

The ACLU of Mississippi (ACLU of MS)

is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan organization which uses legal, legislative and public education to protect and promote a broad range of constitutional issues including individual rights and freedoms, free speech, racial justice, privacy, religious liberty, reproductive rights, LGBT rights, and more. The ACLU of MS is an affiliate of the national ACLU, the leading defender of civil liberties guaranteed by our nation's Bill of Rights.

The ACLU of MS plays an important role in the national discussion on civil liberties and is one of the state's premier public advocacy organizations. The State of Mississippi and the ACLU of MS are regularly in the national spotlight due to the state's history as a battleground for civil rights and continuing challenges as a predominately conservative state to offer protection and freedom to progressive communities. For more information, please visit www.aclu-ms.org

The Executive Director's Report: The Call, The Vision, The Plan



"Go back to Mississippi, . . . knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair." These words passionately spoken by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. fifty years ago could have been spoken directly to me. Even though I was not yet born when these words were uttered, I feel I was called "back to Mississippi" several years ago with a clarion call that there was "work yet to be done". I therefore count myself very fortunate to be leading this wonderful organization and building upon the efforts of my predecessors.

Before I the new vision for the ACLU of MS, I first would like to tell you a little about myself and how I come to this work. A native of MS, my parents hailed from the what some could refer to as the "valley" of Mississippi's despair. My father, from Philadelphia and my mother from Meridian. As a little girl, growing up in a house literally next to the rail road, we would often hear a knock on the door. It would be some stranger, commonly referred to as a "Ho-Bo" (short for home bound). Sometime, the Ho-Bo would be a black man but most of the time he was a white man. The stranger would knock on the door and Mama would give him something to eat and when it was cold an old sweater or jacket that belonged to my Daddy or one of my brothers. Somehow word had traveled along the rails that you could stop there and Mrs. Bobbye (that is my

mom) would feed you. The Ho-Bo regardless of his race would sit on the porch and eat, say thank you and then move along to where he was bound. Something about feeding and clothing these strangers, regardless of how little we had and regardless of what they looked like was right.

We often travelled from Meridian to Philadelphia, along what I did not know at the time to be a corridor steeped in a dark history. It was during one of these visits to my paternal grandmother's home in Philadelphia that I experienced my first realization of difference. I remember the experience today as vivid as it was then. My grandmother, a proud and respected woman, and I were walking on a sidewalk. All of a sudden Grandmother Queen (who, if you ever met her, would know she was appropriately named, grabbed my arm and snatched (to pull with a quick and determined force) me from the sidewalk. Now, if you grew up in the south, you know you did not question the acts of grown folk. But this time, a boldness rose up in me, I had to know why we were now walking in the street. I asked "why we walking in the street?" After a moment and just as this white lady and her son, who appeared to be my age, passed us by, Grandmother said "because the lady and her son needed to pass". I looked at the lady, I looked at her son, and I looked at the sidewalk which appeared to me to be wide enough to accommodate all of us. I knew better than push this subject any further, regardless of how bold I thought I was, but I realized at that moment - there is simply something wrong with this picture!

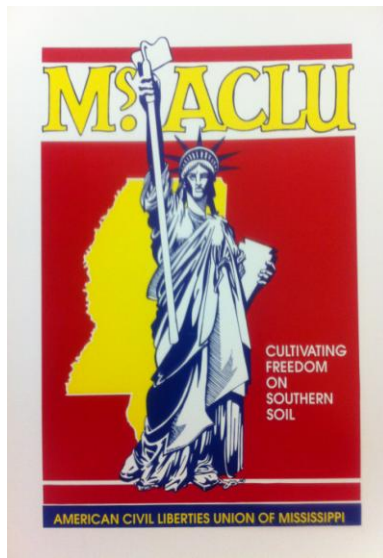
". . . there is simply something
wrong with this picture!"

Fast forward to 1997 (not to say that there were not other pivotal life experiences - trust that there were - we can share life stories over a glass of sweet tea some day). I left Mississippi after attending college at Alcorn State University. I was, however, drawn back, for what I thought would only be two and a half years necessary for me to complete law school. I could be heard saying "I am coming to MS and will be on the first thing smoking back out of here when I finish law school". I came home to MS to find that we worked among persons with obvious skin color differences but that we really did not live among and embrace difference and diversity in MS. People seemed very much to live in their own corners. My eldest son was for the first time in his life called the "N" word. His little white classmate refused his carton of milk because "that N touched it". Joseph had simply reached to pass the milk to his classmate as I had raised him (it was rude to reach across someone) and he did not want his classmate to have to reach across him. They were just seven years old - where had the boy learned such vile hatred? That sense that something was not right came flooding back.

