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**ACLU**  
Northern  
California

## ACLU SUES AS RACIAL DISCRIMINATION BY SFPD CONTINUES

By Leslie Fulbright

The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) has a long and sordid history of racial discrimination. Over the years, the ACLU Foundation of Northern California (ACLU) has fought for equal rights and treatment for all residents of San Francisco, and to ensure the SFPD protects everyone. The Constitution promises all people, regardless of race, equal protection under the law.

Earlier this year, the ACLU filed its latest lawsuit against the city, charging that the SFPD selectively enforced the law against Black people during a drug sting. The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court, seeks to hold the city of San Francisco accountable for its police department's racially discriminatory enforcement, which was made possible by the city's longstanding disregard for the constitutional rights of people of color. By doing so, the ACLU is hopeful that these practices—which should have never

existed in the first place—will end.

From 2013 to 2015, San Francisco police teamed up with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to target people for selling drugs in the city's Tenderloin district. Although it is well known to police that people of all races engage in drugs sales in the Tenderloin, the 37 people arrested and prosecuted in the federal sting were all Black. All of them. One hundred percent.

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## ACLU CONTINUES TO GROW ACROSS CALIFORNIA

It's been an exciting year as the three ACLU foundations in California further expand the reach of the ACLU throughout the state. With the help of new members and generous donors, we've increased our capacity in the Central Valley and opened three new offices: in Sacramento, Kern, and Imperial counties.

Growing in inland California is a key pillar of

our California strategy. Studies on demographic trends show that inland California has fast rates of population growth, high poverty rates, and limited legal resources. People living in the region can face some of the worst civil liberties violations, but have the fewest resources to defend their rights. That's why we've made it a priority to grow in that area of the state.

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## THANK YOU!

Thank you for generously supporting the ACLU and for taking action.

# FROM THE ACLU ARCHIVES: JAPANESE INTERNMENT TO THE ASYLUM BAN

By Pauline Schindler

On Dec. 4, The American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Northern California hosted a donor appreciation evening at The California Historical Society, a nonprofit that holds the official archives of the ACLU-NC since our establishment in 1934.

The archives are open to the public, and the event was an opportunity to look closer at the history we're dangerously close to repeating. The event, "At the Archives: A Conversation about National Security Then and Now," showcased original transcripts and letters from the ACLU-NC's landmark 1942 case *Korematsu v. U.S.* as well as the ACLU's work against the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC).

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“EACH DECADE PRESENTS  
NEW CHALLENGES, BUT  
THE THEMES OFTEN HAVE  
THROUGH LINES.”

—ABDI SOLTANI

ACLU-NC Executive Director Abdi Soltani led a panel discussion that drew on lessons from the past to frame present-day challenges of national security and freedom. “Each decade presents new challenges, but the themes often have through lines in them,” Soltani said.

Panelists included Karen Korematsu, founder and executive director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute and daughter of the late Mr. Korematsu; Marshall Krause, who served as the lead attorney for the ACLU-NC from 1960 through 1968; and ACLU-NC Staff Attorney Vasudha Talla, whose work has countered the Trump Administration’s attack on Muslims and asylum seekers.

Reflecting on her father’s Supreme Court case, Karen Korematsu recalled the fear and racism that led to President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s executive order authorizing the internment of more than 120,000 American citizens and permanent legal residents of Japanese ancestry after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

“In 1942, there was something called the Japanese registry,” Korematsu said. “All these years later, the Muslim registry is not a new concept. That’s what we do in this country, target the people who are the most vulnerable. We have

to make sure, through the ACLU and all the work that you do, that their rights are protected.”

The ACLU-NC continued to challenge the restriction of constitutional rights in the years that followed. When Krause was a young attorney at ACLU-NC in 1960, HUAC came to San Francisco and subpoenaed 48 Northern Californians—many of them teachers and professors—to testify at City Hall about their political affiliations.

“The best way to combat the committee was to show that they had nothing to offer to the American people; that they had not even suggested any legislation,” Krause said. “And we had a whole day of instruction at one of the big schools. We told people we were going to talk about the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and we were totally surprised that 500 people showed up.”

