

ACLU OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA 2013 YEAR IN REVIEW



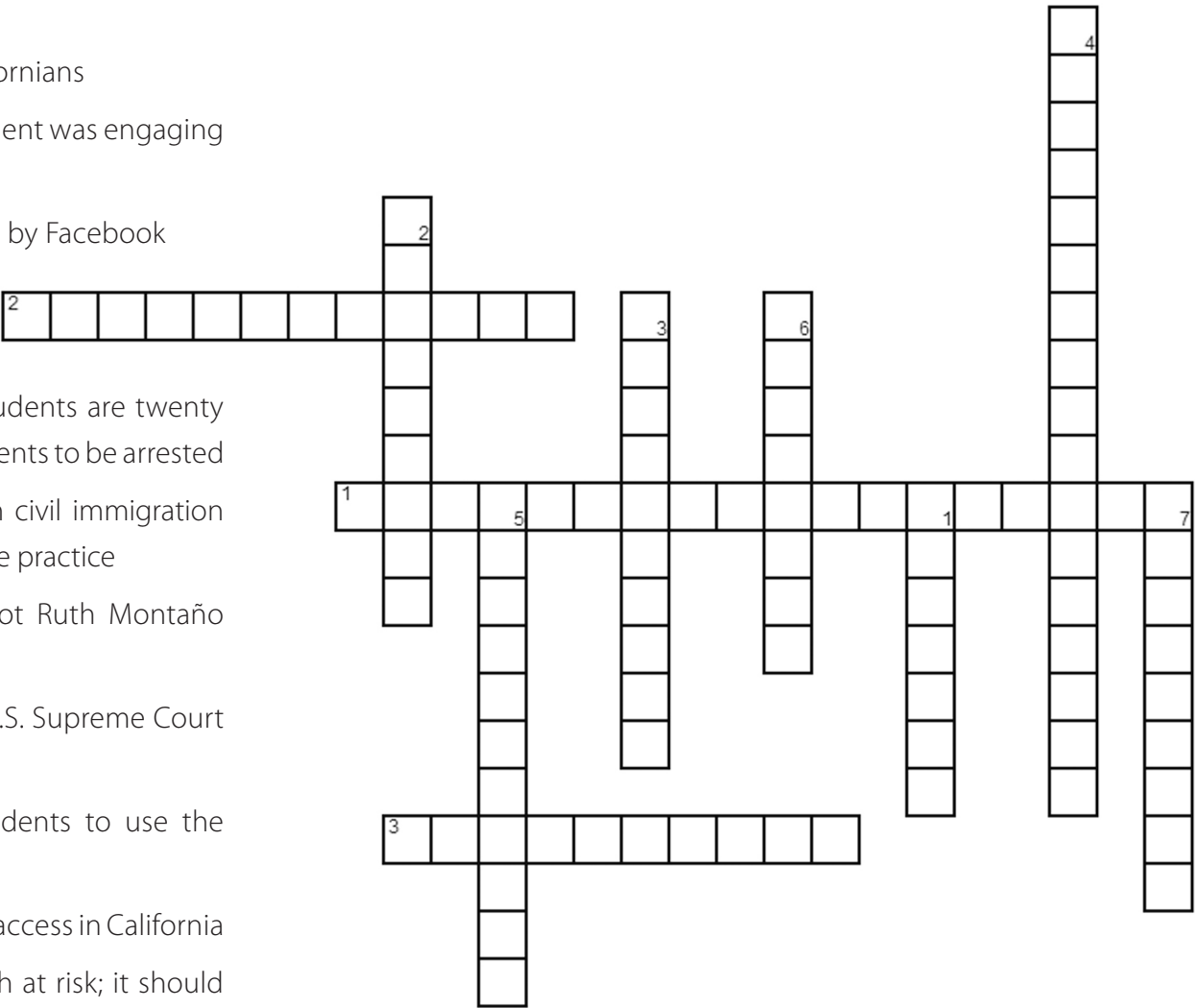
Turn the page to read highlights from the past year, then test your knowledge of civil liberties in California with the ACLU of Northern California Crossword Puzzle below!