ACLU of Mississippi: 2012-2013 *A Year in Review*

I graduated law school as planned - two and a half years after I started. Leaving, however, was what I thought I would do. I could hear in my spirit just as if you were talking to me: "there is still work to be done". Instead of leaving, I took the Mississippi Bar and began practicing law. As a criminal defense attorney, I was faced daily with the inequities in the criminal justice system. As a young attorney in private practice I accepted cases from around the state. Despite the fact that I walked into court dressed in a suit and carrying a very nice leather briefcase, I would be approached by some little white haired lady, who probably had been in courthouse the day it was first opened, telling me I could not enter the well. "Only lawyers can sit up here" and when I stated I was a lawyer, a demand for my bar license would next spill from her mouth colored with the red lipstick of an appropriately dressed southern belle. When I asked if the white male lawyer wearing a wrinkled shirt and 1970's paisley tie, who walked in two steps ahead of me was required to produce his license, I would get a "well, I never" and see a quick turn and walk away. Interestingly, my cases would always seem to move to the end of the docket. I began quickly to not only sense but to know that something was not right about this picture. It was harder however for me to grasp - it was after all 40 years post what some refer to as the civil rights era.

I decided that I would heed the call that there was "work yet to be done". I looked at my three sons, African American young men being raised in Mississippi, now by a single mother. Some would say that they had three strikes against them. I simply could not allow that to be true. I decided to sow where I needed to reap - in the lives of African American young people facing challenges in MS. I dedicated my efforts to becoming a highly skilled lawyer focused on juvenile justice issues. I became the Chairperson for the MS Bar's YLD - Child Advocacy Committee. I later became Juvenile Justice Fellow at MS Center for Justice, and the Juvenile Defense Resource Counsel at SPLC's Juvenile Justice Project. I spoke and participated in various national forum on JJ related issues. I represented youth across the state - taking on difficult cases where mental disabilities were often a contributing factor. I took the position that I could educate the public and policy makers and even judges regarding adolescent brain development, the IDEA, why a child should at least have adequate and qualified representation. All of these efforts became the proving ground for me. I came to understand that there was more to be done. I faced the reality that what I was fighting was institutional and deeply rooted. I faced the reality that some things are very wrong and I have a call to address them. It was that call that compelled me to apply for the position of Executive Director. It is the reality of inequity faced by people all across this wonderful state that draws me to work every day.



I have heard it said that some have concerns that the ACLU of Mississippi is changing. The concerns are valid. The assertions are right - the ACLU of Mississippi is changing. If you have ever read the book [Who Moved My Cheese](#) - you know that change is not a bad thing nor is it a reflection that anything done before was wrong. Change is simply adapting so that we are postured for the next big thing. Big organizations, both for-profit and non-profit have collapsed because they did not adapt. If we stay where we have always been and do what we have always done we are likely to miss out on the opportunity to engage significance when it knocks on our door. The strategic plan of action developed by ACLU of MS's committed staff and unanimously adopted by the board of directors postures us not only to be ready when the call comes but to go out and make change happen.

The next case or policy that changes the landscape of the protection of constitutional rights of citizens or extends civil liberties to those who have been deprived of them not just in Mississippi but across the country very likely could walk through the front door of ACLU of MS. The person living in Mississippi who has been downtrodden by those who seek to keep him in his proverbial place will call the ACLU of MS, not the ACLU's national office in New York City. When he or she calls or when the knock comes to our door we must be professionally prepared to respond. We may fail in our attempts to challenge the Goliaths who reject equal treatment and justice for all, but we will try. We may get knocked down but we will get up and try again.

Our desire to be prepared to give the right response has led us to establish priorities within four Centers of Focus. The centers are Criminal Justice Reform, Youth Justice Reform, Equality for All Mississippians, and Freedom of Speech and Expression. The centers and priorities within were established not based on personal passions but on calls for help with issues impacting the lives of Mississippians across the state. We realized that we could not be effective if we were the jack of all trades but the master of none. If you are a member, a supporter, a friend, or collaborator and the issue that is important to you is not listed among our priorities, don't be angry or alarmed. If you will allow us to do a few things well, I promise that we will be able to grow our work. Our continued support is important to us getting to all the work that still needs to be done. Your support, whether it is in time as a volunteer or in the form of money, be it \$5 or \$500,000 is critical. You make it happen - your contribution matters. I take serious the sacrifice donors make and ensure it is put to the work you intended us to do.

