaya Basinkeeper, Louisiana Bucket Brigade, and 350 New Orleans v. Bayou Bridge Pipeline, LLC	A case brought to enforce the Louisiana public records against a pipeline company, which has been delegated the power of eminent domain, seeking records concerning their land expropriations across the 162 mile route of the pipeline.	Bill Quigley



Yemeni-American community press conference and Window Dressing the Muslim Ban report launch, Foley Square, New York, June, 2018. Taken by A A photography (Anwar Alomaisi).

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<i>Louisiana Bucket Brigade v. Office of the Governor</i>	Case brought under the Louisiana public records law against Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards seeking records of meetings and communications with representatives of pipeline companies involved in the Bayou Bridge Pipeline project.	Bill Quigley
<i>Louisiana Bucket Brigade v. Mayor of St. Gabriel</i>	Case brought under the Louisiana public records law against the mayor of the town of St. Gabriel for records relating to the zoning board.	Bill Quigley
<i>Bayou Bridge Pipeline, LLC, v. 38.00 Acres, More or Less, Located in St. Martin Parish</i>	Representing landowners in Louisiana who are challenging the exercise of eminent domain by private oil pipeline company.	Bill Quigley, Misha Mitchell of Atchafalaya Basinkeeper
<i>Al Shimari v. CACI</i>	Federal lawsuit on behalf of four Iraqi torture victims against U.S.-based government contractor CACI Premier Technology, Inc. challenging corporate impunity under the Alien Tort Statute for war crimes and torture at Abu Ghraib prison.	Shereef Akeel; Mohammed Alomari of Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP, Jeena Shah, John Zwerling



Senior Staff Attorney Pardiss Kebriaei speaks at the Center for Constitutional Rights press conference and coalition rally in D.C. for the 16th Anniversary of Gitmo, January 11, 2018.

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
ABUSIVE STATE POWER		
<i>Immigrant Defense Project (IDP) v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)</i>	FOIA litigation against Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) seeking information related to ICE's home raids policies and arrest data.	Immigrant Defense Project; Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama
<i>Jailhouse Lawyers Handbook</i>	The Jailhouse Lawyers Handbook (JLH) is a resource for prisoners who wish to file a federal lawsuit addressing poor conditions in prison or abuse by prison staff. We distribute approximately 10,000 copies of it per year in response to direct requests for the handbook or requests for help with the issues it covers.	National Lawyers Guild
<i>Ziglar v. Abassi (formerly Turkman v. Ashcroft)</i>	Class action lawsuit challenging abuse of Muslim, Arab, and South Asian men following 9/11 immigration sweeps.	Michael Winger; Alexander Reinert; Covington & Burling LLP
<i>Al Otro Lado v. Nielsen</i>	Class action lawsuit against officials at DHS and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) challenging CBP's unlawful practice of depriving asylum seekers along the Mexican border access to the U.S. asylum process.	Al Otro Lado; American Immigration Council; Latham & Watkins LLP
<i>Hassan v. City of New York</i>	Successful challenge to NYPD's suspicionless surveillance of American Muslims in New Jersey on the basis of their Muslim identity.	Muslim Advocates; Lawrence Lustberg of Gibbons, P.C.; Ravinder S. Bhalla of Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt & Fader, LLC
<i>Tanvir v. Tanzin (formerly Tanvir v. Holder)</i>	Challenge to the FBI's abuse of the No-Fly List to coerce law-abiding American Muslims into spying on their religious communities.	Ramzi Kassem of Creating Law Enforcement Accountability and Responsibility at CUNY School of Law (CLEAR); Debevoise & Plimpton LLP
<i>Muslim Ban Waiver FOIA</i>	FOIA request to obtain documents that would provide much-needed clarity on the process to obtain a waiver to the Muslim Ban.	Muslim Advocates