Today, political engagement and activism is at an all-time high. Talla praised protesters across the country who have supported asylum seekers and denounced religious and racial discrimination.

“We’ve seen a massive outpouring of people who are energized, who want to reaffirm their value and commitment to human dignity,” Talla said. “We see people picketing, in demonstrations, and that’s a really important thing alongside the courts because people talk about how courts don’t lead. They follow, and they watch what the people are doing. That’s a huge story that will be told.”

*Pauline Schindler is the Executive Assistant at the ACLU of Northern California.*



At the ACLU-NC’s “At the Archives” event at the California Historical Society, ACLU-NC Executive Director Abdi Soltani led a panel discussion with Karen Korematsu (Fred T. Korematsu Institute founder and executive director who is continuing her father Fred Korematsu’s work), Marshall Krause (lead attorney for the ACLU-NC from 1960–68), and Vasudha Talla (ACLU-NC staff attorney working on the Trump Administration’s attack on Muslims and asylum seekers).



# WELCOME TO OUR INAUGURAL ACLU NEWS BOOK CLUB FORUM

By Carmen King

Starting with this edition of the *ACLU News*, we will be periodically reviewing and recommending books that align with our mission to advance constitutional rights. We invite you to participate in whatever capacity makes sense for you. Here are a few ideas: read the books on your own, start your own book club and follow along with our recommendations, or suggest our selections to your existing book club.

## REVIEW


This month we are reviewing *Biddy Mason Speaks Up*, the most recent installment in the Fighting for Justice series by Heyday Books that aims to teach young readers about civil rights and introduce them to the remarkable people who have fought for them. The book opens with a striking reminder—“the record we call ‘history’ does not tell everyone’s story.” Though the book was written with a middle school audience in mind, it’s a compelling read for everyone interested in civil liberties history.

Bridget “Biddy” Mason, was born into slavery in Georgia in 1818. The book tells the story of her securing her freedom as part of a wider struggle to abolish slavery, and her life as an African American midwife, businesswoman, and philanthropist.

The book begins with Biddy’s “Granny”—the woman who cared for Biddy after her own mother was sold away—who, despite being forbidden to learn to read or write, taught Biddy to “read” plants. Through Granny, Biddy learns how to deliver babies and which plants can be used to make medicine. But the people who claimed ownership over Biddy, the Smith family, didn’t think of her as a human being. To them, she and her children were property.

When the Smiths moved westward, Biddy and her

children were forced to make the long trek on foot, eventually arriving in California. Even though slavery was illegal in California during that time, the Smiths continued to hold Biddy and her children captive, forcing them to work without pay. When Biddy learned that the Smiths wanted to take her to Texas, a slave state, she, with help from a free Black family, hatched a plan to escape. She petitioned the state courts and secured her freedom in California, at a time when slavery was expanding in the rest of the country.

After fighting for justice and ultimately winning her freedom, Biddy was finally able to work for herself. Through her work as a talented nurse and midwife, Biddy saved enough money to buy a parcel of land, making her one of the first female landowners in Los Angeles. She went on to buy more land and eventually became one of the wealthiest people in the city. Her incredible legacy as a business woman, community leader, and philanthropist continued from there. Biddy Mason is one of the powerful people whose courage and bold action helped to abolish slavery and lead the country toward its promise of freedom and equality for all. 