ACROSS

- 1. Estimated number of disenfranchised Californians
- 2. Snowden revealed how much the government was engaging in this activity without our knowledge
- 3. ACLU blog post on this topic was censored by Facebook

DOWN

- 1. School district where African American students are twenty four more times more likely than white students to be arrested
- 2. A victory for human dignity: immigrants in civil immigration court are no longer subject to this inhumane practice
- 3. Trivial and unlawful charge that nearly got Ruth Montañó deported
- 4. A victory for marriage equality when the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a key provision of this Act
- 5. A new law in California allows these students to use the restroom they feel comfortable with
- 6. AB 154 is a victory that expands this type of access in California
- 7. Inaccurate sex education puts teens' health at risk; it should be science-based, not compare a woman who isn't a virgin to this object



ACLU OF NORTHERN CA

Criminal Justice

Tens of thousands of Californians are serving time in prison for non-violent offenses like having a small amount of drugs. Extreme sentences for low-level crimes have ravaged entire communities—particularly communities of color—and cost billions of dollars.

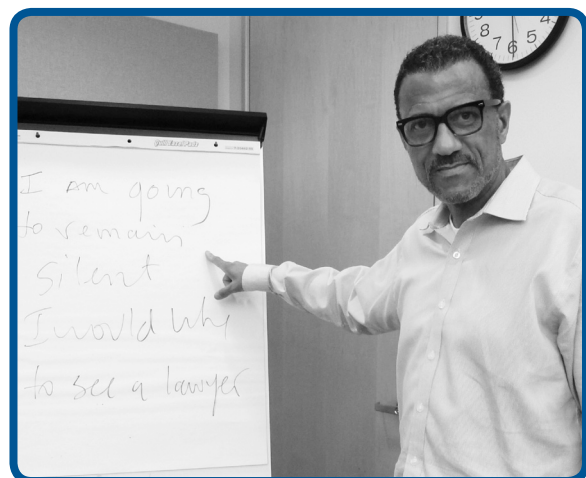
The ACLU is laying the groundwork for more thoughtful public policy on marijuana. Last fall, the ACLU and California Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom unveiled a blue ribbon panel to study legalizing, taxing, and regulating marijuana. By shifting the debate on drug laws and changing overly harsh sentencing policies in California, the ACLU is working to keep all of California's diverse communities safer.

Through statewide outreach and education, the ACLU is swaying policy makers—and the public—to favor smarter solutions to crime. Polling commissioned by the ACLU shows that California voters agree. Increasingly, so do many counties. Last year, San Joaquin County rejected plans to double the size of the county jail, opting instead for effective approaches to jail overcrowding—and half a billion dollars in savings to taxpayers. The county wisely acknowledged that funds would be better spent on alternatives to incarceration, like drug treatment and job training. These programs are proven to help individuals get on their feet and out of the criminal justice system for good.

Voting Rights

The ACLU sued the state of California for stripping tens of thousands of Californians of their voting rights. Under the California Constitution, all adult Californians are eligible to vote unless they are imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony.

In 2013, the state directed election officials to disenfranchise California voters who are under new forms of community-based supervision created for people recently incarcerated for non-violent, non-serious crimes. Because of racial bias that ensnares more people of color in the criminal justice system, this unlawful disenfranchisement of 58,000 Californians has disproportionately impacted voting in communities of color.



Know Your Rights training



Immigrants' Rights

Imagine you have sought asylum in the U.S. after suffering torture in your home country. You stand before an immigration court to give testimony. Now is your best chance to win the right to remain in the US—but you feel encumbered, distracted, and humiliated by the shackles and chains that have hung at your wrists, waist, and ankles for hours. Such is the federal government's policy to shackle detained immigrants appearing in civil immigration court—but no longer in San Francisco. In a historic settlement reached in 2013 in an ACLU case against the federal government, the US immigration authority agreed to reverse its shackling policy in San Francisco immigration court. The settlement will directly affect more than 6,000 people in immigration detention over the next three years and will be a model for policy changes and litigation across the state and the nation.