The wonderful thing is that in doing so we are not alone. The ACLU of MS is part of the American Civil Liberties Union. We are all part of an almost million-member-strong organization. We are the ACLU. *Griswold*, the case that gave the right to contraception, *Gideon*, the case that established the right to an attorney, *Loving*, a case that could not be more appropriately named which guaranteed the right to interracial marriage, *Windsor*, the case that secured the right of same sex partners to receive federal benefits - these all have one common denominator - they are the cases of the ACLU. They arrived at the door of the US Supreme Court after walking through the doors of affiliates. It is for this reason we are no longer the affiliate that "cultivates freedom on southern soil", we are the ACLU that "protects freedom because freedom cannot protect itself."



There is work yet to be done. As part of this great organization we will challenge policies and practices that disproportionately enslave communities of color, and that discriminates against people because of who they chose to love. We will ensure that schools are safe places for children to learn, and that women have access to reproductive healthcare and that the right to vote is not suppressed. We will continue to be the watchman against the government's intrusion into the personal lives of its citizens.

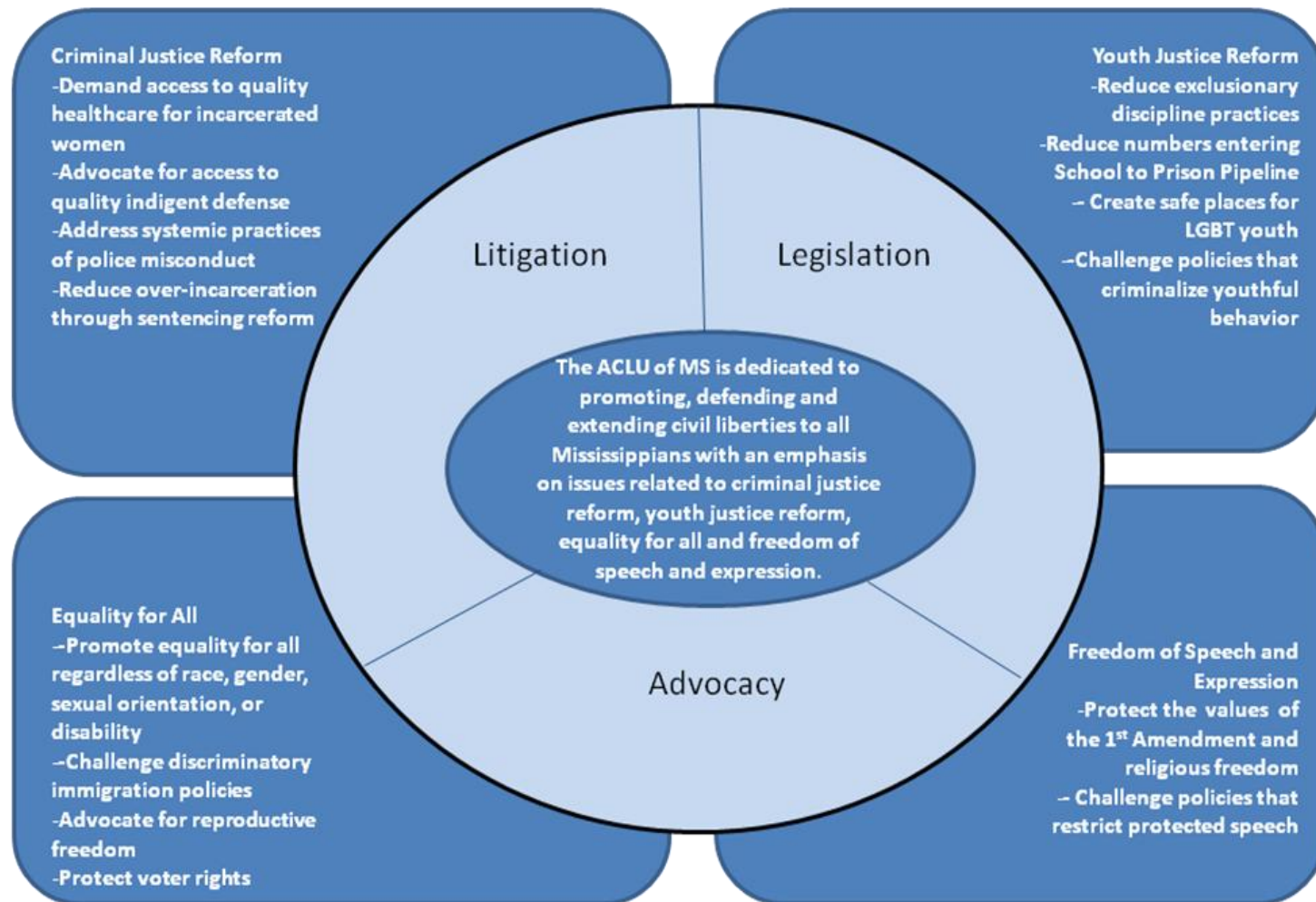
I started this article reminding us of the words of Dr. King - I will end it in the same manner. In the very same speech given fifty years ago he said "I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice". I believe in his dream. I believe in his dream for Mississippi. Thank you for allowing me to be the Executive Director of this affiliate of the ACLU and for your continued support. Together we will make his dream a reality. Because we have committed to making Mississippi better a little girl on the sidewalk of any town in Mississippi, any town in America, will know as she looks around - something about this feels right.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer A. Riley-Collins'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

