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## FOREWORD

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In celebration of the ACLU of Kentucky's 60th anniversary, we are taking a moment to look back at this organization's incredible history through the stories of 60 Faces of Liberty.

We've compiled 60 profiles of ACLU members, supporters, clients, board and staff members, whose recollections, accomplishments and lessons learned combine to create the powerful

story of our history. The stories you will read here honor the foresight of those who came before us and highlight how they inspire us today. Their work and ideas were, and are, your ACLU of Kentucky.

I am proud to stand with the exemplary past leaders of this outstanding organization and to work with all those who seek justice to protect our civil rights and liberties.

We are often advised not to "look back." However, here I invite you to join me in reflecting back on our organization's past. It is an effort that is sure to help in making sure we are headed in the right direction. It is my sincere hope the strong foundation provided by our Faces of Liberty will lead to continued success in our work to defend the Bill of Rights of the Constitution of the United States of America.

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***Enid Trucios-Haynes***  
*President, Board of Directors*  
*ACLU of Kentucky*

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\* Denotes ACLU-KY  
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# EQUITY PROJECT 2015

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACLU OF KENTUCKY VALUE STATEMENT

**“The American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky (ACLU) is freedom’s watchdog, working daily in courts, legislatures and communities to defend the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to all people by the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Kentucky,” including “our right to equal protection of the laws, regardless of race, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, disability or other such classifications.”**

— from the Mission of the ACLU of Kentucky

**“...the struggle for equality and civil rights, whether it be for African Americans and people of color or women or for lesbians and gays, has always been central to the struggle for civil liberties.”**

— Ira Glasser, ACLU of Kentucky 40th Anniversary Book

The ACLU of Kentucky has a 60-year history of working to ensure that each person’s rights are protected. Our affiliate recognizes there are communities of people who have been both historically, and are currently, denied certain rights that are extended to others. Therefore, these communities must endure discrimination and inequity which denies them access to resources and opportunity. In the past few years, the ACLU-KY board of directors established an equity

officer position and prioritized advancing an equity focus in its work; this development coincided with the national ACLU’s Equity Report. The current objectives of our equity work are to set short and long-term goals for programmatic equity and create an action plan to move forward this work with intentionality and energy. At this early stage in our process, it is clear that we need a framework to ground and guide us as we move forward.



This recognition moved us to explore the idea of expanding the ACLU-KY’s Mission Statement to make our commitment to equity and authentic inclusion explicit. It is our hope that by crafting an Equity Value Statement, we can more clearly define our mission and share our vision for social change. Toward this end, we can accomplish two important things: 1) We will more clearly and accurately communicate the nature of our work to members, social justice allies and the wider public, and 2) Our expanded mission can become part of the evaluation tools our staff and board of directors use to review and further develop our public education and communications programs. We want and need accountability in our

internal and community work as we work to live out our values and vision.

The Equity Value Statement we have developed is based on our best understanding of equity and inclusion at this moment in time. We consider this a living statement that may grow and change over time, as our understanding grows. We hope the Equity Value Statement will serve as a guidepost for our work in the coming years and that it will become one of the standards by which we measure our success in protecting and extending rights and liberties.

Our Equity Value Statement will be unveiled at the 60th Anniversary Bill of Rights Dinner, and will be available on our website [www.aclu-ky.org](http://www.aclu-ky.org).







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## 60 FACES OF LIBERTY: AN INTRODUCTION

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2015 marks an important milestone for the ACLU of Kentucky: our 60th anniversary of protecting your liberty here in the commonwealth. A group of Kentuckians, shocked and outraged at the “pervasive fog of guilt” that permeated Kentucky in the mid-1950s during the McCarthy era, came together to charter the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union (KCLU, our original name). The charges of sedition against Louisville activists Carl and Anne Braden for

purchasing a home on behalf of the African-American Wade family spurred the KCLU founders to action. The KCLU represented Carl on the appeal of his conviction, eventually securing a reversal after the U.S. Supreme Court declared all state sedition laws unconstitutional. Since the early days, our organization has expanded from a group of volunteers to a staff of seven. Our work has expanded outside the courtroom to

include advocacy at the Capitol, and education and organizing in communities across the state. What remains the same is our steadfast commitment to defending the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to all people by the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

This commemorative book is a bound collection of an anniversary celebration


the ACLU-KY has been having online all year. Each week, we released profiles of clients, members, board and staff members and coalition partners whose stories and memories collectively tell the story of this great organization. We are proud to present you with a printed collection of these important, inspiring stories.



## MIKKI ADAMS

**“What sets the ACLU of Kentucky apart from other organizations? The tenacity with which [it] grabs onto an issue, and [does not] let go. And they don’t fool around. They are not to be screwed with. We are not to be screwed with.”**

— Mikki Adams

 Mikki Adams got involved with the ACLU of Kentucky in the 1970s during the Vietnam War. “[President] Nixon came to town, and they were ripping signs out of our hands,” she recalled, laughing. “We all got pissed off.”

Getting pissed off was a common spark for Adams’ involvement with the ACLU-KY in a number of roles, including volunteer, member of the board of directors, and legal advisor on a range of civil liberties issues, especially women’s reproductive rights. She remembers reading an article about a woman having to go to New York to get a legal abortion. Adams realized most

Kentucky women didn’t have the resources to seek care in another state. She also noticed an increasing use of religious arguments to attempt to limit access to abortions. “I [was just] appalled that someone would insert their religion into my reproductive choices,” she said.

Since the early 1990s, Adams has helped teenage girls navigate the legal system through judicial bypass, so they could have an abortion without parental consent. Personally knowing people hurt by the lack of reproductive freedom spurred Adams in her work. “I knew several girls who dropped out of college because they

got pregnant. And other girls took care of their pregnancies: They went to New York or they went to Mexico or they went to Sweden, and then the back alley,” Adams said, adding that, while she wants to retire from law, she will continue her service to young women: “If my daughter were in that situation, I would want someone who was going to pay attention and listen to her and help her without any judgment.”

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# MICHAEL ALDRIDGE

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**“Historically, people think of us as a legal organization, as the world’s largest law firm, but we’ve really gotten away from that. Even on the national level, they’re moving much more toward the type of structure that we’ve had here in Kentucky for a long time.”**

— Michael Aldridge



Michael Aldridge, current executive director of the ACLU of Kentucky, got his start with the organization as a volunteer with the Reproductive Freedom Project. Gradually, his involvement expanded until he reached a decision: after working with the ACLU-KY and the Fairness Campaign against Kentucky’s definition of marriage amendment, Aldridge said: “I realized that my skill set aligned with this type of work long-term, and after that campaign, I went into nonprofit work full time.” When the ACLU-KY’s executive director position opened up in 2007, Aldridge went through the months-long selection process and eventually got the job.

Under his leadership, the affiliate has been able to hire more staff and retain current staff for longer than ever before.

“One thing that I’m really proud of is that we have grown the organization so much through staff expansion,” Aldridge said. A larger staff has allowed the organization to specialize and excel in areas like advocacy and communications. “We have a bigger impact statewide now,” Aldridge explained.

Aldridge also credits what ACLU-KY staff calls their “three-pronged” approach to the organization’s increased impact. The strategy, which began with the Reproductive Freedom Project, relies on educational advocacy in communities and lobbying in Frankfort in addition to the traditional legal program. “From the beginning, it was evident that we had to do education and raise a base of support around that [RFP] issue, particularly statewide,” he explained. “And then we asked those



people to come lobby with us. . . . I think it became a structure that we knew, so naturally we used that type of structure for all our issue work.”

Aldridge said that some of the ACLU-KY accomplishments he is most proud of were not the ones with the most publicity. One such case involved a group of Somali Muslims wishing to create a worship space. “The ACLU gets criticized a lot for being anti-religion,” Aldridge said. “I think that’s a real misconception about the organization, because we fight hard to make sure everyone has the right to practice their faith freely.”

“We must also be responsive to our times. Currently, there are great opportunities to tackle criminal justice reform in Kentucky, to define our role alongside the Black Lives Matter movement, and to tackle protections for our growing immigrant population,” Aldridge said. “Privacy issues are coming to the forefront as surveillance becomes omnipresent in our society and free-speech concerns take on renewed interest with the expansion of technological platforms. We will continue to evolve in order to have the largest impact possible on Kentuckians’ lives.”





**“The ACLU is very important because it speaks for silenced people. It speaks for the people who cannot speak.”**

— Ann Taylor Allen

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## ANN T. ALLEN

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Ann Taylor Allen received her doctorate in history from Columbia University and is a retired professor of history and women’s studies at the University of Louisville. She has written extensively on the history of the German feminist movement and studied in Germany on a Fulbright Fellowship. Allen has served as a volunteer escort at women’s clinics for the National Organization for Women and has volunteered for the Rape Crisis Hotline at the Center for Women and Families. She currently serves on the ACLU of Kentucky’s board of directors.

