

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2015

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Certified Public Accountants, LLP

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Governors American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Northern California, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Northern California, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2015, and the related Statements of Activities, Functional Expenses, and Cash Flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Northern California, Inc. as of March 31, 2015, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Northern California, Inc.'s 2014 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated September 16, 2015. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended March 31, 2014, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Harrington Group

San Francisco, California October 8, 2015

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### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION March 31, 2015 With comparative totals at March 31, 2014

	U	nrestricted	mporarily estricted	ermanently Restricted	2015	2014
Assets				 		 
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)	\$	2,611,646	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,611,646	\$ 3,079,554
Pledges receivable (Note 3)			108,775		108,775	107,800
Other accounts receivable		21,316			21,316	212,093
Due from National (Note 13)		2,138,864			2,138,864	-
Due from ACLU-NC		204,859			204,859	257,203
Other assets		76,061			76,061	169,584
Deposits		8,937			8,937	8,937
Investments (Note 4)		2,763,938	6,678,090	2,730,304	12,172,332	11,308,234
Property and equipment (Note 6)		9,042,184	 	 ,	 9,042,184	 9,322,998
Total assets	\$	16,867,805	\$ 6,786,865	\$ 2,730,304	\$ 26,384,974	\$ 24,466,403
Liabilities and net assets						
Liabilities						
Accounts payable	\$	241,586	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 241,586	\$ 164,005
Accrued liabilities (Note 7)		413,276			413,276	639,517
Line of credit (Note 8)					-	-
Payable to National (Note 13)					-	957,796
Note payable (Note 9)		1,481,013		 	 1,481,013	 1,600,162
Total liabilities		2,135,875	 -	 	 2,135,875	 3,361,480
Net assets						
Unrestricted		3,109,947			3,109,947	2,000,000
Unrestricted - board designated funds (Note 10)		4,060,812			4,060,812	3,654,753
Unrestricted - property and equipment		7,561,171			7,561,171	7,722,836
Temporarily restricted (Note 11)			6,786,865		6,786,865	4,997,030
Permanently restricted (Note 12)			 	 2,730,304	 2,730,304	 2,730,304
Total net assets		14,731,930	 6,786,865	 2,730,304	 24,249,099	 21,104,923
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	16,867,805	\$ 6,786,865	\$ 2,730,304	\$ 26,384,974	\$ 24,466,403

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the year ended March 31, 2015 With comparative totals for the year ended March 31, 2014

	T	nrestricted		emporarily estricted		rmanently estricted		2015	2014
Revenue and support		nrestricted	K	estricted	K	estricted		2015	 2014
Contributions	\$	6,948,054	\$	2,374,977	\$	-	\$	9,323,031	\$ 5,824,764
In-kind contributions (Note 15)	π	4,642,337	π	_,,.			•	4,642,337	6,057,424
Bequests		1,364,684		336,576				1,701,260	1,370,335
Grants		86,000		1,289,496				1,375,496	896,150
Gain on investments		443,868		229,827				673,695	1,110,941
Attorney fee awards (Note 2)		518,338						518,338	85,333
Interest and dividends income		125,177		102,182				227,359	214,111
Other revenue		225,236						225,236	350,816
Net assets released from capital restrictions		119,148		(119,148)				-	-
Net assets released from purpose restrictions		2,424,075		(2,424,075)				-	-
National share (Note 13)		(3,714,333)		· · ·				(3,714,333)	 (3,566,178)
Total revenue and support		13,182,584		1,789,835				14,972,419	 12,343,696
Expenses									
Program services		9,289,443						9,289,443	10,535,810
Management and general		967,510						967,510	1,427,148
Fundraising		1,571,290						1,571,290	 1,080,158
Total expenses		11,828,243				-		11,828,243	 13,043,116
Change in net assets		1,354,341		1,789,835		-		3,144,176	(699,420)
Net assets, beginning of year		13,377,589		4,997,030		2,730,304		21,104,923	 21,804,343
Net assets, end of year	\$	14,731,930	\$	6,786,865	\$	2,730,304	\$	24,249,099	\$ 21,104,923

#### STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

For the year ended March 31, 2015 With comparative totals for the year ended March 31, 2014