Ruth Montañó had lived and worked in California for 14 years when she was slapped with the threat of deportation. The Central Valley mother was arrested on a trivial charge for her barking dogs—but was torn from her three children for over a week and held in an immigration detention center. The real offense? That she was jailed on the assumption by local police that she was in the country without documentation.

Jails in California have routinely locked up individuals who pose no risk to public safety—all to comply with detention requests from an overzealous federal immigration system. With passage of the TRUST Act in 2013, county jails can no longer hold people for extra time just so they can be deported. The law will keep families together and keep local law enforcement focused on what's most urgent: protecting public safety.

Educational Equity

In a shocking report, the ACLU exposed the burgeoning education crisis for students of color. In the Oakland Unified School District, African American youth are less than a third of the student population, yet account for nearly three-quarters of juvenile arrests by Oakland police. They are 24 times more likely than white students to be arrested and booked—even though the majority of arrests of black youth are later dismissed. In schools in Oakland and across the state, youth of color—especially boys—are pushed out of school and into the criminal justice system.

Last year, the ACLU took action against school districts on California's North Coast for discriminating against students of color and failing to protect them from harassment. The ACLU sued one school district and filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights against another. Native American and Black students in Humboldt County were overly-disciplined and disproportionately forced out of mainstream schools. They were also physically, sexually, and verbally attacked by white students—while teachers and staff stood by. The ACLU's advocacy ultimately seeks to protect these students and provide safer schools for all.



A mom stands with her transgender son

LGBT Rights

Last June was historic for two U.S. Supreme Court decisions on the side of LGBT rights and marriage equality. The Court struck down a key provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act on the same day it restored the freedom to marry in California. These victories meant that same-sex married couples nationwide can access many federal marriage rights and benefits—and that same-sex couples in California could start mailing wedding invitations.

Marriage isn't the only priority for the ACLU's LGBT rights advocacy. The ACLU rallied support to pass the School Success and Opportunity Act, a law that ensures California schools have the guidance needed to make sure all students, including those who are transgender, have the opportunity to do well and graduate.

This law helps kids like Zoey, a 12-year-old transgender girl who left her school after administrators refused to acknowledge her as a girl or allow her to use the girl's restroom. Under the new law—the first of its kind in the country—Zoey's school and other schools in California have the guidelines and flexibility to meet the needs of all students.

Expanding Abortion Access

During the 2013 state legislative sessions, state lawmakers introduced more than 300 restrictions on abortion access around the country, including some of the most extreme in years. Even as other states tried to limit abortion access, California has stood as a beacon of hope—in no small part due to the ACLU's advocacy to expand access.

2013 YEAR IN REVIEW

In October 2013, the ACLU of Northern California and its partners passed AB 154. This proactive legislation expands access to early abortion so that women can receive care from trained providers in their own communities who they know and trust. With this law, California was the only state in the nation last year to pass proactive legislation that not only protects, but expands, access to abortion care.

Sex Education

To stay safe, teens need complete and accurate sexual health information for whatever point in their lives they become sexually active. In California, it's the law. Due to the work of the ACLU-NC, sex education in California public schools must be comprehensive, accurate, science-based, and bias-free.

Yet some public schools violate the law—and put teens' health at risk—by obscuring the facts and preaching an abstinence-only-until-marriage message. The ACLU-NC filed a lawsuit in 2012 against the Clovis Unified School District on behalf of parents and physicians who objected to the district's sex education instruction and materials—which failed to mention methods of contraception and compared a woman who is not a virgin to a dirty shoe.

Last year, our efforts were successful: the district has dramatically improved its curriculum by adding unbiased materials and better training for teachers.

Racial Justice

In 2013, the ACLU-NC stood up for fairness—and against discrimination—by winning a court decision that protects equal opportunity for women and minority small business owners in California. Our case affirms the California Department of Transportation for reaching out to women and minority business owners to bid for federal contracts. The court ruled that not only is Caltrans' outreach program constitutional, but necessary to break down the barriers that often disadvantage firms owned by people of color. Our victory secures equal ground for women and minority business owners while strengthening California's economy—and integrity—as a whole.