Her volunteer pursuits and passions were influenced by her personal experience with a failed IUD in 1970. At the time, Allen was a graduate student with a nine-month-old baby. The IUD failed due to medical malpractice and her doctor offered her an abortion, which by law required a psychological evaluation and an application to be

presented to the hospital board. Her application was approved, and she received the procedure. Through the process, she learned that other women did not share the same privileges for a safe abortion in a hospital.

In 1985, she participated in an abortion speak out. The events were organized around the country as a response to the shame and silence that quash conversation on the issue. Over the years Allen has supported the ACLU-KY Reproductive Freedom Project and the broader ACLU-KY for a very specific reason. Allen explained, “[The ACLU] does not take an ideological stance on beliefs about abortion, contraception, or sexuality. The ACLU, therefore, is not in the business of encouraging one kind of choice, and discouraging another.”

**“The courts, the streets, and passing laws, those are three key prongs of changing things for the better — not only in this country, but in the world. If we have those rights, we can change wrongs if we can just get enough people on our side.”**

— Bill Allison



## BILL ALLISON



ACLU of Kentucky cooperating attorney Bill Allison started his law career with the Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF), an organization closely connected with Carl and Anne Braden. SCEF was a Southern civil rights organization, and so from the beginning of his career, Allison was involved in civil rights and civil liberties litigation. “All of the different freedom efforts that we take for granted today came out of the struggle against segregation that had been going on for a long time,” Allison explained.

The year that Allison began practicing law, he worked as a cooperating

attorney on an ACLU-KY case about anti-war and free speech issues. When several anti-war activists decided to open an anti-war coffeehouse near Fort Knox as a way to protest the war and the draft, they were charged with “public nuisance.” Allison and other ACLU-KY attorneys defended the antiwar activists’ right to freely express their opinions. Allison also independently defended several men who had been drafted but objected to the war effort.

Allison’s most famous litigation work with the ACLU-KY, however, was related to what is now called the “Black Six case.” In 1968, the

year before Allison began practicing law, a local black realtor was the victim of police brutality, and his case picked up support throughout the black community. It culminated in riots, open housing marches, and six black leaders being arrested for conspiracy to destroy private property. The case was moved out of Louisville in order to get a fair trial, and two individuals “were doing some organizing down in the [new] county, telling the people down there, ‘don’t let Louisville officials put Louisville problems off on you all,’” Allison explained. Those two individuals were later charged with trying to influence a jury, and

in 1970 Allison worked with the ACLU-KY to represent them. Both cases were eventually dismissed.

“I think that the most important thing is that, in this country, we do have a very good Constitution and Bill of Rights,” Allison said. “And as long as we have those rights, then any time there’s an injustice, we can use those rights to speak out and to protest.”



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## JUNIS BALDON

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As a lawyer,  
ACLU of

Kentucky member, and cooperating attorney for the organization, Junis Baldon has found many ways to work to protect civil liberties since 2010. Baldon got involved with the ACLU-KY after simply asking a coworker at his law firm if there were any interesting cases the firm was helping the organization work on. That simple question has led to Baldon's assisting the ACLU-KY in multiple court cases, starting with defending the First Amendment rights of citizens, by successfully challenging a statute that limited individual

donations in school board elections.

Over the years, Baldon has gotten involved in a number of ACLU-KY court cases. He helped the ACLU-KY in its case against two Kentucky counties that violated the Establishment Clause with Ten Commandment displays on government property. The case took nearly 10 years to come to a conclusion. After the ACLU-KY win, Baldon recalled with pride a letter of thanks he received from national ACLU Legal Director Steven Shapiro for his contributions to the case.

Baldon believes that the ACLU-KY's history, and quality of work, sets it apart from other organizations. "They're doing real things. If I work on an ACLU project, there will be tangible results. People at ACLU really walk the walk. If they say they're going to do something, they'll do it and do it well." When asked for advice for people who wish to get involved with the ACLU, Baldon hoped people wouldn't be afraid to ask. "I found out from my own experience when I asked my partner and she set me up. Don't be afraid to be honest about what your interests are.

If you're going to get involved with the ACLU, make sure it's something you're interested in and passionate about, because being interested in it and passionate about it will make you do your best work."

Baldon currently works as an attorney at the law firm of Frost Brown Todd.





## JOHN M. BERRY, JR.

***“The right of every citizen, including attorneys, to publicly express opinions about the performance of public agencies and officials is a constitutional right that is vital to the success of our democracy.”***

— John M. Berry Jr.



The history of the ACLU of Kentucky’s Legal Program is essentially a long list of brave clients who stepped forward in hopes of protecting and strengthening individual rights and equality across the commonwealth.

The ACLU-KY proudly represented John M. Berry Jr., an attorney and former state senator, in a 2012 suit against the Kentucky Bar Association (KBA). The KBA had concluded Berry violated a professional ethics rule by writing a letter criticizing the way in which the Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission handled and resolved an inquiry

into alleged fundraising irregularities by a legislator.

The ACLU-KY filed suit on Berry’s behalf, asserting the KBA’s authority to sanction attorneys in these circumstances violated his First Amendment free speech rights. A lower court dismissed the suit, but the ACLU-KY appealed to the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, where it secured a significant First Amendment victory. As a result, the KBA was permanently barred from improperly enforcing the challenged rule against Berry in the future.

Berry described his experience working with

the ACLU-KY in this way, “The ACLU has been, and continues to be, a great defender of [free speech rights] and renders a service for which we should all be grateful.”

The ACLU-KY is grateful for clients, like Berry, who muster their courage to stand up for what is right, benefiting all who call the commonwealth home.

*Also representing Mr. Berry were ACLU cooperating attorneys David Tachau and Kate McKune of the Louisville law firm Tachau Meek PLC.*



## EMILY BINGHAM



Emily Bingham moved back to Louisville in 1995 after attending graduate school and getting involved with political work on women's issues in Chapel Hill, N.C.. "When I got back, I was pretty dismayed at the legislation that we'd seen passed on reproductive issues in Kentucky," she said. Bingham quickly decided to join the ACLU of Kentucky board and work for the Reproductive Freedom Project (RFP), which at the time was only a few years old.

*"We wanted [reproductive freedom] to be something people could talk about more openly, and not feel like it was something you'd talk about under your breath."*

— Emily Bingham

Bingham started by joining what she called an "informal, ad hoc RFP committee," and asking other people to follow suit. She and the other committee members made several efforts to revitalize RFP, which was then run by Beth Wilson and several supporters. "That group of women had been doing that work a really long time, since the '70s pretty much, and I just thought it was really time for some younger women to step forward," Bingham explained. The new generation of RFP committee members decided to work on things that would complement Wilson's work, such as fundraising, brainstorming fresh ideas, and lobbying.

"A lot of us were having babies in that time, and were able to emphasize that being an advocate for reproductive freedom justice didn't have anything to do with having a family," Bingham said. "We wanted to celebrate the whole thing, and I think that helped when we were lobbying,

to have pregnant people coming, and also when we had men involved and lobbying with us."

Bingham's group was particularly successful when it came to fundraising, and started RFP's annual benefit with the goal of expanding the issue's breadth. "The idea we took was that we wanted to make this not just a women's event, but we thought it was a family issue and a generational issue with grandparents, parents, and children," she said. "We were going to try to gather people in that spirit of celebration of reproductive freedom and less in the spirit of 'Oh God, we're under attack!'"



*"As long as I have life and strength, I hope to be on the barricades of that struggle [for justice]. I hope and trust the ACLU will be there too."*

— Anne Braden, 1990

## ANNE AND CARL BRADEN



A history of the struggle for civil rights in Kentucky would not be complete without Anne and Carl Braden. In 1954, before a Kentucky branch of the ACLU existed, the couple (who had already taken action as union and desegregation activists) decided to help the Wades, an African-American family, buy a house in an otherwise all-white neighborhood in the Shively neighborhood of Louisville. The Wades had reached out to the Bradens to purchase the home on their behalf after several real estate deals had fallen through when the Wades' race was discovered. The Wades moved into their new home, only to face violence and exclusion from their white neighbors — including a burning cross and eventually a bombing.

After the bombing, the Bradens, along with a small group of activists, were charged with sedition and taken to court at a time when officials were caught up

with McCarthyism and anti-Communist hysteria. Carl spent months in jail on a sedition conviction before being released on a bond. The Bradens' sedition charges epitomize the way that McCarthyism was used to restrict Kentuckians' free speech rights in the 1950s — and why the ACLU of Kentucky was founded in 1955.

The Bradens were not deterred from their passion for activism; they continued to speak out, especially against racism. They were again charged with sedition in 1967 as a result of their opposition to strip mining.