	Program		Management				Total Expenses			
		Services	an	d General	Fı	indraising		2015		2014
In-kind legal expenses (Note 15)	\$	4,642,337	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,642,337	\$	6,057,424
Personnel costs		2,750,697		659,294		956,195		4,366,186		4,680,116
Meetings and travel		287,352		68,873		99,889		456,114		247,999
Legislative		370,698						370,698		-
Professional and consulting fees		225,696		54,095		78,456		358,247		555,418
Depreciation		205,178		49,178		71,324		325,680		325,058
Occupancy costs		187,387		44,914		65,139		297,440		176,850
Law intern		199,129						199,129		251,494
Printing, publications, and public education		120,049		28,774		41,731		190,554		130,483
Fundraising						129,222		129,222		81,402
Bank charges				22,304		71,210		93,514		21,099
Equipment and maintenance		50,198		12,032		17,450		79,680		70,867
Insurance		42,100		10,091		14,635		66,826		62,205
Other		65,258						65,258		-
Library materials		48,556						48,556		52,466
Telephone		23,271		5,578		8,089		36,938		42,401
Office supplies		22,074		5,291		7,673		35,038		25,551
Litigation costs		19,899						19,899		20,857
Cost of recruitment		12,505		2,997		4,347		19,849		7,349
Contribution and partner grants		11,315		2,712		3,933		17,960		221,542
Postage		5,744		1,377		1,997		9,118		12,535
Total 2015 functional expenses	\$	9,289,443	\$	967,510	\$	1,571,290	\$	11,828,243		
Total 2014 functional expenses	\$	10,535,810	\$	1,427,148	\$	1,080,158			\$	13,043,116

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended March 31, 2015 With comparative totals for the year ended March 31, 2014

	2015	2014		
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Change in net assets	\$ 3,144,176	\$ (699,420)		
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash (used)				
by operating activities:				
Depreciation	325,680	325,058		
(Gain) on investments	(673,695)	(1,110,941)		
Reinvested interest and dividends	(225,127)	(205,822)		
Change in discount on pledges receivable	-	(87,168)		
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:				
(Increase) decrease in pledges receivable	(975)	1,536,182		
Decrease (increase) in other accounts receivable	190,777	(173,881)		
(Increase) due from National	(2,138,864)	-		
Decrease (increase) in due from ACLU-NC	52,344	(257,203)		
Decrease (increase) in other assets	93,523	(29,209)		
Decrease in deposit	-	7,974		
Increase in accounts payable	77,581	69,724		
(Decrease) increase in accrued liabilities	(226,241)	37,607		
(Decrease) in payable to ACLU-NC	-	(198,995)		
(Decrease) in payable to National	(957,796)	(237,405)		
Net cash (used) by operating activities	(338,617)	(1,023,499)		
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Purchase of property and equipment	(44,866)	(48,858)		
Proceeds from sale of investments	887,757	1,882,064		
Purchase of investments	(853,033)	(1,741,343)		
Net cash (used) provided by investing activities	(10,142)	91,863		
Cash flows from financing activities:				
Payments on note payable	(119,149)	(112,708)		
Net cash (used) by financing activities	(119,149)	(112,708)		
Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(467,908)	(1,044,344)		
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	3,079,554	4,123,898		
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 2,611,646	\$ 3,079,554		
Supplemental disclosure:				
Operating activities reflects interest paid of:	\$ 94,847	\$ 93,876		

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 1. Organization

American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Northern California, Inc. ("the Foundation") is a taxexempt corporation founded in 1934. The Foundation conducts litigation, policy research and advocacy, public education, and community organizing in order to protect and defend civil liberties and civil rights. Acting on the firm belief that liberty must be protected for everyone if it is to be enjoyed by anyone; the Foundation works to defend the rights of all. The Foundation is particularly concerned about freedom of expression, the right to privacy, and the right to be free from discrimination.

Known for its legal activities and litigation to preserve constitutional rights, the Foundation also engages in policy work to address governmental over-reaching and effect legislation to improve justice and fairness. The Foundation participates in public forums and debates, interacts with the media, and engages in education and action through 60 staff and partnerships with clients, community leaders and community based organizations. In addition, the Foundation works with students in high schools to develop new leadership and educate young people about the Bill of Rights and its relevance to their lives. The ambitious legal docket includes more than 50 cases addressing a wide range of constitutional issues: free speech; discrimination (racial, religious, language, and immigrant minorities - including Muslims and Southeast Asians; lesbians/gay men, youth and students, and people with AIDS); due process (search and seizure, police abuse, prisoner's rights); criminal justice; privacy (internet, drug and HIV testing, domestic spying and surveillance, reproductive rights); and government intrusion resulting from the war on terrorism.