Technology and Privacy

Edward Snowden's revelations showed Americans just how much the federal government's sprawling surveillance network collects massive amounts of information on innocent Americans. From sky-high drones to license plate scanners, new technologies—combined with the ongoing erosion of privacy protections—have made ours a surveillance society. Secret, unchecked surveillance is antithetical to democracy. They've gone too far.

Among Snowden's revelations was this: AT&T and Verizon had handed the National Security Agency information about millions of customers' calls. The ACLU-NC filed a shareholder proposal—an unusual tactic for the ACLU—to pressure the companies to publish transparency reports that detail what, and how much, they've handed over to US or foreign governments.

At long last, both companies broke their years-long silence. The transparency reports showed that each company received more than 300,000 government demands for consumer information—only a fraction involving a warrant—as well as more than 30,000 demands for location data. What we don't know is how often the companies complied. The ACLU will continue pushing back on government data demands and advancing reforms to outdated electronic privacy laws.

The ACLU-NC filed the first civil suit in California to challenge warrantless cell phone searches at arrest. The suit was filed on behalf of civil rights activist Bob Offer-Westort, whose phone was confiscated by San Francisco police, and his private text messages read aloud, after he was arrested during a non-violent protest. People should not lose their constitutional right to privacy at arrest, especially not when engaged in peaceful First Amendment activities.

Free Speech

Freedom of the press is a key indicator of a healthy democracy. When the government conducts surveillance on news organizations, it interferes with journalists' ability to do their jobs. That's why the ACLU sued the FBI on behalf of AntiWar.com, an online libertarian magazine, which had been the


subject of surveillance. This suit came on the heels of Associated Press reports that the government spied on its reporters and editors.

With all we do online, free speech on private digital platforms and social media is a hot-button issue. But imagine our surprise when an ACLU blog post about censorship was censored by Facebook. The post in question centered on controversial public art in a park, and featured a photo of the art piece – a bronze sculpture of a shirtless woman. The company backtracked and said the takedowns were a mistake but the issue highlighted this ongoing problem.



Community Engagement

Over 250 ACLU members, activists, and staff assembled in Sacramento for the ACLU of California 2013 Conference & Lobby Day. The gathering brought together those most impacted by short-sighted policies and civil rights abuses, including students, low-income families, people of color, and rural community members.

The ACLU's work empowering communities to create change doesn't begin and end in Sacramento. We count on a bilingual team of field fellows and organizers who educate, activate, and support diverse communities throughout California. Six ACLU-NC Field Fellows conducted Spanish-language "Know Your Rights" trainings and help volunteers organize phone banks and other activities. For many participants, these trainings are their only reliable access to information about their rights, and can make the difference between staying with their families, and being unfairly bullied, arrested, or even deported. 



Staff and interns at the ACLU of Northern California's San Francisco office



Staff of the ACLU's Sacramento legislative office

FINANCIAL REPORT

ACLU FOUNDATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

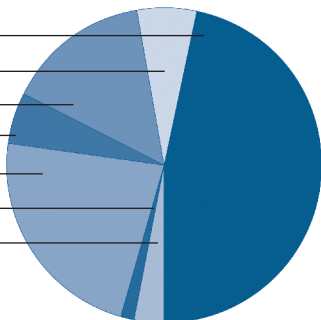
Operating Income and Expenses 2012 - 2013

SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

Individual Contributions:	\$ 9,465,862
Restricted Foundation Grants:	\$ 1,240,500
Bequest/Planned Gift Contributions:	\$ 2,999,399
Court Awarded Attorney Fees:	\$ 1,097,785
In-Kind Legal Contributions:	\$ 4,569,285
Other Income:	\$ 323,274
Investment Income/(Loss):	\$ 574,029
National ACLU share:*	(\$4,808,577)
Transfer to Reserves:	(\$3,501,408)