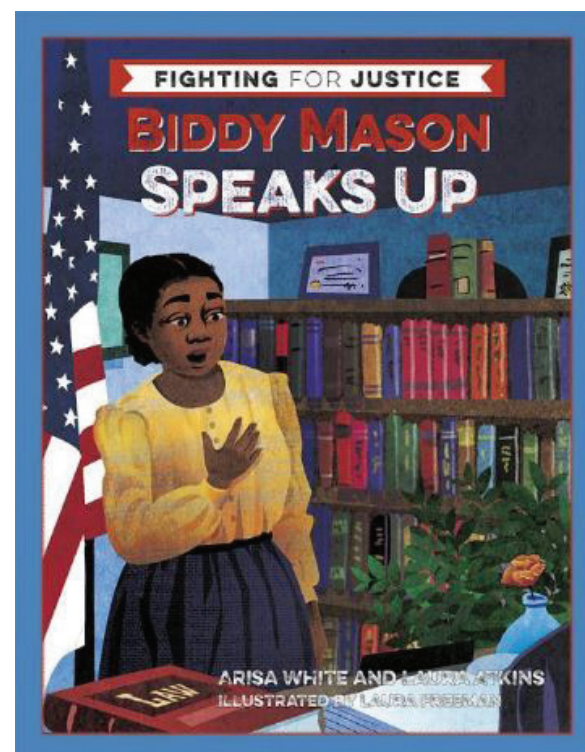
*Carmen King is a Communications Associate at the ACLU of Northern California.*



BIDDY MASON IS ONE  
OF THE POWERFUL  
PEOPLE WHOSE  
COURAGE AND BOLD  
ACTION HELPED TO  
ABOLISH SLAVERY AND  
LEAD THE COUNTRY  
TOWARD ITS PROMISE  
OF FREEDOM AND  
EQUALITY FOR ALL.

## BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

1. What can we take away from Biddy’s story to help us talk to children about slavery and the history of oppression, discrimination, and racism in our country?
2. Who in our community or country is resisting injustice today and how can we better support them in their fight?
3. What lessons in this book can help us today as we build movements and organize our communities for positive change?
4. What can we do to make the story we call “history” more accurate and inclusive?



*Biddy Mason Speaks Up*, written by Arisa White and Laura Atkins and illustrated by Laura Freeman, tells the story of a forgotten figure from history whose heroic story fighting for justice should be remembered. The book will be published by Heyday Books in February.

# LEGAL UPDATES

## ***EAST BAY SANCTUARY COVENANT V. DONALD J. TRUMP*** **CHALLENGES ASYLUM BAN**

On the same day in November that President Donald Trump signed a proclamation that, together with a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) rule, bans asylum for those who enter the United States outside a port of entry, the national ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project, the ACLU Foundation of Northern California, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Center for Constitutional Rights filed a federal lawsuit challenging the restrictions.

On Nov. 19, 10 days later, a federal judge issued a temporary restraining order blocking Trump's asylum ban while the suit moves forward. In his order, Judge Jon S. Tigar of the U.S. District Court in San Francisco wrote, "Whatever the scope of the President's authority, he may not rewrite the immigration laws to impose a condition that Congress has expressly forbidden." The government's attempt to overturn that ruling was later rejected by a three-judge panel of the Ninth Circuit. On Dec. 19, Judge Tigar issued a preliminary injunction blocking the ban.

The lawsuit charges the government with violating the Immigration and Nationality Act and the Administrative Procedure Act. The case, *East Bay Sanctuary Covenant v. Trump*, was filed Nov. 9 in federal court in San Francisco on behalf of East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Al Otro Lado, Innovation Law Lab, and Central American Resource Center in Los Angeles.

## ***ACLU-NC FOUNDATION V. VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT*** **IGNORED BIGOTRY**

On Oct. 24, the ACLU Foundation of Northern California filed a discrimination complaint on behalf of Black students in the Visalia Unified School District who have faced ongoing racial hostility.

The complaint, filed with the Office for Civil Rights within the U.S. Department of Education, charges the district with violating Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by creating

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CONGRESS HAS EXPRESSLY  
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—JUDGE JON S. TIGAR OF THE  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT IN SAN  
FRANCISCO, SPEAKING ON  
*ACLU-NC V. DONALD J. TRUMP*

a racially hostile environment. Filed by five Black students on behalf of themselves and other Black students in the district, it also cites racially disparate detention and suspension rates. The complaint comes after past ACLU work in this district attempting to address similar concerns. An amended complaint was filed in November, adding additional clients.

"It's been over a decade since we were made aware of the racial tension and put the school district on notice," said attorney Abre' Conner of the ACLU-NC Foundation. "This district has had years to work with us on addressing the racial hostility."