JENNIFER A. RILEY-COLLINS

CENTERS OF FOCUS



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Nikita

A Year of Challenge, A Year of Change

This has been a year of challenges for the Board of Directors. For several months, our efforts focused on the search and hire for a new Executive Director. Nsombi Lambright had aptly led this organization for four years during which the organization had grown exponentially. We knew we had to find someone who could expand the wonderful work Nsombi had led but also who could manage what was now a larger staff and who could help the board outline strategic initiatives. We launched a national search for such a person. Who knew we would find such a treasure in on our own soil. In April of this year we hired Jennifer Riley-Collins.

Having accomplished the task of finding an ED, and now being able to focus our attention on governance we set out to do just that. When presented with the recommendations for prioritized strategic initiatives the Board of Directors adopted same without hesitation. We have begun to have discussions regarding Board protocols and updating our by-laws. The Board of Directors also approved the relocation of the office, adoption of the new mission statement and vision for the affiliate.

Unfortunately, this year, was one where we lost several board members. We watched with silent prayer, as one of our longstanding members, Isaac Byrd, had to step away due to illness. I would be remiss if I did not salute Isaac. He was a stalwart for the ACLU of Mississippi for several years. We thank him for his service. We also said goodbye for now to members who resigned for various personal reasons. We thank Marni Von Wilpert, Sheila Hailey, Laurie Roberts, and Cindy Barton for their contributions to the affiliate and service to the Board.

As President of the Board, I feel a sense of pride as I see an increase in litigation and statewide advocacy. I am proud when I open the newspaper and read that the affiliate has challenged ordinances across the state that will criminalize youth for youthful behavior, or that it has gotten in the gap to stop the infringement on the rights of free speech on Mississippi's Coast. I am excited when I am invited to participate in public education forums where advocates are being trained or when Jennifer and I talk about the work we are doing in North MS to move civil rights forward. I encourage you, as members of ACLU of MS, to continue to support the work this affiliate is doing. Encourage others to become members of this most important organization. Get on the board. There is great work ahead.



James W. Powers
President of the Board

Those who oppose equality have increased their attacks with a fervor reminiscent of the 1960's. Their tactics however are not in the form of dogs and hoses. Instead the strategy is peel back rights won and to establish institutional barriers. The work of the legal department is now more important than ever. Please consider becoming a cooperating attorney in this fight to fend off attacks on civil liberties.

LEGAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Protecting the 1st Amendment Right to Fully Participate in the Political Process

The ACLU of Mississippi filed a lawsuit in federal court on behalf of Diamondhead, MS residents who alleged that the Diamondhead Property Owners Association (POA) covenants, rules and regulations prohibiting yard signs and door-to-door campaigning violate their First Amendment right to freedom of speech. The POA shares its boundaries with the newly formed City of Diamondhead which recently completed its first municipal elections since incorporation in 2012.

The ACLU sent an open letter to the POA asking the POA to assure residents that it would refrain from enforcing its covenants, rules and regulations that impermissibly violate its members' First Amendment rights. When the POA refused to give the residents such assurances, the ACLU stepped in to seek a judicial remedy for the residents of Diamondhead. In response to our request for emergency restraining order the POA immediately agreed to allow the residents to display yard signs and campaign door-to-door. Although, the lawsuit is still pending, the agreement is a legal victory - the political speech of Diamondhead residents received the constitutional protection "crucial to maintaining a robust democracy".