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<i>Detention Watch Network (DWN) v. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS)</i>	FOIA litigation that obtained documents regarding private prison industry's role in controversial immigrant detention quotas; established right to information in government contracts with private entities.	Detention Watch Network; Jennifer B. London of Seton Hall University School of Law Clinic
<i>Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Herbert (Amicus)</i>	<i>Amicus</i> brief supporting plaintiffs' successful motion for summary judgment invalidating Utah's "ag-gag" law, which targeted animal rights activists in violation of the First Amendment.	R. Shane Johnson
<i>Animal Legal Defense Fund v. Wasden (Amicus)</i>	<i>Amicus</i> brief to Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals supporting affirmation of lower court ruling that Idaho's "ag-gag" law violates the First Amendment, on behalf of two journalism professors.	
<i>Davis v. Cox</i>	Defense of former Olympia Food Co-op board members who were sued over the decision to boycott Israeli goods.	Davis Wright Tremaine LLP; Barbara Harvey; Steven Goldberg
<i>Palestine Movement Support</i>	Advocacy and legislative work challenging suppression of Palestinian rights advocacy.	Palestine Legal; National Lawyers Guild; Jewish Voice for Peace; Institute for Middle East Understanding
<i>Awad v. Fordham University</i>	Lawsuit challenging Fordham University's decision to deny students' application to start a Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) club on campus.	Palestine Legal; Alan Levine
<i>CCR v. Department of Defense / Gaza Freedom Flotilla FOIA</i>	FOIA lawsuit that obtained documents regarding U.S. knowledge of and role in a deadly Israeli attack on a humanitarian flotilla to Gaza.	
<i>Bronner v. Duggan</i>	Representation of Professor Steven Salaita in a lawsuit brought against him and the American Studies Association (ASA) for the ASA's resolution to call for a boycott of Israeli academic institutions.	Whiteford, Taylor & Preston; Mark Kleiman

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<i>Barhoumi v. Trump</i>	Successful Periodic Review Board (PRB) representation of an Algerian citizen held at Guantánamo since 2002.	Maj. Justin Swick (USAF) of Military Commissions Defense Organization; Richard Reiter; Jared Kneitel
<i>Ameziane v. United States / Ameziane FOIA</i>	Human rights petition and request for precautionary measures before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) urging the IACHR to declare that the U.S. government violated Ameziane’s human rights and to prescribe relief, including a public apology. FOIA action seeking information about alleged government policy of keeping seized detainee property.	Andrew J. Brouwer of Refugee Law Office; Sophie Weller; Jennifer Oscroft of Cornerstone Barristers; Francisco Quintana and Elsa Meany of Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL)
<i>Al Qahtani v. Trump</i>	Habeas corpus petition on behalf of the only Guantánamo detainee the government has openly admitted to torturing.	Ramzi Kassem of CUNY School of Law; Sandra Babcock of Cornell Law School; Lawrence Lustberg of Gibbons P.C.
<i>Khan v. Trump / Khan v. Gates / United States v. Khan</i>	Representation of Guantánamo prisoner Majid Khan, who was charged in military commissions and a victim of the CIA torture program.	Katya Jestin and Natalie Orpett of Jenner & Block LLP; LTC Jon Jackson; LCDR Jared Hernandez; Military Commissions Defense Organization; Anna Gallagher of Maggio + Kattar, P.C.; Sameer Khosa of Axis Law Chambers (Pakistan)

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<i>Duran v. Trump</i>	Habeas corpus case on behalf of a native of Somalia who was captured in Djibouti, rendered to the CIA in March 2004, and sent to Guantánamo in September 2006, where he has since been held indefinitely and without charge.	
<i>Guantánamo partners</i>		John Chandler; Eugene Fidell; Eric Freedman; Stephen Vladeck; Ramzi Kassem; Office of the Federal Public Defender, District of Oregon; Military Commissions Defense Organization; David Remes; Jenner & Block LLP; Covington & Burling LLP; Debevoise & Plimpton LLP; Robert Kirsch; Sabin Willett; Dr. Katherine Porterfield; Martha Rayner; Witness Against Torture; Amnesty International USA; Constitution Project; American Civil Liberties Union; Reprive; National Coalition to Protect Civil Freedoms; Center for Victims of Torture; Gibbons P.C.