## ***HARRIS V. CITY OF FONTANA*** **HOME MARIJUANA CULTIVATION**

In a victory with statewide implications, on Nov. 2 the San Bernardino Superior Court struck down the bulk of the City of Fontana's restrictions on home cultivation of marijuana for personal use.

The lawsuit was filed by the Drug Policy Alliance and the ACLU Foundation of Northern California on behalf of a medical marijuana patient wishing to cultivate marijuana for his own use inside his home.

Fontana's ordinance required residents to register with the city, undergo a criminal background check, open their home to city officials for inspection, and pay a \$411 fee before obtaining a permit.

The suit was the first legal test of how far

cities can go when regulating residents' rights to use and grow recreational marijuana. In 2016, California voters passed Proposition 64, which allows adults 21 and older to possess up to one ounce of marijuana and cultivate up to six marijuana plants at their private residence away from public view. The ACLU of Northern California previously convened the Blue Ribbon Commission on Marijuana Policy, chaired by then-Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, to help the state safely legalize marijuana.


## ***KUANG AND COOKE V.*** ***U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE***

### **OPENS MILITARY TO GREEN-CARD HOLDERS**

A federal court ruled on Nov. 16 that the Trump Administration cannot block hundreds of lawful permanent residents from serving in the U.S. military.

The preliminary injunction holds that the Department of Defense's October 2017 action violated federal procedures after implementing a policy that discriminates against lawful permanent residents.

The ruling finds that the Defense Department provided no rational justification for the policy change.

The case was filed in June 2018 by the ACLU Foundations of Southern and Northern California, and the law firm Latham & Watkins, on behalf of all lawful permanent residents who enlisted in the armed services but have not been permitted even to attend basic training. 

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

The ACLU Center for Advocacy & Policy staff review every bill introduced in the California legislative process each year. We help amend and fix hundreds. As of press time, the legislative team is gearing up for the new legislative season. Stay up to date by signing up for our email list at [www.aclunc.org/email](http://www.aclunc.org/email), and look out for an update on 2019 bills in the spring issue of the *ACLU News*.



## ACLU GROWING ACROSS CALIFORNIA

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

An anchor of the ACLU of Northern California's inland strategy is our Fresno office. Opened initially as a small office in 2011, in the past two years, we have hired additional lawyers, organizers and support staff to increase access to justice for the nearly 6.5 million people living in the Central Valley. The office works on a range of nationwide ACLU issues, such as immigrants' rights, as well as issues acute to the region, such as equal access to clean water.

## IMPACT IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

To increase our reach further north, we opened a new office in Sacramento to allow the ACLU to focus on civil rights violations in the Sacramento metropolitan area, and nearby counties such as Stanislaus and San Joaquin. In April, attorneys in that office filed suit to halt enforcement of an unconstitutional anti-solicitation ordinance adopted by the Sacramento City Council that gave police the authority to cite, fine, and arrest people who were panhandling. In July, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction, halting the ordinance.

## EXPANDING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA


To increase our reach further south, this year, the ACLU Foundation of Southern California opened a new office in Kern County to help address some of that area's flagrant civil rights violations. In 2017, an ACLU report found that the Kern County Sheriff's Office and Bakersfield Police Department have a disturbing pattern of excessive force. For example, the Bakersfield police had the highest rate of police homicides per capita of the country's 60 largest police departments.

## OUTREACH IN INLAND CALIFORNIA

To increase capacity in the inland area of the California-Mexico border, the ACLU Foundation of San Diego and Imperial Counties opened a new office in Calexico, in Imperial County. Staff from that office are providing Know Your Rights trainings for nonprofits on immigration enforcement and making regular visits to the Imperial Detention Center to learn about issues that

people being detained are facing. The office is also monitoring the school districts to make sure state money for low-income and English learner students is properly spent.

With the addition of these new offices, we now have 10 ACLU offices throughout the state. With this deeper presence, we will have greater impact in local

communities, a more powerful voice to  
advance positive change in California  
and increased capacity to hold the  
federal government accountable to  
our constitutional rights.” 