By the Numbers

Complaints Processed

1404

Cases Investigated

194

Demand Letters Sent

35

Cases Litigated

3

We refused to be denied our right to know

In March of this year, as part of a national effort, ACLU of Mississippi filed a formal request for government records with the Sheriff's Department in March 2013, seeking documents relevant to an ACLU nationwide project to determine the extent to which local police departments are using federally subsidized military technology and tactics that are traditionally used overseas. Mississippians deserve to know the extent to which our local police are using military weapons and tactics for everyday policing. The militarization of local police is a threat to Americans' right to live without military-style intervention in our daily lives, and we need to make sure these resources and tactics are deployed only with rigorous oversight and strong legal protections.

The Harrison County Sheriff's Department refused to comply with nearly all requests that the ACLU of Mississippi made. In response, we filed a lawsuit against the Harrison County Sheriff's Department, seeking immediate access to public records in compliance with Mississippi's Public Records Act (MPRA, otherwise known as Mississippi's "open records" law).

The result: The records we sought were immediately released.

More information can be found at: www.aclu.org/militarization

You have the right to record

On a muggy summer evening in June 2012, architect intern Thomas Price gathered with some friends at a backyard party, dubbed "The Mosquito Mixer," in the Midtown Arts District of Jackson, Mississippi. Hoping to relax and enjoy some music, Thomas hardly expected that he would be unlawfully arrested and would spend the night in jail that night—all for exercising his First Amendment right to videotape the police. Around midnight, a Jackson Police Department officer appeared at the party and warned security that the music from the party was "too loud." Even though a federal court case and the Jackson Noise Ordinance require police to use a sound level meter before acting upon an alleged violation of the noise ordinance, no one witnessed the officer perform such a test. After the DJ lowered the music's volume to the officer's satisfaction, the officer allowed the party to continue. A couple of hours later, the same officer reappeared with another JPD officer. This time, rather than approach the door, the officers entered the property through an open gate, without permission or a warrant as required by the Fourth Amendment and the Jackson Noise Ordinance. The officers demanded that everyone leave the party because of a noise violation, even though they did not appear to take the sound level meter reading of the music required by ordinance. By this point, Thomas had begun to record the officers' interactions with partygoers with his phone. As his video attests, the officer singled Thomas out from a group of party goers and demanded that he leave. He assented, but as he began to put his phone away, the other officer arrested him. Thomas had to spend the rest of the evening in jail, before he was released the following day. Thomas faced the charge of "Disorderly Conduct-Failure to Obey a Police Officer." ACLU of Mississippi attorney Amelia McGowan represented Thomas in Jackson Municipal Court, and filed motions arguing that JPD officers unlawfully entered The Mosquito property and arrested Thomas in violation of his First Amendment rights. On May 6, 2013, the municipal court judge dismissed the charge.



Many U.S. courts and the Department of Justice have found that an individual's right to record police activity is a protected under the First Amendment as long as it does not obstruct police duties. The U.S. Department of Justice emphasized the importance of this right by noting that the act of "[r]ecording governmental officers engaged in public duties is a form of speech through which private individuals may gather and disseminate information of public concern, including the conduct of law enforcement officers."

The ACLU of Mississippi is committed to protecting all Mississippians' First Amendment rights, including their right to record police activity. If you feel that your First Amendment rights have been violated, please contact us at 601-354-3408 or <http://www.aclu-ms.org>.



MORE TO COME: IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The American Civil Liberties Union, the ACLU of Mississippi, and United Sikhs has demanded an investigation by the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) regarding the department's harassment of a Sikh commercial truck driver pulled over earlier this year for a flat tire. Officers called Singh a "terrorist" and had him arrested for declining to remove his kirpan, a small, sacred sword of the Sikh faith, which Singh was lawfully wearing in accordance with his religious beliefs. When he returned to Mississippi for his court date in Pike County, Judge Aubrey Rimes ordered him out of the courtroom because he did not like his turban – calling it "that rag" -- and threatened to punish him unless he removed it. The letter sent to MDOT officials demands that they provide public documents relating to Singh's detainment and arrest and urges them to implement an ongoing training program to educate officers about their responsibility to treat every person with dignity and to remain respectful of religious diversity.