But as Anne wrote, "these were different times." She described how the court atmosphere had changed in the 13 years since 1954: "When the sheriff brought us to Lexington from the Pike County jail for the hearing, we walked into a courtroom filled not with our enemies but our friends — activists from the University of Kentucky student movement. When the prosecutor asked me, 'Are



you or have you ever been ...,' the courtroom burst into laughter. . . . I then knew that the 1950s were finally over."

After Carl died in 1975, Anne Braden continued her civil rights and anti-racism activism, working off and on with, and sometime against, the ACLU-KY for decades until her death in 2006. Anne was the first recipient of the national ACLU's Roger Baldwin Medal of Liberty, which is perhaps second only to the Presidential Medal of Freedom as a high honor in the country for people dedicated to defending the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Several organizations continue working in the legacy of Anne and Carl Braden, including the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research and the Carl Braden Memorial Center.



## CAROLYN BRATT

***"You just volunteer. There's a place for you, it's wherever your strengths will take you, and the ACLU will use you."***

— Carolyn Bratt



When she moved to Lexington to start teaching at the University of Kentucky College of Law, Carolyn Bratt knew she wanted to be involved in civil liberties work. "I was already involved with the ACLU in New York as a member, and when I came to Kentucky I started looking around to see if there was a chapter," she said.

Bratt described her civil liberties passion: fighting discrimination on the basis of sex or sexual orientation. Shortly after joining the ACLU in the mid-70s, Bratt spoke to the state legislature about a proposed bill that would criminalize

domestic physical abuse. "One of the legislators came up to us and said, 'Wait a minute. Are you saying that I can't hit my wife anymore with a belt? I never use the buckle!'" Bratt said. "In 1976 and 78 there was just no understanding of domestic violence, and it took a long time and a lot of education in the legislature to get stuff passed that criminalized that kind of conduct by husbands." In addition to lobbying, Bratt said she worked with the ACLU of Kentucky and other organizations to establish safe houses for victims of domestic abuse.

Although Bratt was a professor of law, she chose not to work as a cooperating attorney because she was not an active practitioner. In addition to working on briefs and participating in the *Kentucky v. Wasson* case (which struck down Kentucky's consensual sodomy statute), Bratt worked on educating Kentuckians about the Constitution. In June

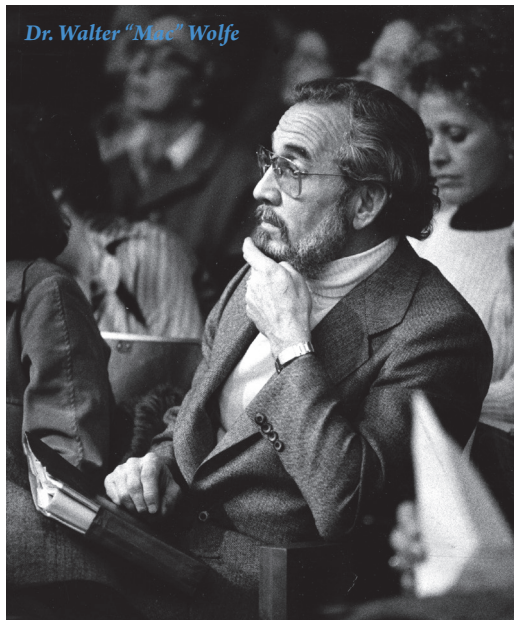
2015, she was inducted into the UK College of Law's Alumni Hall of Fame.

"We started a project in Lexington with the Lexington ACLU chapter to grow interest in constitutional law," she explained. Bratt and others created an annual presentation explaining what the Supreme Court had done in its last term. They presented in Lexington, then repeated their presentation in other parts of the state. "At first I was afraid that nobody would show up," Bratt said. "[But] every year we had a full house. We started out little, maybe 40 or 50 people, and the last year that I did it maybe 150 people came. It showed me that the ACLU was on track with this idea of educating the public. People were interested in getting that information."

***“For [Dr. Wolfe], there was no question that it was a woman’s right to decide. And if she decided to have an abortion, she had a right to have it done safely, regardless of income and background. He was really brave. He risked his job many times.”***

— Nancy Gall-Clayton,  
reproductive rights activist

Dr. Walter “Mac” Wolfe



Dr. Phil Crossen

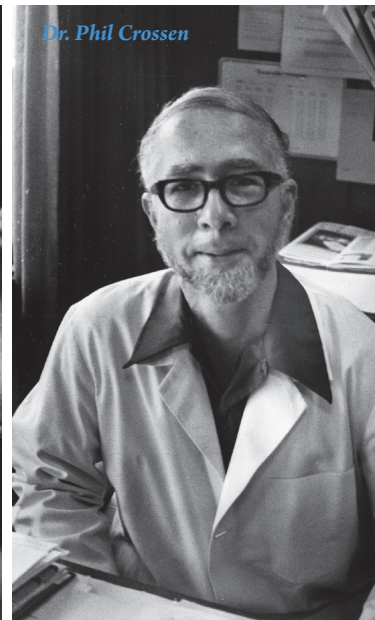


Photo courtesy of The Courier Journal

## DR. WALTER “MAC” WOLFE AND DR. PHIL CROSSEN



Dr. Walter “Mac” Wolfe of Louisville and Dr. Phillip Crossen of Lexington were not only physicians, but also state-level advocates for women’s reproductive rights in the commonwealth.

In May 1970, Crossen was party to a lawsuit that challenged the constitutionality of Kentucky Abortion Statute KRS 436.020, which fined doctors for performing abortions unless the procedure was necessary to “preserve her life.” Though the challenge was unsuccessful, Crossen argued that it was impossible, under the wording of the statute, to determine

whether an abortion may be performed to save a woman from a future but untimely death, or whether such an operation may be performed within the strictures of the law only if it is necessary to save the woman from certain and imminent death.

After a U.S. Supreme Court ruling legalized abortion in 1973, the General Assembly passed another law restricting it. The KCLU (now known as the ACLU of Kentucky) sued the state on behalf of Wolfe and Crossen. And in November 1974, a federal court upheld access to abortions in Kentucky.

Wolfe was later a plaintiff in a suit against Jefferson Fiscal Court over an ordinance to regulate abortions in Jefferson County in 1979. The state Court of Appeals ruled in 1981 that the county could not restrict abortions.

Wolfe helped found EMW Women’s Surgical Center in Louisville in 1981.

Crossen’s and Wolfe’s advocacy on behalf of their patients in Kentucky clinics and hospitals, as well as the courts, inspired many medical professionals and activists to work for reproductive rights.

After Wolfe passed away in 2006, ACLU of Kentucky Face of Liberty Dona Wells said: “So many times when I get upset, I think, ‘I owe this to Mac Wolfe to make sure that abortion stays safe and legal in Kentucky.’”





## KATE CUNNINGHAM



When Kate Cunningham became office manager for the ACLU of Kentucky in the spring of 1971, the organization was a fraction of the size it is today, but its membership was as devoted as ever. Cunningham described how she would visit the offices of attorneys located above and below the ACLU-KY's office whenever she needed advice on different issues. "It was very much an organization on a shoestring compared to

where we are now," she said.

When she worked on behalf of the ACLU-KY, Cunningham repeatedly faced threatening or hostile comments. At a free-speech event, while giving a speech about the need to abolish the death penalty in Kentucky, Cunningham was shouted down by members of the Ku Klux Klan. "I couldn't hear myself talk," she explained. "We just soldiered on 'til the end of my speech, and then I sat

*"I think it was Roger Baldwin who said, 'The fight for civil liberties never stays won.' And that's definitely true. We just have to be vigilant, and at least we can say that if we hadn't been here, things would be a lot worse than they are now."*

— Kate Cunningham

down and got out of there with some friends, but it was scary."

Cunningham has been a longtime advocate for reproductive freedom, another controversial issue. She and others organized citizen lobbying in Frankfort "to oppose bills restricting abortion," she said. "These were early days, there was the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision, but as you can imagine, the Kentucky legislature had many bills before it to further restrict abortion, just as it does 40 years later."

Cunningham left the state for about 20 years, and when she returned to Kentucky and started lobbying again, she noticed that "there is this Kabuki theater aspect to the arguments for and against restricting abortion access. Even the players did not recognize that decades had passed and one of the players, me, had been absent!"

"Back in those days, we had an information booth at the Kentucky State Fair," Cunningham

said, describing her early involvement with the organization. "And as you can imagine, we were no more popular then than we are now. It was a drain to be out there for seven or 10 days, giving out information about the death penalty, the draft, free speech, or whatever. We went through a lot of material, but that was kind of a trial by fire. People would go by, as they do now at the reproductive choice booth, they go by and make some comment and walk on. . . . People were displeased and would let me know that they didn't like the Civil Liberties Union or anything it stood for."

Cunningham continues her commitment to reproductive freedom in her current position as president of Kentucky's A Fund, Inc., an organization that raises money to help low-income women access abortion.