Advocacy Program Manager Aliya Hana Hussain at Guantanamo 16th Anniversary rally in D.C., January 11, 2018. Taken by Witness Against Torture.

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<p><i>Al Hajj v. Trump (Mass Habeas)</i></p>	<p>Motion on behalf of 11 Guantánamo detainees challenging the legality of Trump’s Guantánamo policy to foreclose possibility of any prisoner releases, regardless of individual circumstances.</p>	<p>George M. Clarke III, Esq.; Clive Stafford-Smith, Shelby Sullivan Bennis, REPRIEVE; Thomas A. Durkin; Martha Rayner of Fordham University School of Law; Mari Newman and Dari W. Killmer of Killmer, Lane & Newman, LLP; Stephen M. Truitt; Charles H. Carpenter of Carpenter Law Firm PLC; Agnieszka M. Fryszman of Cohen, Milstein, Sellers & Toll PLLC; Law office of H. Candace Gorman; Darin Thompson; Office of the Federal Public Defender, Cleveland, Ohio; Professor Joseph Margulies of Cornell University School of Law; George Brent Mickum IV Esq., Erin Herro Esq.; Mark Denbeaux, Charles Church, Robin Waters of Denbeaux & Denbeaux; Amanda L. Jacobsen of University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law</p>



Members of the Louisiana Bucket Brigade protesting. Taken by Louisiana Bucket Brigade.

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<i>Ashker v. Governor of California</i>	Class action lawsuit that challenged prolonged solitary confinement as cruel and unusual punishment.	Jules Lobel; Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; Law Offices of Charles Carbone; Legal Services For Prisoners With Children; California Prison Focus; Siegel & Yee; Ellenberg & Hull; Bremer Law Group PLLC; Samuel R. Miller; Eva DeLair
<i>Aref v. Barr (formerly Aref v. Sessions)</i>	Federal lawsuit challenging Communications Management Units (CMUs), two highly restrictive federal prison units that segregate certain prisoners and severely limit and control their communications.	Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP; Kenneth A. Kreuzscher
<i>Accountability for U.S. Torture: France</i>	Supporting action seeking accountability for U.S. torture, brought in France under the principle of universal jurisdiction.	European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)
<i>Accountability for U.S. Torture: Germany</i>	Supporting action seeking accountability for U.S. torture, brought in Germany under the principle of universal jurisdiction.	European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)
<i>Accountability for U.S. Torture: Spain</i>	Actions seeking accountability for U.S. torture, brought in Spain under the principle of universal jurisdiction.	European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR); Gonzalo Boye of Boye-Elbaly Asociados
<i>International Criminal Court: Palestine Preliminary Examination</i>	Submission on the closure of Gaza as a crime against humanity – persecution.	Palestinian Center for Human Rights; Al-Haq; Al Mezan



CCR Client Salah Hassan on his torture by U.S. forces inside Abu Ghraib, May 2014.

CASE/PROJECT NAME	CASE DESCRIPTION	PARTNERS
<i>Mamani v. Sánchez de Lozada / Mamani v. Sánchez Berzain</i>	Federal lawsuit against former president and former defense minister of Bolivia for extrajudicial killings of indigeneous Bolivians.	Judith Chomsky; Beth Stephens; Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP; Susan Farbstein, Thomas Becker, and Tyler Giannini of the International Human Rights Clinic at Harvard Law School; Claret Vargas of the Center for Law, Justice and Society (Dejusticia); Paul Hoffman of Schonbrun, Seplow, Harris and Hoffman LLP; Ira Kurzban and Celso Perez of Kurzban, Kurzban, Weinger & Tetzoli
<i>Honduras: True Commission and CCR Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests</i>	FOIA requests to various U.S. government agencies regarding the 2009 military coup in Honduras.	
<i>Jesner v. Arab Bank (Amicus)</i>	Amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court arguing that the Alien Tort Statute applies to corporations to broadly remedy all violations of international law and is not just limited to cases involving terrorism.	