Total: **\$ 11,960,149**

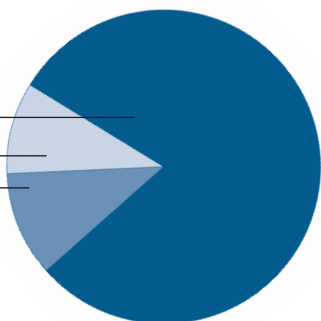
**Indicates sharing with National ACLU of contributions and bequests.*



EXPENSES:

Program Services:	\$ 9,534,086
Fundraising:	\$ 1,143,466
Management and General:	\$ 1,282,597

Total: **\$11,960,149**



ACLU OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

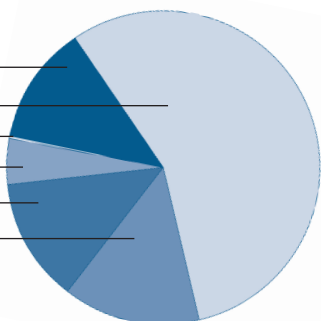
Operating Income and Expenses 2012 - 2013

SUPPORT AND REVENUE:

Public Contributions:	\$ 487,003
Membership dues:	\$ 2,180,460
Investment Income and Other:	\$ 2,280
Reimbursement for Legis. Ofc:	\$ 190,184
Grants:	\$ 548,965
Bequest/Planned Gift Contributions:	\$ 501,018
National ACLU share*	(\$1,707,358)
Transfer to Reserves:	(\$ 65,688)

Total: **\$ 2,136,864**

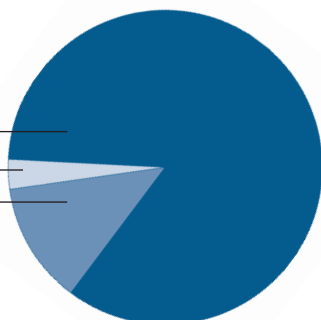
**Indicates sharing with National ACLU of contributions and dues.*



EXPENSES:

Program Services:	\$ 1,806,823
Fundraising:	\$ 64,527
Management and General:	\$ 265,514

Total: **\$ 2,136,864**



SOURCE: AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2013, BY HARRINGTON GROUP.
COMPLETE COPIES AVAILABLE AT WWW.ACLUNC.ORG OR BY WRITING: ACLU, 39 DRUMM STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111.

GIVING TO THE ACLU

You can help support the work of the ACLU or ACLU Foundation in any of these ways:

CASH OR CREDIT CARDS: The organization is pleased to accept your donation, or your monthly, quarterly or annual pledge via cash, check or credit card (Visa, Discover, Mastercard or American Express) at any time. Gifts may be made via mail or online at www.aclunc.org.

WORKPLACE GIVING/PAYROLL DEDUCTION: You may choose to designate the ACLU Foundation through your workplace giving campaign or via United Way Donor Option.

GIFTS OF STOCK OR SECURITIES: Making a gift of appreciated stock, securities or mutual fund shares can be very advantageous from a tax point of view. Call the Development Department for information for the easiest ways to transfer stock ownership.

INSURANCE & RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS: You may designate the ACLU or ACLU Foundation as beneficiary of your life insurance policy, IRA plan or pension.

BEQUESTS: In your will or revocable living trust, you may designate the ACLU or ACLU Foundation as beneficiary of part or all of your estate.

GIFT ANNUITIES: You may use cash or securities to make a gift to the ACLU Foundation and receive fixed annual payments (a portion of which can be tax-exempt) for life and a substantial tax deduction.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS: You can establish a charitable trust which benefits the ACLU Foundation while providing tax advantages and a variety of financial planning options for you and your family.

LIBERTY FUND POOLED INCOME GIFTS: You can invest a gift of \$5,000 or more in cash or securities in the ACLU Foundation's pooled income fund, producing annual income payments for you as well as a future gift for our civil liberties work. If you contribute long-term appreciated securities you will avoid all capital gains taxes.

For more information on ways to support the ACLU, contact Director of Development Cheri Bryant (415) 621-2493 or at cbryant@aclunc.org, or for planned giving information, contact our Planned Giving Associate, Anika Steig, at (415) 621-2493 or asteig@aclunc.org.