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# CHERIE DAWSON-EDWARDS

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"My first real introduction to the ACLU was when I was a grad student at the University of Louisville, working on my Master's thesis on racial profiling," Cherie Dawson-Edwards said. "The only literature that was out there was basically ACLU racial justice literature, and I spent a lot of hours sorting through [it]."

Later, when she was a PhD student, Dawson-Edwards got involved with the ACLU of Kentucky's felon voting rights campaign, and from there her involvement grew naturally. "I somehow got on the board," she said jokingly. "And I've been involved ever since." She now serves on the ACLU-KY board as the state's representative on the national board, and is the organization's immediate past president.

Dawson-Edwards pointed to her work with the ACLU-KY's annual Youth Rights Conference as some of her most meaningful. She served as a panelist, presenting

on different topics in several conferences. "I'm impressed with the attendance and the dedication of some of our youth in our community and our state," she said. "They care about civil rights and civil liberties issues, and I always got really good feedback and questions — and not always supportive questions. One of the things I value about the ACLU is you don't have to agree with every stance."

When she disagrees with the ACLU on an issue, Dawson-Edwards turns to the organization's legal foundation. "I fall back on 'What's the law?'" she said. "I think that keeps me grounded. . . . You can always go back to 'What does the law say?' and 'What does that mean for today?' because it might say something that was written a hundred years ago, and today it can mean something different."

Dawson-Edwards explained another lesson she's learned since getting involved with the ACLU-KY. "I realized



that nobody in the ACLU believes in the [exact] same thing, and that's okay!" she said happily. "We agree that there is a Bill of Rights that we have to protect. Do we agree necessarily how it needs to be protected? No. And that's fine."

***"My advice is to always know where you're privileged and understand that your lens may not be everyone's lens. . . . In the application of protecting rights, we have to include people outside of our realm or our circle or our privilege so we can make sure we're doing the appropriate work that needs to be done."***

—Cherie Dawson-Edwards



*Clockwise from top left:  
M.K. Lopez, Shaky  
Palacios and Sagar  
Patagundi.*

## DREAMERS

***"If we wait for others to do the work for us, there won't be any change."***

— Maria Karen Lopez

It is hard to fathom being able to neither return to where one was born, nor stay where one was raised; that's the impossible position many young American immigrants face. The DREAM Act was legislation that would have provided a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants who arrived in the U.S. as children and graduated from high school or got their GED. Louisville's Shaky Palacios was one of millions of young people who stood to benefit from the

DREAM Act. However, until someone from the ACLU of Kentucky spoke to Palacios and her class about it, she had no idea there was anything she could do about her legal status.

Palacios has worked with the ACLU-KY to improve the prospects of children facing legal limbo by organizing her peers, serving on panels, talking to lawmakers, and sharing her story with anyone willing to listen. Originally, Palacios was introduced to the public under a pseudonym out of fear that revealing her true identity might result in deportation for herself, her family, or both. However, after appearing on the cover of the

*Courier-Journal*, Palacios made a bold decision to allow the paper to use her real name. "At first I was hesitant," she said. "But if I can make a small difference by sharing my story, then it is worth it. I need to be part of this movement."

Sagar Patagundi faces a similar situation. His family emigrated to America from India, and Sagar has lived in the United States most of his life. After his father fell out of status, and all attempts to stay in the country legally failed, the Patagundi family became undocumented. Prior to receiving relief under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Patagundi struggled to find employment, seek higher education, and couldn't leave the country to visit family without being permanently prohibited from reentry. Despite all these difficulties, Patagundi has remained positive. He partnered with the ACLU-KY to draft editorials, organize actions, and even led the effort to coordinate the 2013 Immigration Advocacy Day at the capitol during the legislative session. Patagundi's work enabled more than 150 people from across Kentucky to meet one-on-one with legislators and show their support for immigrants' rights. Patagundi's work with the ACLU-KY continues through the newly developed

"I AM A Kentuckian" storytelling tour, that gives Kentuckians impacted by the immigration system the opportunity to share their stories and experiences with audiences across the commonwealth.

Maria Karen Lopez's story also reflects the challenges faced by Palacios and Patagundi. After paying her way through college, despite fears her undocumented status would prevent her from securing a professional job, Lopez was able to gain some rights through DACA. Lopez has helped advance immigrants' rights by sharing her story and rallying immigrant advocates to meet with legislators. Through her lobbying efforts, Lopez helped get a bill passed out of committee that would allow undocumented immigrants to receive driver's certificates. Lopez lauded the ACLU-KY for its focus on affecting real change: "I think that [the ACLU-KY] focuses specifically on the legislators, who are the people who really have the voice and the say in any politics. I think that's really important because without that, if we're just doing grassroots organizing and we're just trying to reach the community, that's important too, but we really need our legislators to know what's going on."





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## KEITH ELSTON

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***“The ACLU stood up for the rights of the LGBT community earlier than any organization in the country, so I’ve always felt like they’ve had my back.”***

— Keith Elston



Attorney Keith Elston has served the ACLU on multiple levels throughout the years, as a chapter leader in central Kentucky and as board president. And for a few years he left Kentucky to become the executive director of the ACLU of the Dakotas.

One of Elston’s proudest accomplishments with the ACLU of Kentucky is a continuing education program he developed for teachers based on Section II of the Kentucky Constitution. That section reads: “Absolute and arbitrary power over the lives, liberty and property of freemen exists nowhere in a republic, not even in the largest majority.” This

declaration of individual liberty was used in the ACLU of Kentucky case *Commonwealth v. Wasson*, striking down Kentucky’s sodomy statute, a case on which Elston served as a paralegal.

The program was highly praised by participating local judges, professors and teachers. The public presentation of the program was introduced by Dr. Thomas Clark, the famous Kentucky historian.

During his tenure, the central Kentucky chapter went on to develop a quarterly series of town hall meetings that allowed for an analysis of important civil liberties issues, while

also welcoming audience participation.


Elston was also a founding member of the Kentucky Fairness Alliance, and in 2014, he founded the Kentucky Youth Law Project to provide free legal representation and advocacy for LGBT youth in Kentucky.



*"It's a battle that's never won. The issues change, the faces change, the courts change, the laws change, but the battle to preserve individual liberties and civil liberties is a never-ending fight."*

— David Friedman

## DAVID FRIEDMAN

 David Friedman served as the ACLU of Kentucky's general counsel for a lengthy 25 years. He argued and won a case in the U.S. Supreme Court. But for Friedman, the best parts of working with the ACLU-KY were his day-to-day experiences.

"[Working with the ACLU-KY, you are] able to have an effect in the community on the issues that concern them and be the voice of civil liberties," Friedman explained. "One of the advantages of living in a smaller city is that you have the opportunity to be the voice of the ACLU on those issues. When something comes up,

the newspaper calls you. You get to articulate the ACLU's position."

Another highlight for Friedman of being ACLU-KY's general counsel was working with inspirational clients. People pushing for change in rural parts of the state were often especially close to Friedman's heart. "We went in and litigated and did whatever we did and got out and went home, but they had to stay there," he said. "They had to live with neighbors, family, and friends that sometimes really disagreed with them, and that took great courage. I was always moved when we had those cases."

One such client was a Pikeville woman who sued to stop the practice of missionaries teaching Bible stories in the Pikeville public schools. "Everyone was against us," Friedman said, describing how the courthouse was packed on the day of the trial. "I was touched by the [woman's] strength and determination to stand up for what she thought was right," he said. "That's a hard thing to do. It's easy to do from a distance, it's easy to do in theory. It's hard to do when it has an adverse effect on your life." Work like the Pikeville case continues to stand out when Friedman reflects on his time with the ACLU-KY.

"The overriding thing is that it was the most important and satisfying work I ever did, easily," he said. "If I were independently wealthy and didn't actually need to have a job, I would've done nothing but that."





*"The only thing  
necessary for the  
triumph of evil is  
for good men to do  
nothing."*

— Carolyn's favorite quote  
by Edmund Burke

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## CAROLYN SUE GILL

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Carolyn Sue Gill joined the ACLU of Kentucky in the 1970s after seeing a particularly chilling advertisement. The ad was a picture of the Statue of Liberty with the mustache and hair of Adolf Hitler. The ad read: "IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE! Or can it?"

As part of the board of the ACLU-KY, Gill's job was to remind the rest of the board that the ACLU "was not to deal with private injustices but to focus on the government's obligation to keep separate religion and politics. In other words to protect the Bill of Rights."



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## T GONZALES

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T Benicio Gonzales is a community activist and organizer with a focus on immigrants' rights, working for racial justice and queer liberation. In 2014, he helped to convene Louisville Trans Man, a peer-led support group intended to provide safe-space for Louisville's transmasculine and questioning community.