Plaintiffs, co-counsel Muslim Advocates, and CCR attorneys at a victory celebration after reaching a settlement in *Hassan v. City of New York*, April 2018. Taken by Kolin Mendez Photography.

CCR CELEBRATES CHANGEMAKERS RECEPTION



Center for Constitutional Rights Board Member Gay McDougall



Monifa Akinwole-Bande, Adasa Akinwole-Bande, and Center for Constitutional Rights Board Member Lumumba Akinwole-Bande



Vince Warren, Mariam Ghani, Robert LoBue of Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler, and Opal Tometi

On November 8, 2017, we held our inaugural CCR Celebrates Changemakers reception in Manhattan because we believe, "If you have an activist, a lawyer, and a storyteller, you can change the world."

The 2017 Changemakers Awards went to Opal Tometi, a Nigerian-American strategist, writer, and community organizer, who co-founded #BlackLivesMatter (BLM); Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler, a law firm with a strong commitment to public service, which has been an invaluable partner to the Center for Constitutional Rights in our path-breaking lawsuit *Al Shimari v. CACI*; and Mariam Ghani, whose multi-media work looks at places, spaces, and moments where social, political, and cultural structures take on visible forms.

The evening included a cocktail reception with the ABRAZOS Orchestra, the Changemakers Awards ceremony, a dynamic conversation with the Changemakers, and a musical performance by Ani Cordero.

We are very grateful to our generous event sponsors who helped make the evening possible: Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler, Outen & Golden, Paul Weiss, and Lowenstein Sandler.

A SPLENDID BODY OF TIGERISH PEOPLE RECEPTION



Center for Constitutional Rights staff, board members, and awardees (Board Chair Katherine Franke, Senior Legal Worker Ian Head, Radical Leadership Awardee Ravi Ragbir, Executive Director Vince Warren, Founders Awardee Ellen Yaroshefsky, Board Secretary Rosemary Corbett).

On May 9, 2018 in New York City, we held our annual thank you reception for our generous supporters, “A Splendid Body of Tigerish People,” whose name evolved from a description of the Center for Constitutional Rights by Alexander Cockburn of *The Village Voice*.

We had a festive celebration at Midtown Loft & Terrace, and presented two awards: the CCR Founders Award to Ellen Yaroshefsky and the CCR Radical Leadership Award to Ravi Ragbir. Ellen is a relentless defender of human rights and longtime friend, donor, partner, and leader of the Center for Constitutional Rights. Ravi has led the fight for immigrants’ rights and oppressed communities with compassion, courage, and empathy. Ellen’s and Ravi’s leadership serve as an inspiration to the Center for Constitutional Rights and all of those who stand with us in the struggle for justice. Their bravery and creativity embody our history and mission, and exemplify how we must continue to build its future.



Center for Constitutional Rights Radical Leadership Awardee Ravi Ragbir

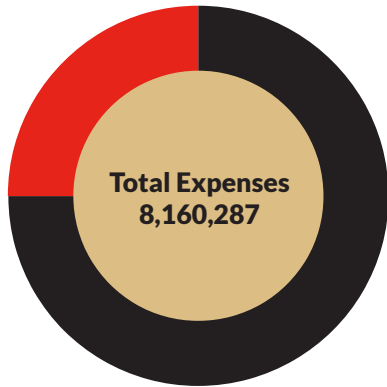


Center for Constitutional Rights Founders Awardee Ellen Yaroshefsky

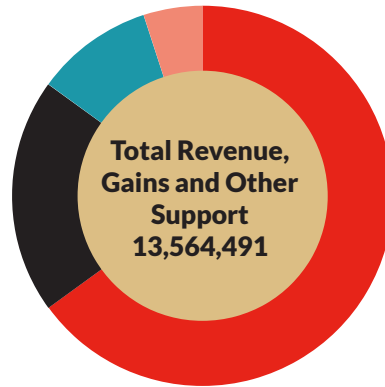


Center for Constitutional Rights Board Members Amanda Alexander and Katherine Acey