The Foundation is headquartered in San Francisco and conducts advocacy in the Northern and Central California regions stretching from Fresno up to the Oregon border. The Foundation is affiliated with the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, Inc. ("ACLU-NC") and the National organization, American Civil Liberties Union, Inc. ("National").

In order to stabilize occupancy costs and thereby provide a more predictable stream of funding for program activities, the Foundation has conducted a fundraising campaign and purchased an office condominium. The facility provides sufficient space for current staff, future staff growth, coalition and community meetings and national ACLU-NC projects working on immigration and lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender ("LGBT") issues. It is accessible by public transportation while being near to the legal community of downtown San Francisco.

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A summary of the significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements is as follows:

### **Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

### Accounting

To ensure observance of certain constraints and restrictions placed on the use of resources, the accounts of the Foundation are maintained in accordance with the principles of net asset accounting. This is the procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into net asset classes that are in accordance with specified activities or objectives. Accordingly, all financial transactions have been recorded and reported by net asset class as follows:

**Unrestricted**. These generally result from revenues generated by receiving unrestricted contributions, providing services, and receiving interest from investments less expenses incurred in providing program-related services, raising contributions, and performing administrative functions.

**Unrestricted Board-Designated**. These are comprised of resources that the Board of Governors has established as being designated for the future program and capital expansion, and cash flow resources. For purposes of complying with net assets accounting, this fund is included in unrestricted net assets at March 31, 2015 (see Note 10).

**Temporarily Restricted**. The Foundation reports gifts of cash and other assets as temporarily restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of the donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or the purpose of the restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the Statement of Activities as net assets released from program or capital restrictions (see Note 11).

**Permanently Restricted**. These net assets are restricted by donors who stipulate that resources are to be maintained permanently, but permit the Foundation to expend all of the income (or other economic benefits) derived from the donated assets (see Note 12).

# Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Foundation has defined cash and cash equivalents as cash in banks and certificates of deposits with an original maturity of three months or less.

# **Contributions and Pledges Receivable**

Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected within one year are recorded at net realizable value. Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected in future years are recorded at fair value, which is measured as the present value of their future cash flows. The discounts on those amounts are computed using risk-adjusted interest rates applicable to the years in which the promises are received. Amortization of the discount is included in contribution revenue. Conditional promises to give are not included as support until the conditions are substantially met.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

### Investments

The Foundation values its investments at fair value. Unrealized gains or losses (including investments bought, sold, and held during the year) are reflected in the Statement of Activities as gain on investments. Short-term highly liquid money market deposits that are not used for operations are treated as investments.

# Fair Value Measurements

Generally accepted accounting principles provide guidance on how fair value should be determined when financial statement elements are required to be measured at fair value. Valuation techniques are ranked in three levels depending on the degree of objectivity of the inputs used with each level:

Level 1 inputs - quoted prices in active markets for identical assets Level 2 inputs - quoted prices in active or inactive markets for the same or similar assets Level 3 inputs - estimates using the best information available when there is little or no market

The Foundation is required to measure certain types of assets, pledged contributions, non-cash contributions, and certain investments at fair value. The specific techniques used to measure fair value for financial statement elements are described in the notes below that relate to each element.

# **Concentration of Credit Risks**

The Foundation places its temporary cash investments with high-credit, quality financial institutions. At times, such investments may be in excess of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insurance limit. The Foundation has not incurred losses related to these investments or cash equivalents and transfers funds to other institutions on a regular basis to manage this risk.

The Foundation holds investments in the form of short-term money market investments, U.S. treasury notes, fixed income, and common stocks of publicly held companies, as well as mutual funds. The Board of Governors routinely reviews market values of such investments and credit ratings of bond issuers.

# **Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment are recorded at cost if purchased or at fair value at the date of donation if donated. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the related assets. Maintenance and repair costs are charged to expense as incurred. Property and equipment are capitalized if the cost of an asset is greater than or equal to five thousand dollars and the useful life is greater than one year.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

# Attorney Fees Awarded

The Foundation may receive attorney fees awarded by the court as a result of the settlement of certain types of litigation. Because awards are not determinable until resolution of the litigation, such amounts are not recorded until received. This may be several years after litigation began. Moreover, attorney's fees received in any given year may reflect awards arising from several cases over a period of many years.