T has been drawn to work with the ACLU-KY over the years in an effort to enhance community organizing and activism with the ACLU's legal acumen and expertise in policy. In his short time on the ACLU-KY board, T accepted the Equity Chair position and led the effort to develop a racial

equity value statement for the affiliate. T has also been instrumental in ACLU-KY efforts to engage Kentucky's transgender community. He has appeared on panels, and has been part of listening tours to help determine the issues the ACLU-KY can have the greatest impact on for trans\* Kentuckians.

T was a member of the Better Together Southern Cohort working with other activists across the South on issues of racial justice and LGBT equity, and is a close ally to the students of the Kentucky Dream Coalition: FIRE. Currently, T is a Community Health Specialist at the Louisville

Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness Center for Health Equity and focuses on the social and economic conditions which impact the public's health.



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## LAWRENCE HAGAR JR.

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***“Service to your fellow man turns out to be the most satisfying thing you ever do. ... Let’s go out tomorrow and keep on doing it.”***

— Larry Hager



It is not hard to guess one of the reasons why former *Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer* publisher Lawrence “Larry” Hager Jr. is supportive of the ACLU of Kentucky’s work. Freedom of the press, protected by the First Amendment, is critical to a democracy in which the government is accountable to the people. An independent media functions as a watchdog that can investigate and report on government wrongdoing. What may come as a surprise to some is Hager’s support of the ACLU-KY youth leadership and development activities, including the Youth Rights Conference.

The ACLU-KY revived the Youth Rights Conference in the spring of 2006 after the event went on hiatus for several decades. Following the success of that event, Lawrence and Frankie Hager gave a sizeable gift to the ACLU-KY to support the development of young people to carry the torch for civil liberties into the future. Nearly 10 years later, the event is hosted annually, and is now co-hosted with the Muhammad Ali Center. Just as the pages of a newspaper are a vibrant marketplace of ideas and a vehicle for ordinary citizens to express themselves and gain exposure to a wide range of information

and opinions, so too is the annual Youth Rights Conference. Each year the event is free to participants, due in part to the Hagers’ generous grant.

The ACLU-KY is just one of many organizations that have benefited from the Hager Educational Foundation since its creation in 1990.



*"In our work to ensure constitutional rights, there will be plenty of obstacles . . . just stay the course. People will call you names, they'll harass you, threaten you. Keep on being polite and stay the course."*

— Roberta Harding

*Roberta Harding with her late dog Monty. Photo courtesy of Shaun Ring Photography.*

## ROBERTA HARDING



Before Roberta Harding was a professor of law at the University of Kentucky, before she was a member of the ACLU of Kentucky's board, before she was active with the ACLU-KY central Kentucky chapter, before she advocated against South African apartheid as an undergraduate student, she spent her childhood tagging along with her parents as they did civil and political work independently and with various organizations.

She has vivid memories of sitting in the back seat of her parents' car in the 1960s as they drove her through Harlem to

teach her a lesson about privilege. "You need to understand not everyone is as fortunate as you are. They are still human beings that are entitled to respect. They are no different than you are," she recalls them saying.

The lessons of Harding's childhood became the foundation for her lifelong pursuit of social justice. While there are many highlights in her years of work for national and international human rights, she points to her work in 1997 with the ACLU-KY on a case about the constitutionality of the death penalty as a special moment.

Harding worked with ACLU-KY general

counsel and a group of interns drafting a petition with the courts on behalf of Harold McQueen, who was sentenced to die by electrocution on July 1 of that year. The federal district court granted an evidentiary hearing to decide their contention that electrocution didn't pass the Eighth Amendment's prohibition against inflicting cruel and unusual punishments. The 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, however, reversed the ruling.

While McQueen eventually was executed, Harding recalls some positive outcomes of the experience. The case brought international attention to the death

penalty in the United States, prompting the Italian government to pass a resolution condemning Kentucky's actions. Students who worked on the project learned a great deal. "I was moved by how committed everyone was to the process. The students and the ACLU showed so much compassion and selflessness."

Despite a heavy teaching and research load, Harding still makes time to give back by continuing her Eighth Amendment work, and volunteering in animal rescue efforts in the commonwealth.



***"The ACLU is sometimes the glue. Locally, they made a really specific effort to cross boundaries and to work hard to build community."***

— Susan Hershberg

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## SUSAN HERSHBERG

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 Susan Hershberg is known to the community for her amazing catering business, Wiltshire Pantry, and her two restaurants, Wiltshire on Market and the Wiltshire Bakery, but she's also a passionate advocate for justice, a passion ignited early in her life.

Hershberg grew up in a home rich in cultural diversity. During college, she became devastated by the realization that the U.S. government was supporting death squads in South America. A sanctuary movement developed to help political refugees resettle in the United States, mostly from El Salvador and Guatemala, and Hershberg's knowledge of Spanish enabled her to serve as a translator for the resettlement efforts.

But her first "aha" moment came in high

school when she was introduced to the anti-nuclear movement. She said, "It snapped me out of my teenage funk to connect with bigger issues and to become an activist." That's why she has a deep appreciation for the ACLU of Kentucky's annual Youth Rights Conference. She feels "it's so important for kids that age to be exposed to justice work and to understand its relevance. This is the next generation of community leaders, and they inspire me."

The Youth Rights Conference tackles a variety of topics each year, and that's another aspect of the ACLU that appeals to her. She finds value in the broad spectrum of work — voting rights, death penalty, reproductive freedom and LGBT equality — and, in

particular, how we've positioned ourselves as a bridge-builder on many of these issues.

Building community is central to Hershberg's professional and activist work. She started hosting a fundraising dinner in 1998. That first year, it was to benefit the senate campaign of Eleanor Jordan. But raising funds for federal political action committees can be constricting. Hershberg wanted to serve a dinner that wasn't exclusive, but rather one that could serve as a thank-you to the folks on the ground doing the day-to-day grassroots organizing and advocacy to protect all of our rights. She chose the

ACLU of Kentucky and the Fairness Campaign as beneficiaries because they are two organizations that support a broad base of issues she is passionate about.

"I love the ability to invite community activists in to enjoy what Wiltshire Pantry does best," she says. The annual *We the People* dinner has become one night a year when activists and supporters come together to celebrate the year's accomplishments and to fellowship with one another.

Photo courtesy of Brian Hawkins Photography





## FRED AND JUDY HICKS



Those who knew Fred Hicks say that he was not particularly active in social justice organizations until late in his life. Hicks was an anthropologist at the University of Louisville. His wife, Judy Hicks, was also an anthropologist who taught at different institutions in the area. After Judy was diagnosed with breast cancer, Hicks cut back on his work to take care of her, and after her death he was “at loose ends,” according to Jan Phillips, a family friend and fellow ACLU of Kentucky member. “He’d done a lot of anthropological research and still had ties to that

community, but he started getting involved in more and more here locally,” she said.

Judy and Jan first met through their civil rights work on the Southern Conference Educational Fund with Anne and Carl Braden, an issue that interested Fred as well. The ‘60s open housing movement in Louisville coincided with Fred and Judy’s decision to buy a house in the city, and they eventually picked a house in the West End.

“Fred and Judy bought their first and only house, where they lived for fifty-some years, down at the very end of Broadway.

When they moved in, the neighborhood was very integrated, but that began to change. The neighborhood became a black neighborhood and they were ‘the white people who live on our block,’” Phillips said, laughing. “But they never had any inclination or thoughts about moving. They had wonderful neighbors, and it was a great location.”

Fred maintained a steady membership in the ACLU-KY and often made small contributions to it in the final years of his life. When he died, the organization was pleasantly surprised to find that he had split

his money among three organizations, including the ACLU-KY. “The ACLU clearly was very close to him, and he used his ability to spend money wisely and continue the work that was obviously important to him,” Phillips said.

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# HISTORY OF LGBT RIGHTS IN KY

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*The list of individuals and organizations working toward LGBT equality in Kentucky is so long, we honor their collective efforts in one profile.*



In 1986 the ACLU of Kentucky defended **Jeffrey Wasson** on a charge of sodomy in Fayette County. Wasson was arrested in an undercover sting operation along with several other men. They chose to accept plea bargains. But Wasson was so incensed by the unfairness of the law, he decided to challenge its constitutionality. We won the case as a violation of his right to privacy as well as an infringement of his equal protection under the law.

It was after this win that we saw anti-LGBT legislation first introduced in Frankfort. Support for LGBT rights locally developed out of the civil rights and feminist movements of the time within ally groups such as the ACLU-KY, the **KY Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression**, and the **Justice Resource Center**.

In the late 1980s, the March for Justice was an avenue for allies to show solidarity for one another and to make the links between the various issues of concern. One early LGBT activist described being “scared but empowered.” Scared because it was still dangerous to be an openly gay or transgender person, and empowering to

be among such a powerful support network within your home community.

The drive for non-discrimination protections in Louisville led to the formation of the **Fairness Campaign** in 1990. The statewide **KY Fairness Alliance** soon followed, developing a network throughout the state working for LGBT equality. The struggle for fairness continued throughout the 1990s.