FINANCIAL REPORT



■ Program Services	
Litigation	\$4,202,863
Advocacy	\$1,967,036
■ Supporting Services	
Administration and General	\$847,813
Fundraising	\$1,142,575



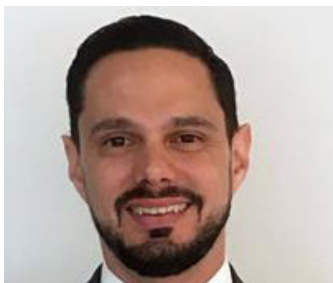
■ Grants and Contributions	\$10,637,377
■ Court Awards and Attorney Fees	\$2,522,273
■ Net Investment Income	\$217,841
■ Net Realized Gains on Investment Transactions	\$130,355
■ Other Income	\$56,645
Government and Corporate Donations**	0

EXPENSES	NET ASSETS
Program Services = \$6,169,899	Net Assets as of June 30, 2017 = \$21,459,451
Supporting Services = \$1,990,388	Change in Net Assets = \$5,461,509
Total Expenses = \$8,160,287	Net Assets as of June 30, 2018 = \$26,920,960

**** The Center for Constitutional Rights is a nonprofit charity that relies on individual and foundation support.**

Your dedication and generosity is indispensable in the fight for justice. Thank you!

WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Leonardo M. Aldridge

Leo is a criminal defense attorney in private practice in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He previously served as a trial attorney at Brooklyn Defender Services and a federal public defender in Puerto Rico. Before law school Leo worked as a journalist with The Associated Press and several newspapers. He was a close friend and protégé of former Center for Constitutional Rights board member and ally Charlie Hey-Maestre, and sees joining the Center for Constitutional Rights' board as part of continuing Charlie's legacy.



Amanda Alexander

Amanda is an assistant professor in the Department of Afro-American Studies, a postdoctoral scholar in Law at the University of Michigan, and a member of the Michigan Society of Fellows. She is a nationally recognized scholar of race and social justice, the founding Executive Director of the Detroit Justice Center, and has worked at the intersection of racial justice and community development in Detroit, New York, and South Africa for more than a decade. As a 2013-2015 Soros Justice Fellow, Amanda launched the Prison & Family Justice Project at University of Michigan Law School to provide legal representation to incarcerated parents and advocate for families divided by the prison and foster care systems. She is also on the steering committee for Law for Black Lives. Her relationship to the Center for Constitutional Rights is deep and long standing, having been an Ella Baker intern while in law school.



Natasha Lycia Ora Bannan

Natasha is associate counsel at LatinoJustice PRLDEF (Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund), focusing on working with low-wage Latina immigrant workers as part of the organization's economic justice platform, legal support in the face of the economic crisis in Puerto Rico, and human rights advocacy before regional and international bodies. Natasha has worked on gender and racial justice issues, including access to reproductive health, sexual violence, and violence against women in conflict zones. Prior to joining LatinoJustice PRLDEF, she worked in the International Women's Human Rights Clinic at CUNY School of Law and at the Center for Reproductive Rights. Natasha also serves as President of the National Lawyers Guild, is a member of the New York City Bar Association's Task Force on Puerto Rico and Inter-American Affairs Committee, and is a board member of MADRE.



Marjorie Fine

Margie has over twenty years of experience leading grantmaking institutions. She currently works as a development consultant to social benefit organizations and grantmakers, and previously served for more than a decade (1993-2005) as executive director of the Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock, a national faith-based social justice grantmaker. Prior to her tenure at the Veatch Program, she was executive director of the North Star Fund, a public foundation serving the New York City progressive community. She serves on the board of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy and on the board of the North Star Fund.