"No person should be harassed and discriminated against by law-enforcement and judicial officers merely because he practices a minority religion."

"Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed. If people all over the world . . . would do this, it would change the earth."

Mississippi's own - William Faulkner

ADVOCACY

Reproductive Freedoms are under siege across America. That is why the ACLU of MS stood with the women of Texas to challenge the opponents of reproductive rights.



ACLU of MS is committed to challenging restrictions against reproductive freedom. The ACLU is a key partner in the MS Reproductive Justice Coalition.



Constance Gordon educates high school students regarding their constitutional rights. Through the Youth of Color Campaign students are informed of their rights to form Gay Straight Alliances, to attend prom with a same-sex date, and to demand a safe school environment

FOLLOW ACLU ACTIONS ON FACEBOOK ([ACLUMississippi](#)) , TWITTER ([@ACLU_MS](#)) AND ON THE WEB [@ACLU-MS.ORG](#)



ACLU of MS and partner organizations commemorated the anniversary of the March on Washington with a Day of Dignity. Hundreds of MS's residents stood in solidarity on the steps of the State Capitol to demand quality education, access to healthcare, an end to mass incarceration, and affordable child care.



Immigrants Rights

The ACLU of MS, in partnership with the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project, is dedicated to expanding and enforcing the civil liberties and civil rights of immigrants and to combating public and private discrimination against them. Attorneys Atwood and McGowan presented "Know Your Rights" trainings on deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) at five community groups around the state. Our increased presence as a partner in the immigrant community will ensure the fundamental constitutional protections of due process and equal protection are applied to every person, especially the vulnerable.

Hundreds of individuals participate in ACLU of MS "Know Your Rights" forum. Participants, members and supporters are critical to our efforts to thwart attacks on the rights and civil liberties of all Mississippians. Your support has a tangible impact.

Handcuffs on Success: The Extreme School Discipline Crisis in Mississippi Public Schools

This report authored by the ACLU of Mississippi, the Mississippi Coalition for the Prevention of Schoolhouse to

In October 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice filed suit pipeline. Through a pattern of arresting and incarcerating children were routinely pushed out of school and into the problem is much bigger, plaguing schools across the entire driven away from school in a sheriff's car for wearing shoes arrested and threatened bodily harm to a half dozen DeSoto in targeted communities to reduce the number of children entering the school to prison pipeline. It is our goal to ensure all schools are safe places for children are allowed to thrive.

HANDCUFFS ON SUCCESS

The Extreme School Discipline Crisis in Mississippi Public Schools



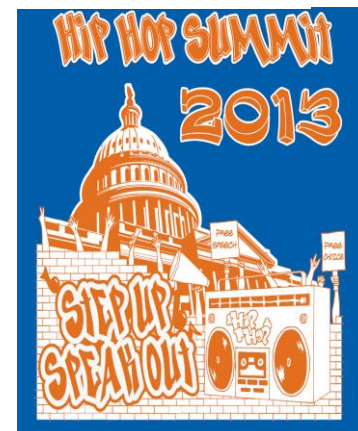
Advancement Project, Mississippi State Conference of NAACP, and Jailhouse details how extreme school disciplinary practices harm tens of school and criminalized every year for minor misbehaviors.

against officials in Meridian, Mississippi for operating a school-to-prison students, even for minor school infractions, investigators found that Meridian criminal justice system. The report finds that the scope of this devastating state of Mississippi. In Holmes County, for example, a five-year-old child was with red and white symbols, in violation of a dress code. Police reportedly County students for arguing on a school bus. ACLU of MS continues to work

2013 Mississippi Youth Justice Hip Hop Summit

The July 2013 Summit empowered students with specific organizational skills to engage policy makers and improved student knowledge about civic processes. The Summit included an Intersections panel discussion where discrimination was highlighted, diversity was embraced, and respect and tolerance demonstrated. The Parents and Advocates Conferences, ran concurrent to the Youth Summit, provided engaging, interactive workshops, and engaged participants in issue based dialogue and solution-oriented strategy development. Participants were provided with tools and resources to enhance their local efforts.

ACLU of MS will be convening three regional summits, intended to focus on local issues, in early 2014. Volunteer and supporter participation is critical to the our continued successful leadership trainings and to enhance statewide advocacy.



LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY

The 2013 legislative session saw a return of most of the harmful legislation the ACLU of MS had helped to defeat the year before. In the absence of an Executive Director during the legislative session, Legal Director, Bear Atwood led the legislative efforts for the affiliate. She identified over 100 bills that would have a direct, negative impact on civil

liberties in the state. ACLU-MS helped to organize one legislative hearing on juvenile justice and gave testimony at two other legislative hearings. Atty. Atwood also drafted a bill that was introduced by Representative Hines seeking to implement some of the recommendations from our report, *Handcuffs on Success*. The bill passed out of its House committee, but was not brought to the floor for a vote.



As part of its continued efforts to de-criminalize youthful behavior and protect the under-represented, the ACLU of Mississippi monitors municipal ordinances across the state and takes actions to defeat such actions. When the City of Jackson considered adding additional restrictions and mandatory fines to an already constitutionally questionable panhandling ordinance the ACLU of MS sprung into action. We informed policy makers about the constitutional issues and identified the problems with the proposed

amendment. We also educated the public by testifying at a public hearing. The result – The city did not pass the proposed amendments, and is considering revising the current ordinance.



The legal and program team worked together to defeat a "saggy pants" and curfew ordinances in Hinds County and the City of Jackson. Such ordinances violate the First Amendment to the Constitution, raise the risk for racial profiling, and contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline by criminalizing youth for otherwise non-criminal behavior. The legal team sent a letter to the policy makers outlining the constitutional and legal issues raised by the proposed ordinances. We testified at public hearings. Policy makers publically credited the ACLU-MS for providing the information upon which they relied to oppose the ordinance. In both cases the proposed ordinances were defeated. As a follow-up on the success of this work, we sent public record requests to cities and towns with current "saggy pants" and curfew ordinances in place.



On the heels of the Supreme Court decision finding the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional, the ACLU of Mississippi held a press conference with the Human Rights Campaign at the State Capitol to highlight the two Americas when it comes to LGBT equality. The ACLU of Mississippi is committed to fighting to ensure that all Mississippians, including loving and committed couples are treated equally and fairly. We are not naive and realize that access to those federal marital protections will take some work and time to achieve. We are committed to working to ensure that the federal government respects the marriages of as many married same-sex couples as possible. We will ensure that LGBT individuals are protected from discrimination in the workplace, schools housing, and public accommodations.

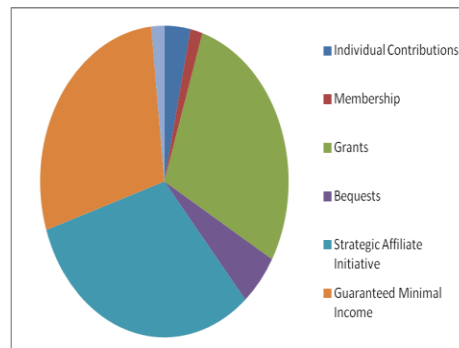
FINANCIAL REPORT

ACLU of Mississippi and ACLU Foundation of Mississippi Consolidated Statement, FY 2012 -2013

INCOME

Individual Donations	\$ 29,926.00
Membership	\$ 13,972.00
Grants	\$ 250,000.00
Planned Gifts	\$ 47,510.00
Strategic Affiliate Initiative	\$ 276,227.00
Guaranteed Minimal Income	\$ 250,000.00
Other	\$ 15,000.00

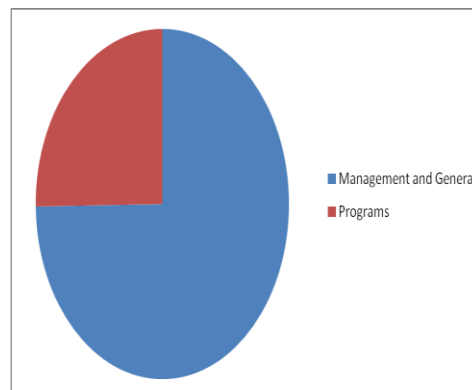
TOTAL REVENUE \$882,635.00



EXPENSES

Management and Administration	\$487,321.00
Programs	\$164,377.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$651,698.00



Source: Financial Statements for the year ending March 31, 2013. Audit incomplete at the date of publication.
Audited Financial Statements will be available upon request by writing ACLU-MS, P O Box 2252,

ADVANCING FREEDOM: NATIONAL ACLU HIGHLIGHTS

Capital Punishment

-Helped abolish the death penalty in Maryland

Criminal Justice

*-In MS - won a settlement banning solitary confinement for juveniles
-Ended discriminatory segregation of prisoners with HIV in AL and SC*