**THE ACLU HAS EXPANDED  
ACROSS CALIFORNIA—WE'RE  
NOW 10 OFFICES STRONG.**

SAN FRANCISCO,  
SACRAMENTO (TWO OFFICES  
INCLUDING OUR STATEWIDE  
LEGISLATIVE TEAM), FRESNO,  
LOS ANGELES, ORANGE,  
SAN BERNARDINO, SAN  
DIEGO, KERN, AND IMPERIAL.

## ACLU Presence in California

- ♦ Sacramento Capitol
- ♦ Sacramento Metro - *New in 2018*
- ♦ San Francisco - *Affiliate Headquarters*
- ♦ Fresno
- ♦ Kern - *New in 2018*
- ♦ Los Angeles - *Affiliate Headquarters*
- ♦ San Bernardino
- ♦ Orange
- ♦ San Diego - *Affiliate Headquarters*
- ♦ Imperial - *New in 2018*


## ACLU ADVOCACY LEADS TO MULTILINGUAL WATER REPORTING

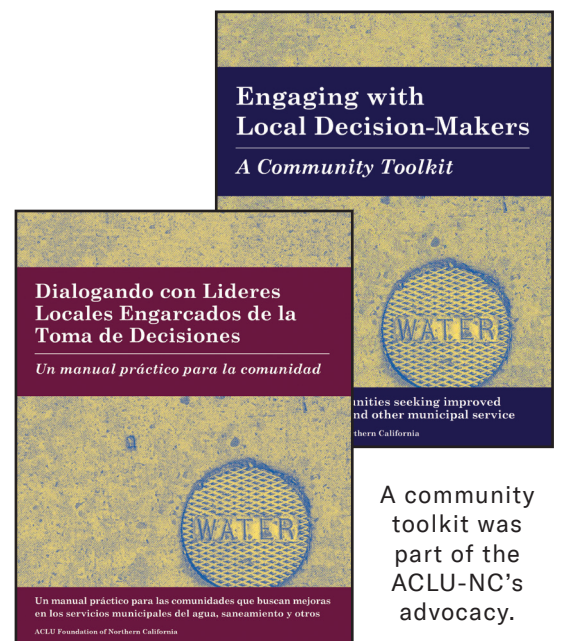
**By Kena Cador**

Everyone has the right to safe and clean drinking water and deserves to have the information they need to protect their health. Nationally, this issue became a major flashpoint when the ACLU of Michigan helped expose the water crisis in Flint, Mich. But tens of thousands of people in California are unknowingly exposed to dangerous toxins because the annual water quality reports sent to them are written in a language they don't understand.

The ACLU Foundation of Northern California has been advocating for multilingual water reporting, and recently had a major victory.

By law, all water systems are required to send out reports that notify residents about their drinking water quality. However, nearly 7 million people in California, more than any other state, have a limited ability to understand English. Yet until recently, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) only provided one sentence in the official water template that wasn't in English.

We brought this major problem to the attention of the SWRCB. We sent them a letter detailing our concerns—and they listened. We’re proud to report that as of the end of 2018, the SWRCB now provides translations in 24 different languages. 



# FIELD FELLOWS BUILD POWER IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY

By Brady Hirsch

In the months leading up to the 2018 midterm elections, the ACLU of Northern California expanded its outreach in the Central Valley, to help engage infrequent voters in the democratic process. One part of that strategy was hiring a talented group of field fellows, composed of Central Valley residents who were activists and leaders in their communities. From phone banking to door knocking, providing voter registration information to poll watching, the fellows were at the forefront of our efforts and successes. They worked tirelessly, traveling back and forth hundreds of miles to visit urban centers in Fresno, Tulare, and Kern counties, as well as rural communities without internet that historically have been marginalized by the government.

As members of the communities they served, the fellows understood the discrimination these communities continue to face.

“People in the Central Valley are dealing with intergenerational trauma and oppression that needs to be addressed,” said Cristel Jensen, field fellow in Visalia County. “To do that, we need to make the information we share relevant to people’s lives.”