In 1998, the ACLU-KY represented **Alicia Pedreira** in an employee discrimination case. Pedreira worked for Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children (now Sunrise Children’s Services), where she was fired for being a lesbian after a picture of her with her then-girlfriend was entered in a contest at the State Fair without her knowledge.

Pedreira’s case became a turning point, putting a face to a problem that many decision makers didn’t believe existed – that people were actually being fired from their jobs based on their sexual orientation. Many hearts and minds opened up as Pedreira’s story unfolded, and in 1999, fairness protections passed

in Louisville and later that year in Lexington and Henderson (which was later repealed in 2001). Covington became the next city to pass protections, in 2003.

As LGBT individuals became more visible in society, there was a backlash to curtail their rights. In the presidential election year of 2004, same-sex marriage was used as a very effective wedge issue nationwide to turn out conservative voters. The ACLU-KY was a partner in the **NO on the Amendment campaign** that was formed to fight against efforts to amend the state constitution to limit marriage to one man and one woman. Kentucky lost that fight along with 12 other states that year.

In 2008, advocates for LGBT equality gathered together in Danville for the first Fairness Summit. Our goal was to develop a vision of what we could accomplish if we worked together. The **Fairness Coalition** was established. The coalition is made up of the ACLU-KY, the Fairness Campaign, **Lexington Fairness**, and the **Kentucky Commission on Human Rights**. The Kentucky Fairness Alliance was a charter member but later merged with the Fairness Campaign. Our shared goal is to win statewide fairness protections for all Kentuckians.

Since 2008, we have helped usher in domestic partner benefits at all public universities, three private colleges, and four cities within the state. We’ve developed a business coalition of supporters with major corporations, including Brown-Forman, Humana, LexMark, Toyota, and Anheuser-Busch. And we’ve added non-discrimination protections in five more Kentucky cities – Vicco, Frankfort, Morehead, Danville and Midway. Statewide fairness legislation continues to gain support in the General Assembly and in 2014, Speaker of the House Greg Stumbo added his name to the list of co-sponsors.

In the past couple of years, the ACLU-KY has been engaging the transgender community, holding several programs throughout the state to determine the issues where we can have the greatest impact. We have also added transgender representation on our board of directors to better inform our perspective. We worked with our coalition partners during the 2015 legislative session to successfully stop the Bathroom Bully bill – aimed at singling out trans\* students – and have hosted meetings for trans\* support groups at both our Louisville office and through the coalition’s western Kentucky organizer.

In June of 2015 the U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark decision that made same-sex marriage the law of the land; the ACLU-KY was proud to be a part of the lawsuit alongside the national ACLU, the **Fauver law office**, **Clay Daniel Walton Adams** and Stanford law professor **Jeff Fisher**.





## EVERETT HOFFMAN

 Attorney Everett Hoffman led the ACLU of Kentucky as Executive Director during the 1990s and established working partnerships with ally organizations on several issues that remain priorities for us today.

In the early '90s, LGBT rights were emerging nationwide, and the push for a non-discrimination ordinance in Louisville had formed. The ACLU-KY became an ally to the strong grassroots leaders who would soon form the Fairness Campaign and then the Kentucky Fairness Alliance. Hoffman wrote a brief to the city Human Rights Commission in support of the measure and

remembers looking to civil rights leader Lyman Johnson at the time for guidance. Johnson was on the Human Rights Commission and took a stand for LGBT rights at a time when such a stance was still unpopular. But he recognized discrimination is discrimination, and that we must all stand together to bring forth equal rights for all.

The execution of Harold McQueen took place in 1997, the first execution in Kentucky in 21 years. Everett remembers the trip that several ACLU board members took to the vigil outside of Eddyville prison prior to the execution. It was that moment that Carl

*"The only reason we have the rights that we do is because of those who went before us. If we stop working on the struggle, those rights will disappear."*

— Everett Hoffman

Wedekind dedicated the rest of his life to the abolition of the death penalty. It was during this period the ACLU-KY became coalition partners with the Catholic Conference. The move was difficult at first because of our differences around reproductive freedom. In 1998, our joint efforts helped pass the Racial Justice Act, which allows a review of a death penalty sentence for racial bias.

The beating of Rodney King by police, which led to the Los Angeles riots of 1992, resonated throughout the nation, shining a spotlight on police abuse. Louisville was no exception, and the 1998 death of Adrian Reynolds while in police custody ignited racial tensions locally. The Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and the Justice Resource Center approached the ACLU-KY to join them in their demands for the creation of a civilian police review board. "These were people I'd never known, who lived in areas of the city that I'd never been a part of. But it was an issue of dire importance in the community at the time and we did partner," recalls Hoffman.

One of the most trying moments of Hoffman's tenure came when the KKK was granted a permit to demonstrate on the Jefferson County Courthouse steps, but were denied the right to wear their white hoods, which cover their faces. Klansmen approached the ACLU-KY for legal representation. Though the ACLU-KY was a charter sponsor of the counterdemonstration planned in response to the rhetoric of the KKK, it did agree to represent their right to demonstrate and express themselves in accordance with the norms of their organization. The ACLU-KY won the case, and then joined the protesters who opposed the substance of the speech being exercised. It is a great example of what the ACLU stands for: It can defend the speech rights of individuals or groups without endorsing the substance of that speech.



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# THOMAS L. HOGAN

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Tom Hogan was an ACLU of Kentucky cooperating attorney, became president of the board of directors, and was always available to take ACLU cases, especially those involving race, equal protection and the First Amendment.

The Louisville attorney filed the lawsuit that eventually led to desegregation efforts in Jefferson County schools. On Aug. 29, 1971, Hogan filed suit in U.S. District Court, and nearly four years later Judge James F. Gordon issued a desegregation order that prompted rioting, demonstrations, and the burning of school buses. Because of his active role in the case, Hogan was threatened by anti-busing advocates.

Hogan's commitment to civil rights may best have been illustrated by his decision to represent an anti-busing group that was unable to get a permit for a demonstration on Derby Day. When asked why he accepted the case, he simply said, "because

I thought they were right. White people have constitutional rights, too."

There were several non-busing related cases Hogan took on that drew headlines, including his successful representation of a black man who was denied entry to a country club because of his race. He also got a favorable ruling for a Berea man who was fired for refusing to work on Saturday because of his religion.

Hogan died in 1984 at the age of 40 after a yearlong fight with cancer. After his death, the ACLU-KY and a large circle of Tom's friends helped form the Thomas L. Hogan Memorial Foundation, which established an award in his honor. The award is presented by the affiliate to individuals or groups making significant contributions to civil liberties.



***"Tom devoted much of his life and career to protecting the constitutionally guaranteed rights of others, and he left an enduring legacy for all of us."***

— Thomas L. Hogan  
Memorial Foundation



*"People wonder how it is that our Constitution is still good more than 200 years later, and it's because people like us keep it going."*

— Jane Hope

## JANE HOPE



"I knew about it, and I knew that I believed in it," Jane Hope said, describing in simple terms her early relationship with the ACLU of Kentucky. Hope recalled being interested in the civil rights movement of the 1960s, commenting, "After Martin Luther King died, I thought, 'We all better take up the slack and work to deal with the situation at hand.'"

In the 1960s, Hope was too busy with her very young children to get involved with marches or other demonstrations, but she still believed strongly in civil rights. "I watched the speeches and the marches and all

that on TV, and I kept getting more and more radicalized," she said, laughing. "I hate to use that word because the ACLU is not a radical organization. I just felt like the ACLU stood for all people, and it was inclusive on every line, and I wanted to be a part of it."

Hope joined the ACLU-KY in 1975, when school busing was a big issue. She recalled that for a time, armed members of the National Guard rode the bus with her oldest child. "There was a lot of turmoil in town about the merger [of the Jefferson County and Louisville school districts], as well as about desegregation,"

Hope said. "The white people were the ones all freaked out about busing, they didn't want the race mixture. . . . It was in that milieu that I became a member of the ACLU."

Since then, Hope said that she has become interested in other issues, such as reproductive freedom and, after one of her sons came out, LGBT fairness. She explained that she appreciates the ACLU-KY's inclusiveness. "I like the ACLU because it covers everybody," Hope said. "The Constitution was made a long time ago, and now there's modern issues that come up. There's still people who want to keep the old ways, but there's others of us

who believe democracy needs to change with the times. So we support the ACLU and all of its efforts."


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## DAVID HOWE AND LOUANNE WALKER

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***"I believe that attempts by governmental agencies, at any level, to endorse religious beliefs are an affront to those who do not necessarily share those particular beliefs. I have no quarrel with the Ten Commandments, but they don't belong in my courthouse."***

— David Howe

 In 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a historic ruling in a Kentucky Ten Commandments case that affirmed religious liberty principles in the strongest of terms. The case started in 1999 when Pulaski and McCreary county officials posted framed copies of the Ten Commandments in their respective courthouses. The ACLU of Kentucky, on behalf of residents in those counties, filed suit alleging the displays violated the Establishment Clause. After the suit was filed, the counties supplemented their

displays with additional documents that "were largely religious in nature," in an attempt to avoid First Amendment liability. Then, after the ACLU-KY obtained a preliminary injunction barring the counties from posting either of these displays — the counties then erected their third displays, the Foundations of American Law and Government displays.