Immigrants Rights

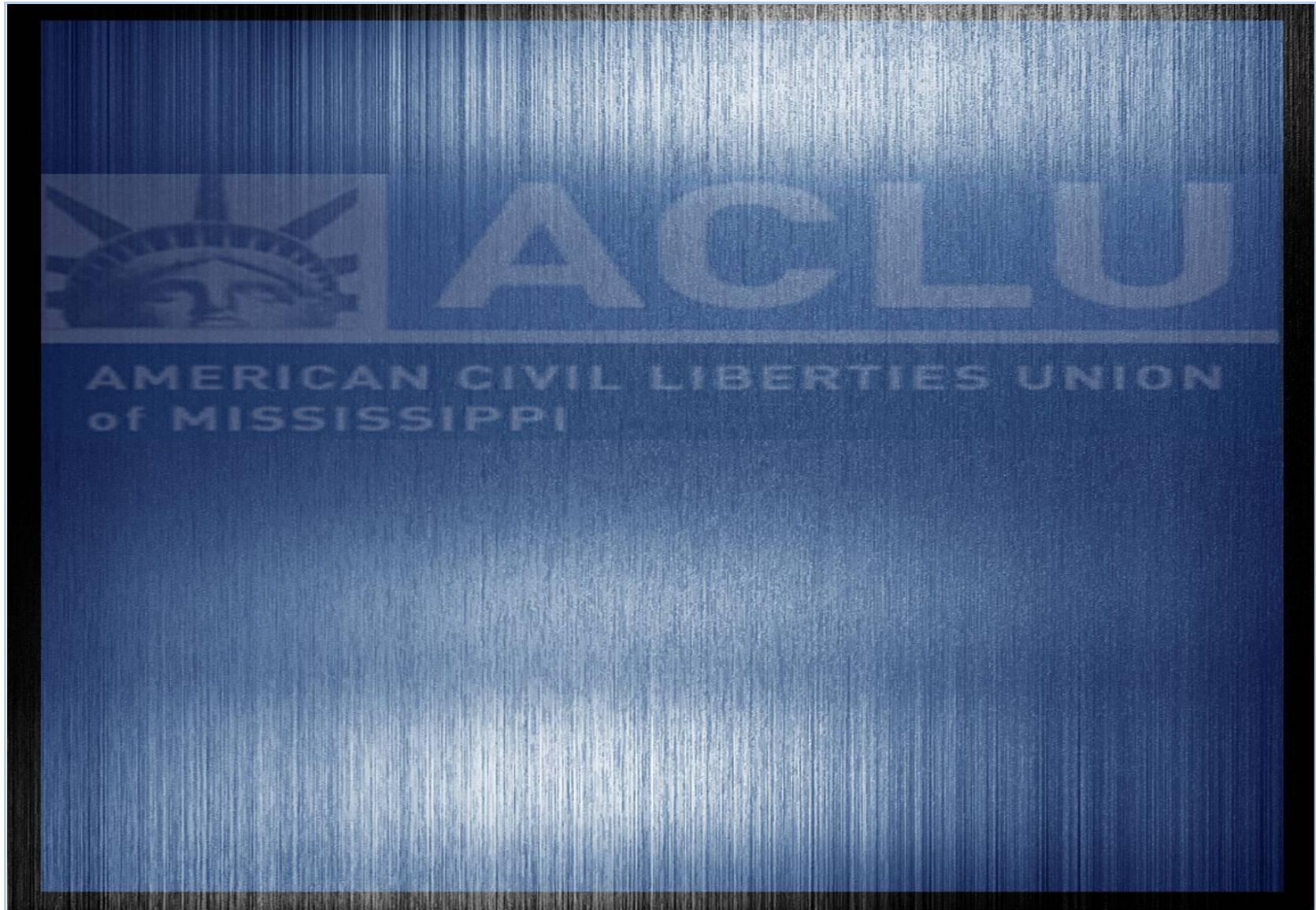
-Won federal ruling that immigrant detainees with serious mental disabilities must be appointed counsel

Privacy

Immediately filed a lawsuit against the National Security Agency in the wake of revelations about its warrantless and suspicionless collection of Americans' phone records.

Women's Health

Won a Supreme Court decision invalidating patents on two human genes associated with an increased risk of breast and ovarian cancer.



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