Every day, the fellows employed a range of strategies to reach young people, Latinx communities, and low-propensity voters. They held trainings at high schools and community colleges to teach people their rights if police or Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) knock on their door. They hosted “Bring Your Own Ballot” (BYOB) parties in neighborhood parks to discuss issues over drinks and music. And they went into people’s homes to provide presentations in a safe setting.

“The majority of the work we were doing was about getting out the vote and continuing to build relationships with community members,” said Danielle Rondero, a fellow covering Fresno County. “It was really important to build up the ACLU’s visibility.”

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OF THE INFORMATION TO  
BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN  
THEIR COMMUNITIES.”

—FIELD FELLOW  
CRISTEL JENSEN

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The fellows also tabled at neighborhood events, like swap meets and farmers’ markets. Their voices joined the chorus of vendors, except instead of offering goods and produce, they talked about civil rights, the Constitution, and the issues that people care about.

“I wanted to give people a chance to get together and talk about the issues that were important to them,” said Bryan Osorio, a fellow in Kings County. “The ACLU adds wood to the fire, but the fire is already there.”

When speaking with members of the community about the ACLU and its mission, the fellows drew on local injustices that people were familiar with, including unlawful ICE activity, police brutality, and inadequate reproductive health care.

“I have actually worked with these communities,” said Ruth Sanchez, fellow in Kings and Fresno counties. “I can say I’ve been here and I’ve seen the injustices first hand.”

Although getting out the vote was the focus, it was just the starting point. Our hope was to use the midterm elections as a launching pad for Central Valley residents to build power, advocate for their rights, and hold their government accountable to every resident.

“The ACLU’s work empowers people and gives them a sense of hope,” said Cristel Jensen. “They can make use of the information to become more active in their communities. If the person I talked to shows up at the next public meeting, that’s success.” 

*Brady Hirsch is a Communications Associate at the ACLU of Northern California.*



ACLU field fellows and organizers hosted a “Bring Your Own Ballot” event at Tacos Lucha in North Visalia, providing Know Your Rights and voter registration information.

## JOIN US IN APRIL

RISE UP TO ACHIEVE JUSTICE WITH  
HUNDREDS OF ACLU ACTIVISTS  
AND COMMUNITY LEADERS AT

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# SFPD RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Of course police are authorized to arrest people for unlawful drug sales, but targeting people based on their race is unconstitutional. And the ACLU plans to hold SFPD accountable for this racially discriminatory enforcement. As a whole, the criminal justice system is infected with racism, and racial bias motivates decision-making. This spills into much of police work, including drug enforcement.

“The SFPD’s history of racially discriminatory law enforcement is well documented and still inadequately addressed,” said Micaela Davis, a staff attorney with the ACLU Foundation of Northern California. “Multiple studies—some commissioned by the city itself—have consistently documented the tolerance of racist policing by the department, and yet the city has failed abysmally to take appropriate and meaningful steps to reform its unlawful ways.”

Courts have long recognized that the 14th Amendment’s Equal Protection Clause prohibits selective enforcement of criminal laws based on race. Yet our case on behalf of seven plaintiffs shows the SFPD violated that clause.

The Black individuals targeted on the basis of their race had their lives uprooted, were separated from their loved ones and suffered financial and dignitary harm. Additionally, once people are arrested and convicted, they face discrimination, stigma, and in some situations can be excluded from voting. Racially biased policing also reinforces the stereotype of Black people as violent and criminal.

Reports dating back to at least 2002 through the present, by the ACLU of Northern California, the Hayward Burns Institute, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), a Blue Ribbon panel convened by the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office, and others have documented the SFPD’s alarming racial disparities in enforcement of the law.

The department has not implemented adequate reforms in response to its history of racially biased policing, and has likewise refused to acknowledge or counteract sufficiently a departmental culture that tolerates racism and fails to adequately discipline officers the department knows have demonstrated racial bias. But we also know, that with sufficient legal and community pressure, positive change is possible. After the shooting of Mario Woods galvanized com-

munity attention and led to a DOJ investigation, the San Francisco Police Commission instituted changes to SFPD’s use-of-force policy. While that policy change continues to be implemented, renewed and sustained attention on racial bias itself is also urgently needed.