Those displays consisted of "historical documents," including American (and earlier Colonial and British) political and patriotic documents, and the Ten Commandments. U.S. District Judge



Photo courtesy of The Courier Journal

Jennifer B. Coffman again granted a preliminary injunction barring these displays because their history showed the counties' purpose in erecting them was predominantly religious in nature. The counties appealed the injunction barring the third displays, but both the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Judge Coffman's preliminary injunction.

In doing so, the Supreme Court found the displays violated the Constitution, using some of the most powerful language in years on the question of the government's role in religion and society. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's concurrence with the 5-4 majority said, in part, "Those who would renegotiate the boundaries between church and state must

therefore answer a difficult question: Why would we trade a system that has served us so well for one that has served others so poorly?" She went on to write, "When the government associates one set of religious beliefs with the state and identifies non-adherents as outsiders, it encroaches upon the individual's decision about whether and how to worship."

Courageous clients like **David Howe** and **Louanne Walker** from McCreary County bravely stepped forward to stand against something they knew to be wrong. Their actions took their case to the highest court in the land, where justices once again affirmed for the entire nation that the government cannot be used as a tool to promote one faith over another.





## DORA JAMES

***“[The ACLU] represented the Westboro Baptist Church at one point, and they also work as an LGBT activist-type group. I think the fact that they can come full circle like that shows a lot about [the organization’s] character, and I really admire that.”***

— Dora James

 When Dora James was a 17-year-old junior at Ohio County High School, she started the school’s first Gay/Straight Alliance club, which she intended to be a safe space for LGBT students and their allies to find support. After getting school administration approval, the club was off to a quiet start. “We knew that not every kid in high school was out to their parents, or they didn’t want it known that they were struggling with their

sexual orientation,” James explained. “We decided that the group was going to start out pretty privately.”

When the club decided to put together a project about tolerance, it drew increased attention from the school and broader community – which caused problems. The club decorated a bulletin board with “student artwork and posters all about diversity: sexual orientation, racial diversity, religious diversity, etc.,” James said. “We did put ‘Sponsored by OCHS Gay/Straight Alliance,’ so some students saw that, which caused kind of a clash. We had some gun threats, unfortunately, where we had to cancel some meetings.” Members of the community, including a coalition of churches, protested the GSA, and the school attempted to handle the problem by restricting the club’s actions.

“That’s when the ACLU of Kentucky came down and helped us out,” James said. “They wrote

a demand letter to the school, affirming how they should handle that, and [the school] was pretty compliant because they knew that they had messed up.” James later won a national ACLU youth activism scholarship, which she partially credited to her work with the GSA. As a scholarship recipient she participated in activism training and toured the ACLU national headquarters in New York City.

James continues to be involved with the ACLU-KY on a variety of issues, and she works with the Fairness Campaign and Fairness Coalition to push for statewide fairness. “I think if there’s some kind of an issue that you feel strongly about, or you think there’s some type of an injustice or something that needs to be made better, be that person who decides to do something about it,” she said.

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## BEE JOHNSTON

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Bee Johnston was an early leader for the KCLU Women's Rights Committee, serving on the steering committee in the 1970s. When Johnston noticed institutionalized discrimination, she was an ardent advocate for change. When her son turned 16 years old, Bee learned that Kentucky state law only allowed for her husband to sign up their son for his driver's permit. In 1973, Kentucky law stated only the male parent could sign for a minor's driving permit unless the parents were divorced and the mother had custody. Disgusted by the blatant discrimination, Johnston, with the help of ACLU of Kentucky attorneys Bob Sedler and Donna Morton Maier, filed a successful lawsuit in federal court, and thus mothers can now sign for their children's

permits. At the time of the lawsuit, Johnston was quoted in the *Louisville Times* on the case saying, "When you marry, you lose all your rights in the eyes of the law. It's as if we were children, no more responsible than our own children. You're supposed to be part of a 50-50 partnership, so why can't the woman sign?"

A member of the Louisville Free Thought Society, Johnston was a staunch advocate of the separation of church and state. She ran a "freethinkers hotline" from her home, which gave callers a "freethought of the day." To Johnston, freethought meant "to think critically, to question authority, doctrine and dogma, and use reason, logic and evidence before forming opinions."



"I think this would be her advice to all of us now," Johnston's friend and caregiver, Kate Cunningham, said of freethought. "We have the same lack of critical thinking today on important issues!" Johnston herself was an atheist, and she really appreciated the fact that the ACLU would throw its weight behind unpopular ideas to protect citizen's rights. Throughout her time fighting for the separation of church and state, Johnston teamed with the ACLU to take down obstructions to citizens' religious freedoms.

*"I had forgotten how forceful [members of the ACLU] were. I cannot mention them all nor can I describe the intensity of their fidelity to the goals of the KCLU."*

— F.W. Woolsey, ACLU Historian, 1995

## KCLU FOUNDERS

JULIA ALLEN  
WILLIAM F. BILLINGSLEY  
NORBERT BLUME  
JOSEPH FREELAND  
PATRICK KIRWAN  
LOUIS KESSELMAN  
ARTHUR KLING  
LOUIS LUSKY  
REV. WILFRED MYLL  
MAIE PERLEY  
MAURICE RABB, M.D.  
GEORGIA SCHNEIDER  
LEE THOMAS JR.  
EDGAR A. ZINGMAN



The ACLU of Kentucky (originally the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union or KCLU) was formed in the wake of the Red Scare in the United States brought about by the rise of Soviet Russia. Conceived as a "necessary arm of defense" against the invasive and restrictive policies brought about by the Red Scare, the KCLU fought to protect constitutionally guaranteed freedoms. A motley crew of WASPS, blacks, Jews, men and women, the founders of the KCLU did not have an easy task when they decided to bring the ACLU to the Bluegrass State, but they did have the determination to see it through.

From the moment the organization came into existence, the KCLU had a full docket of issues to tackle. The first case was a major one, the defense of Carl and Anne Braden, white activists charged with sedition for purchasing a home on behalf of the Wade Family, Louisville

African-Americans. The list of early legal cases taken up by the KCLU included a wide variety of issues such as right to counsel, obscenity, and voting rights.

While the founders of the KCLU began their mission as unpopular outsiders, they would eventually begin to change minds in the community. Edgar Zingman recalls receiving a phone call from an irate business owner asking him: "Why are you trying to put me out of business?" The KCLU had decided to boycott the man's store due to his unequal treatment of black customers. Eventually, Zingman reported, this store owner would become one of Kentucky's leading civil rights activists.

Truly, if the ACLU-KY has accomplished anything over the years, it is that fighting for civil rights and liberties is not nearly as taboo as it once was. Zingman recalled having to take multiple, circuitous routes just to get from the airport

in Birmingham to the location where he was scheduled to deliver a speech. He remembered leaving the speech early due to the possibility of violence caused by protesters outside the church where he was speaking. He once said he was thankful that his nights of having to sleep on the floor because that's the safest spot "in the event someone decided to shoot up the place" had come to an end. The founders of the KCLU built a very strong foundation the ACLU-KY stands on today to fight for positive change across the commonwealth.




***"I think what the ACLU does is a lot of the hard stuff. It gets right in there in the middle of it. The staff and board members are not scared to back down from a fight."***

— Erin Kennedy

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## ERIN KENNEDY

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 ACLU of Kentucky board member Erin Kennedy got her start with the organization as a master's student, when she chose to complete her practicum under then-Executive Director Beth Wilson. Later, she joined the organization again as a legal intern, and then accepted an invitation to join the board. Kennedy is beginning her fourth year as a board member and chairs an ad hoc committee about trending issues that the ACLU-KY may find itself involved with in the future.

Kennedy is passionate about many of the ACLU-KY's campaign issues, particularly abolition of the death penalty. She has worked with others to find ways to make the abolition issue more accessible to conservatives, such as by explaining its financial

implications. "The death penalty, that's something I've been passionate about since before I started working with the ACLU-KY," she said. "It's something that I think affects our nation as a whole, the character of our nation, to say that we will kill people for committing crimes and some not even [for] committing crimes."

Kennedy has also worked on civil liberties issues that reach beyond the ACLU-KY's core campaigns. As chair of the organization's trending issues committee, she keeps an eye out for government abuses involving new technologies like drones and smartphones. "The Supreme Court justices have started to mostly rule in our favor, saying [those things] do have to do with the [Fourth] Amendment," she said.