# **Donated Materials and Services**

Contributions of donated non-cash assets are measured on a non-recurring basis and recorded at fair value in the period received. Contributions of donated services that create or enhance non-financial assets or that require specialized skills, are provided by individuals possessing those skills, and would typically need to be purchased if not provided by donation, are recorded at fair value in the period received.

A number of unpaid volunteers have made significant contributions of their time to the Foundation. However, the value of these services is not reflected in these statements because the criteria for recognition have not been satisfied.

# **Income Taxes**

The Foundation is exempt from taxation under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) and California Revenue and Taxation Code Section 23701d.

Generally accepted accounting principles provide accounting and disclosure guidance about positions taken by an organization in its tax returns that might be uncertain. Management has considered its tax positions and believes that all of the positions taken by the Foundation in its federal and state exempt organization tax returns are more likely than not to be sustained upon examination. The Foundation's returns are subject to examination by federal and state taxing authorities, generally for three and four years, respectively, after they are filed.

### **Functional Allocation of Expenses**

Costs of providing the Foundation's programs and other activities have been presented in the Statement of Functional Expenses. During the year, such costs are accumulated into separate groupings as either direct or indirect. Indirect or shared costs are allocated among program and support services by a method that best measures the relative degree of benefit. The Foundation uses full-time employee equivalents to allocate indirect costs.

### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses as of the date and for the period presented. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

### **Comparative Totals**

The financial statements include certain prior-year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Foundation's financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2014, from which the summarized information was derived.

# Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through October 8, 2015, the date which the financial statements were available.

# 3. Pledges Receivable

Pledges receivable are recorded as support when pledged unless designated otherwise. Management deemed pledges collectible; accordingly no allowance for doubtful accounts has been established for uncollectible pledges. Additionally, all pledges are valued at their estimated fair value at March 31, 2015. Discount on pledges receivables is immaterial, accordingly unamortized discount on pledges receivable is not recorded. Total amount of pledges receivable at March 31, 2015, of \$108,775 is expected to be collected as follows:

Year ended March 31,	
2016	\$ 57,710
2017	31,560
2018	18,420
2019	1,085
	<u>\$108,775</u>

### 4. Investments

Investments at March 31, 2015 consist of the following:

Equities/common stock	\$ 7,082,623
Fixed income	2,044,116
Money market	1,508,524
U.S. treasury notes, agency and related	1,155,955
Mutual funds	381,114
	\$12,172,332

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### 5. Fair Value Measurements

The table below presents the balances of assets measured at fair value at March 31, 2015 on a recurring and non-recurring basis:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	<u>Total</u>
Equities/common stock				
Information technology	\$ 753,329	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 753,329
Healthcare	640,787			640,787
Financials	589,094			589,094
Consumer discretionary	504,755			504,755
Industrials	474,072			474,072
Consumer staples	405,575			405,575
Energy transformation	286,238			286,238
Materials	133,980			133,980
Real estate trust	109,170			109,170
World stock	101,256			101,256
Telecommunications service	es 97,605			97,605
Utilities	61,000			61,000
Other	3,027,018			3,027,018
	7,183,879			7,183,879
Fixed income				
Corporate bonds		1,568,036		1,568,036
Government bonds		476,080		476,080
Intermediate government	279,858			279,858
0	279,858	2,044,116		2,323,974
Money market funds	1,508,524			<u>1,508,524</u>
U.S. treasury notes, agency				
and related	<u>1,155,955</u>			<u>1,155,955</u>
	<u>\$10,128,216</u>	<u>\$2,044,116</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$12,172,332</u>

The fair values of equities, fixed income money market, U.S. treasury notes, and mutual funds have been measured on a recurring basis using quoted prices for identical assets in active markets (Level 1 inputs).

The fair value of fixed income has been measured on a recurring basis using quoted prices in active markets for the same or similar assets (Level 2 inputs).