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(as of June 2018)

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(through June 2018)

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Gregory Butterfield
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IT Manager

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(through June 2018)

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(through June 2018)

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Operations (as of June 2018)

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(as of February 2018)

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Charles Greene
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Advocacy Program Manager

Shayana Kadidal
Senior Managing Attorney

Pardiss Kebriaei
Senior Staff Attorney

Stephanie Llanes
Bertha Justice Fellow

Rachel Meeropol
Senior Staff Attorney and Associate
Director of Legal Education

Ruhan Nagra
Bertha Justice Fellow
(through October 2017)

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Afrika Owes
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& Advocacy

Ibrahim Qatabi
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Dominic Renfrey
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Ghita Schwarz
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Diala Shamas
Staff Attorney

Pamela Spees
Senior Staff Attorney

Leah Todd
Senior Legal Worker

Azure Wheeler
Temporary Attorney
(through April 13, 2018)

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Noor Zafar
Bertha Justice Fellow

Nahal Zamani
Advocacy Program Manager

2017-2018 Ella Bakers

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Chelsea Donaldson
Wesley Dozier
Taqwa Elhindi
Sahiba Gill
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Jilisa Milton
Ka Ying Karen Ng
Isedua Oribhabor
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Aya Saed
Christian Snow

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Geroline Castillo
Hannah Khalifeh
Nomalanga Shields
Sumesh Shiwakoty
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INCLUDE THE CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS IN YOUR WILL. Including the Center for Constitutional Rights as a beneficiary in your will is an excellent way to make a statement about the values you held during your lifetime, while ensuring that the Center will be here for the long haul. You may choose to make a bequest of a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate.



MAKE THE CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS YOUR BIRTHDAY GIFT! Ask friends and family to make gifts to the Center for Constitutional Rights in your honor as your holiday/ birthday/ anniversary/no-reason-at-all gift OR make gifts to the Center for Constitutional Rights in honor of the folks on your shopping list. These gifts will pay tribute to our shared social justice values and build our audience, while fueling our efforts to restore the Constitution and protect and extend human rights.



DONATE STOCK. If you sell depreciated stock and give the proceeds to the Center for Constitutional Rights you may be able to claim the loss on your taxes, as well as the charitable deduction. If you donate appreciated securities to the Center for Constitutional Rights, you may avoid capital gains taxes and receive a charitable deduction. For stock transfer information, go to www.CCRjustice.org/gifts-stocksunds.



HOST A HOUSE PARTY to introduce friends and allies to the Center for Constitutional Rights' work. Now more than ever, we need your help in expanding our reach to those who care about freedom and justice. Help us connect to those in your network who share these values.



ATTEND A LOCAL EVENT if the Center for Constitutional Rights is in your neighborhood—and bring a friend! If you are on our email list, you will receive invitations. Public events are listed on our calendar at www.CCRjustice.org/calendar.



STAY UP-TO-DATE AND SHARE OUR NEWS!

Follow @theCCR on Twitter and "Center for Constitutional Rights" on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, and bookmark the Center for Constitutional Rights's website: www.CCRjustice.org. Share our newsletters, action alerts, and appeals with your friends.

**JUSTICE
TAKES
A FIGHT.**



For more information on any of the above, please contact Theda Jackson-Mau, the Center for Constitutional Rights' Director of Development at 212-614-6448 or tjackson-mau@ccrjustice.org



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Now, more than ever,
we are thankful to have you at our side!



CCR board and staff in Mississippi, February 2018



CCR staff at a retreat at Storm King Art Center, August 2018.

The Center for Constitutional Rights is grateful for your dedication and partnership. You make it possible for us to think big and to stake out daring positions.

Because of you, our litigation and advocacy is holistic, fearless, and relentless.

Together, we are transforming the power structures that oppress vulnerable communities, building the strength of social justice movements, and training the next generation of movement lawyers and activists.

Thank you!

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