As demonstrated by this case of selective enforcement, the actions in this sting are indefensible and demonstrate yet again the systemic failures of SFPD and many other law enforcement agencies regarding their treatment of people of color.

“The SFPD is continuing a disturbing historical trend, not just in San Francisco but across the country, of selectively targeting people for arrest and prosecution based on their race,” said Ezekiel Edwards, director of the ACLU’s Criminal Law Reform Project. “By singling out Black people for enforcement among people of other races, police departments not only offend the Constitution they have sworn to uphold, they perpetuate this nation’s shameful legacy of racial discrimination.”

*Leslie Fulbright is a Communications Strategist at the ACLU of Northern California*

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## SFPD OVER THE YEARS

- 1984** Illegal arrests and brutality at Democratic National Convention lead to ACLU-negotiated crowd control reforms
- 2002** ACLU Report on police stops and searches blasts SFPD for not taking racial profiling seriously (*A Department in Denial: The San Francisco Police Department’s Failure to Address Racial Profiling*)
- 2005** ACLU Report on the dangerous lack of taser regulation (*Stun Gun Fallacy: How the Lack of Taser Regulation Endangers Lives*)
- 2015** ACLU of Northern California sues SFPD for excessive force in arrest of Black man
- 2016** ACLU calls for federal investigation of the SFPD after killing of Mario Woods
- 2016** Significant community pressure and federal investigation lead to changes to SFPD use-of-force policies
- 2018** ACLU and allies successfully defeat SFPD union ballot measure loosening taser restrictions

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am writing you with gratitude. Your support of the ACLU—either for many decades or years, or the many months since the election of Donald Trump—has meant so much to all of us at the ACLU. Taking on these issues every day is hard work for the ACLU staff, but your moral commitment to our country’s most important values, your membership and financial contributions to the ACLU and many other groups, and your activism and civic engagement have made all the difference.

I want to share a few things to be vigilant about in 2019.

**First, we have to continue to stop Donald Trump and his administration from implementing policies that attack our rights, our values, and our democratic institutions.** The list is long: the asylum ban, family separation, and border wall; the change to the public charge rule that would make it harder for low-income immigrants and immigrants with disabilities to proceed in our immigration process; the addition of the citizenship question to the census; assaults on the rights of transgender people; restrictions on women’s rights and access of all people to reproductive health care; attacks on voting rights and democratic institutions. The list goes on. Please take action frequently—be relentless.

**Second, we have to press local and state government in California to be bold leaders in the protection and advancement of civil liberties. This means standing up to Trump, but it also means addressing longstanding issues in California.**

Let me highlight three issues here in California that are important for our members to engage in. In 2019, please look out for opportunities to:

- 1. Engage your local district attorneys to stop mass incarceration as we continue our Meet Your DA campaign.
- 2. Advance bail reform at the local and state level so people can be free while awaiting trial except in the most limited circumstances.
- 3. Help us stop racial profiling and excessive use of force by police.

TAKE ACTION.  
BE RELENTLESS.  
USE YOUR  
POWER.



PHOTO BY BETHANIE HINES

ACLU of Northern California Executive Director Abdi Soltani

My pledge is to do the things in my power to fight for freedom and equality. Remember, we *all* have a lot of power.

We will follow the news of investigations and hearings, but our greater power lies in exercising our individual rights to free speech, freedom of association, to protest and to publish, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances. Onward.

Abdi Soltani  
Executive Director, ACLU of Northern California

## JOIN THE ACLU LEGACY CHALLENGE

- 1. **NAME** THE ACLU IN YOUR WILL
- 2. **TELL US** ABOUT YOUR FUTURE GIFT
- 3. **TRIGGER** AN IMMEDIATE CASH MATCH TO THE ACLU

For a short time, name the ACLU in your will, and The Crankstart Foundation will make an immediate matching cash donation of up to 10% of the value of your future gift to the ACLU.

For more information, visit [aclu.org/jointhechallenge](https://aclu.org/jointhechallenge)