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 6. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment at March 31, 2015 consist of the following:

Building	\$ 9,649,913
Leasehold improvements	1,316,463
Equipment	887,393
	11,853,769
Less: accumulated depreciation	(2,811,585)
	<u>\$ 9,042,184</u>

# 7. Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities at March 31, 2015 consist of the following:

Accrued vacation	\$292,713
Accrued pension liability (Note 14)	77,921
Other liabilities	42,642
	<u>\$413,276</u>

# 8. Line of Credit

The Foundation has a line of credit in the amount of \$1,000,000, from a bank, at an interest rate of 1.00% above the bank's reference rate in effect per annum, currently at 4.25%, due October 31, 2015. No amount was outstanding at March 31, 2015.

\$1,481,013

### 9. Note Payable

Note payable at March 31, 2015 consists of the following:

Note payable to a bank, secured by real property, including variable rate at 2% per annum in excess of Bank's LIBOR rate, due June 1, 2024.

Maturities for the note payable are as follows:

Year ended March 31,	
2016	\$ 127,237
2017	134,509
2018	142,195
2019	150,321
2020	158,911
Thereafter	767,840
	\$1,481,013

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 10. Board Designated Funds

Under a policy established by the Board of Governors, the Foundation has set aside certain funds for specific projects and expenditures. Presented below is a summary of all activity in the Board of Governors designated funds.

	Major Attorney <u>Fees</u>	Board Designated Building <u>Fund</u>	Planned Giving Bequest <u>Fund</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
Opening balances,					
April 1, 2014	\$1,374,725	\$ 529,881	\$1,750,147	\$ -	\$3,654,753
Transfers in	518,338	250,000	412,363	2,238	1,182,939
Transfers out	(220,466)	(250,000)	(304,176)	(2,238)	(776,880)
Ending balances,	. ,	. ,	. ,	. ,	. ,
March 31, 2015	<u>\$1,672,597</u>	<u>\$ 529,881</u>	<u>\$1,858,334</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$4,060,812</u>

# 11. Temporarily Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets at March 31, 2015 consist of the following:

Criminal justice First amendment rights AIDS related and gay/lesbian rights Separation of church and state Executive director	\$ 494,766 301,659 176,897 20,000 20,154
Legal intern Total bornosta	17,752
Total bequests	<u>1,031,228</u>
Donor – restricted endowment funds (Note 12) Centennial campaign Campaign for the future (formerly: building) Criminal justice	1,794,835 1,952,577 1,636,476 126,042
Education equity	109,375
Reproductive rights	68,646
Immigrants rights	29,166
General support – time restriction	25,000
Voting rights	13,520
Total grants	5,755,637
	<u>\$6,786,865</u>

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 12. Permanently Restricted Net Assets

Generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") provides guidance on the net asset classification of donor-restricted endowment funds for a nonprofit organization that is subject to an enacted version of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act of 2006 ("UPMIFA"). GAAP also requires additional disclosures about an organization's endowment funds (both donor-restricted endowment funds and Board-designated endowment funds) whether or not the organization is subject to UPMIFA.

The Board of Governors has determined that the majority of the Foundation's permanently restricted net assets meet the definition of endowment funds under UPMIFA.

The Foundation's Endowment Fund is held and managed by National and consists of donorrestricted endowment funds. As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

The Board of Governors for the Foundation has interpreted UPMIFA as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Foundation classifies as permanently restricted net assets (a) the original value of the gifts to the permanent endowment, (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment, and (c) accumulations to the permanent endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund. The remaining portions of the donor-restricted endowment fund that is not classified in permanently restricted net assets is classified as temporarily restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Foundation in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. In accordance with UPMIFA, the Foundation considered the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds: (1) the duration and preservation of the fund, (2) the purposes of the organization and the donor-restricted endowment fund, (3) general economic conditions, (4) the possible effect of inflation and deflation, (5) the expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments, (6) other resources of the organization, and (7) the investment policies of the organization.

# Investment Return Objectives, Risk Parameters and Strategies

The Foundation has adopted investment and spending policies, approved by the Board of Governors, for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment funds while also maintaining the purchasing power of those endowment assets over the long-term. Accordingly, the investment process seeks to achieve an after-cost total real rate of return, including investment income as well as capital appreciation, which exceeds the annual distribution with acceptable levels of risk. Endowment assets are invested in a well diversified asset mix, which includes equity and debt securities, that is intended to result in a consistent inflation-protected rate of return that has sufficient liquidity to make a reasonable annual distribution, while growing the funds if possible. Therefore, the Foundation targets its endowment assets, over time, to produce an average rate of return of approximately 8% annually. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount. Investment risk is measured in terms of the total endowment fund; investment assets and allocation between asset classes and strategies are managed to not expose the fund to unacceptable levels of risk.

# NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 12. Permanently Restricted Net Assets, continued

### Spending Policy

The Foundation has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year 4% of its endowment fund's average of the fair market value of each unit share of the fund as of December 31 of the three immediately preceding calendar years proceeding the fiscal year in which the distribution is planned. In establishing this policy, the Foundation considered the long-term expected return on its investment assets, the nature and duration of the individual endowment funds, many of which must be maintained in perpetuity because of donor-restrictions, and the possible effects of inflation. The Foundation target is to allow its endowment funds to grow at a nominal average rate of 4% annually. This is consistent with the Foundation's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets as well as to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment return.

Endowment net assets composition by type of fund as of March 31, 2015 is as follows:

			Total
	Temporarily	Permanently	Endowment
	Restricted	Restricted	<u>Assets</u>
Donor-restricted endowment funds	<u>\$1,794,835</u>	<u>\$2,730,304</u>	<u>\$4,525,139</u>

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended March 31, 2015 are as follows:

			Total
	Temporarily	Permanently	Endowment
	Restricted	Restricted	Assets
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$1,661,446	\$2,730,304	\$4,391,750
Interest income	102,182		102,182
Custodian and administrative fees	(31,066)		(31,066)
Distributions	(167,554)		(167,554)
Investment return: net appreciation			
(realized and unrealized)	229,827		229,827
Endowment net assets, end of year	<u>\$1,794,835</u>	<u>\$2,730,304</u>	<u>\$4,525,139</u>

Permanently restricted net assets at March 31, 2015 consist of the following:

Trust for the Bill of Rights	\$1,714,044
Howard A. Friedman Endowment	950,654
Henry Sinton Fund Freedom of Expression	20,992
Ehrlich Emerging Issues Fund	22,307
39 Drumm Street Endowment	22,307
	<u>\$2,730,304</u>

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# 13. Related Party Transactions

The Foundation and ACLU-NC share rent and overhead expenses. The basis for allocation of these indirect expenses is the salary of employees, which relates to the time spent on programs of the respective organizations. At March 31, 2015, the amount due from ACLU-NC for such expenses was \$204,859.

Contributions received by the Foundation are subject to a Revenue Sharing agreement ("the Agreement") between the Foundation and National to ensure that the parties to the Agreement receive the same level of income as was received in an average base year, as defined, and any subsequent growth or decline is shared equally. Income from bequests is shared as follows: National (40%), the Foundation (40%), and the Affiliate Development Fund (20%). For the year ended March 31, 2015, National's portion of contributions received amounted to \$3,714,333, which is reflected as an offset of revenue and support. At March 31, 2015, the Foundation has a receivable from National in the amount of \$2,138,864.

# 14. Pension Plan

The Foundation is part of National's multi-employer defined benefit pension plan which was frozen effective April 1, 2009. Accordingly, no new participants have been added to the defined benefit plan census. Pension expense for the year ended March 31, 2015 was \$302,110.

The Foundation is also part of National's multi-employer defined contribution plan and the employees of the Foundation who meet the eligibility criteria may participate in the new plan. Pension expense for the year ended March 31, 2015 was \$53,330.

As a result of the Recession of 2008-2009 and continuing low interest rates in recent years, the nationwide ACLU's defined benefit pension plan, like many defined benefit pension plans of public and private organizations, is currently underfunded according to actuarial projections. A portion of the unfunded liability of the nationwide plan is for employees of the ACLU-NC and the Foundation. This unfunded liability is not reflected in these financial statements for two reasons: 1) the national ACLU carries the liability on its financial statements and has yet to indicate that its affiliates should do so, and 2) the national ACLU board has recently changed its investment manager and investment strategy and these changes have yet to make an impact on the projections.

# 15. In-Kind Contributions and Expense

The Foundation received pro-bono legal services from certain attorneys who support the Foundation. Such services were provided in support of the Foundation's basic charter for protection of individual rights. The established fair value of legal services received for the year ended March 31, 2015 amounted to \$4,642,337, and was based upon the number of hours contributed at appropriate billing rates and has been recorded as an in-kind contribution and expense (Level 2).