Kennedy explained that she views privacy and technology issues as an important, upcoming topic for the ACLU-KY.

At events for issues ranging from immigrants' rights to LGBT fairness, Kennedy has witnessed demonstrations by opposing parties that occasionally got scary. "Sometimes the opposition can be loud and offensive, but in the long run you usually come down on the right side of history," she said. "It really makes you feel like what you're doing is right and good."



## JESSICA LOVING

 Jessica Loving initially came in to contact with the ACLU of Kentucky by way of her involvement with the women's movement and pro-choice activism. She would eventually become the Executive Director of the ACLU-KY and some of the first work Loving did was in reproductive freedom, trying to prevent restrictive abortion legislation from passing at the local level in Louisville.

Eventually, Loving would go on to challenge similar legislation in Frankfort. Loving recalls that restriction efforts back in those days were "similar to the efforts that are being tried still." In the years following *Roe v. Wade*, piecemeal restrictions were being used to work around the monumental court case. Through litigation, Loving was able to reverse legislation that restricted "access of women to safe, legal abortion

*"We have to reestablish the principles of the Bill of Rights and reeducate people all the time, re-litigate, and re-legislate all the time because people will continue to try to erode the basic rights that are part of the foundation of this country, because there are people who disagree with other people and think the way to get their point across is by autocratically controlling what other people can do or think or have in their head. It's human nature."*

— Jessica Loving

[by] either imposing restrictions on clinics or imposing restrictions on women themselves." Loving would go on to become one of the original organizers that helped get the ACLU-KY Reproductive Freedom Project up and running.

Loving's role as a rights advocate took many forms. After the Kentucky General Assembly passed a law that required the posting of the Ten Commandments in all public classrooms in the state, Loving joined the team fighting the legislation. Despite having no legal experience, Loving worked as a researcher. She enlisted the help of the Southern Baptist Seminary, "which had a number of professors who were very liberal thinkers and very strong on separation of church and state." The

case eventually reached the U.S. Supreme Court which overturned the General Assembly's law.

Loving noted that the ACLU-KY sets itself apart "because it's the only organization that [she's] aware of that's solely dedicated to protecting and promoting the Bill of Rights and the U.S. Constitution. And it stays very true to that purpose, I would say since the beginning." Loving appreciated the work of the organization to uphold rights for all, even groups such as the KKK. Loving remembered how she worked to get the KKK their constitutional right to assemble, and would then use her own rights to protest the KKK right back.



# LOUIS LUSKY

***"He protected the best tradition of Americanism."***

—Cary Robertson on Louis Lusky, November 1956.



Before he became known as a pioneer in civil rights law, and before his more than 20 years teaching at Columbia Law School, Louisville native Louis Lusky was working on some of the earliest cases at the KCLU (now known as the ACLU of Kentucky).

In 1954, Louisvillian Carl Braden was charged with sedition after calling out the local police for failing to curtail violence that arose from an African-American man owning property — bought for him by Braden — in an all-white neighborhood. While the task of defending a man accused of communist associations scared off much of the talent and resources that could have assisted Braden's case, Lusky came to his defense at the urging of the KCLU and national ACLU.

After failing to get the sedition indictment thrown out, Lusky continued to work for Braden though his appeal. Braden was poor, yet his court fees were exceptionally high. At that time, in fact, his appeal bond was the highest ever set in Kentucky. Lusky was able to reduce the court fees, but not the bond, and continued to try funding Braden's defense by reaching out to conservative sources. Lusky was unsuccessful, but Braden's conviction was eventually thrown out after a U.S. Supreme Court decision in another case. After defending Braden in such a high-profile matter, suspicion rose about Lusky. The public seemed to believe there must have been something wrong with a man who took such an unpopular case for so little money — therefore, the thinking went, he couldn't be trusted with traditional legal business. Despite the damage done to his practice, Lusky continued to work for the ACLU-KY.



Louis Lusky, before Judge L.R. Curtis, in the Braden sedition case. Facing Curtis, from left, are Commonwealth's Attorney Scott Hamilton, Lusky, Commonwealth's Detective Frank Fitzgerald, and Assistant Commonwealth's Attorneys Laurence Higgins and Henry Sadlo.

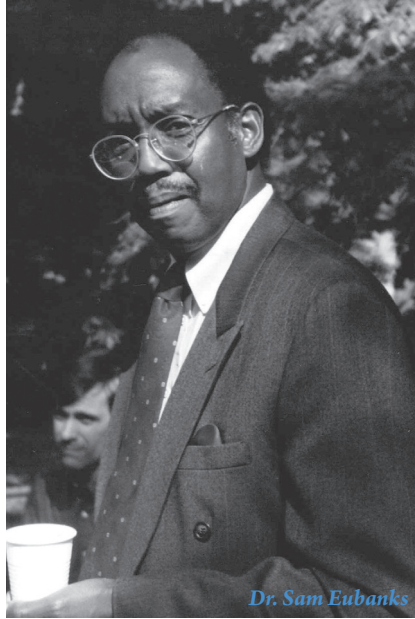
One such case came when Lusky defended African-American Sam Thompson, who was arrested and fined for loitering, or "shuffling," in a Louisville café, without any evidence for the charge. The case received front page coverage in the March 22, 1960, edition of *The New York Times* when the U.S. Supreme Court set aside two \$10 fines. The case ended up at the high court because Lusky found the fines were too small to be reviewed by any state court. Justices found Thompson had been denied his right to due process guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment. After working on the case for more than 850

hours, Lusky was able to help Thompson walk the streets of Louisville without the constant worry of police mistreatment. Doing all of this work for a measly \$85, Lusky embodied the spirit of the ACLU-KY through his unwavering commitment and sense of social justice.

Lusky left Louisville in 1963 to join the faculty of Columbia Law School. He retired in 1986. He died in 2001.



Dr. Ernest Marshall



Dr. Sam Eubanks

*"Part of my nature is that every child should have a mother or father that wants them. My mother has had 13 pregnancies. . . . I call it pseudo-slavery through reproduction."*

— Dr. Ernest Marshall

## DR. ERNEST MARSHALL AND DR. SAM EUBANKS



The EMW Inc. abortion clinic was opened in Louisville in 1981 by four doctors who wanted more control over their business. Two of them, the late Sam Eubanks and Ernest Marshall, had previously advocated for increased access to abortion as plaintiffs in lawsuits. Yet, anti-abortion laws were still being enacted. In order to protect itself from government restrictions on the procedures they could perform, EMW became licensed as an "outpatient surgical center." When its status as an outpatient center wasn't enough to prevent government interference, EMW teamed with the ACLU

of Kentucky to fight for greater access to abortion.

One such case was in 1994, when the Kentucky legislature placed greater restrictions on abortions by requiring parental or judicial consent for teenagers. The ACLU's efforts resulted in eased restrictions, yet more work is needed to change attitudes and afford women full access to abortion.

Anti-abortion sentiments have manifested themselves outside the reach of law. The life of an abortion clinic doctor is not an easy one. Eubanks and Marshall endured harassment from protestors, such as having their faces placed on anti-

abortion flyers with their images in the crosshairs of a sniper's scope. For Eubanks and Marshall, opening and running EMW was an act of bravery, and its operation continues as a signal that all women in need of high quality reproductive health care should have a place to receive it.

Despite the backlash they faced, the EMW doctors continued to provide women with access to abortions. From 1982 to 2000, the number of abortion clinics in the U.S. declined by more than one third, yet EMW kept its doors open, and also opened a Lexington clinic to increase access to safe, legal abortions

outside Louisville. For over 30 years, Marshall, Eubanks and countless other doctors, nurses and social workers came together at EMW to ensure each woman could receive high quality health care with dignity and respect.

*“Put yourself in a position to understand history, because then that history will be a source of lessons and inspirations. Because there were times that people thought Jim Crow would never be over, slavery would never be over.”*

— Pam McMichael

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## PAM McMICHAEL

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 After seeing first-hand the disparities caused by structural racism, Pam McMichael joined a myriad of social justice groups, eventually leading her to the ACLU of Kentucky. She is a co-founder of the statewide network of groups working for anti-discrimination protections known as Fairness laws for LGBT Kentuckians. She is also a longtime supporter and activist with the ACLU-KY coalition partner, the Fairness Campaign. Early in the fight for LGBT rights in the commonwealth, McMichael remembers being involved in a five-hour debate-style hearing, with one side speaking in support of fairness laws, and the other side against it. McMichael noted that the ACLU-KY played a key role in framing the issue as one of human

rights, while also helping to break down negative stereotypes about LGBT people.

McMichael and activist Jeffrey Wasson were plaintiffs in one of the ACLU-KY’s groundbreaking civil rights cases. In *Commonwealth of Kentucky v. Wasson*, the state Supreme Court struck down the consensual sodomy statute as unconstitutional after years of litigation. The law criminalized private sexual relations by consenting adults if they happened to be of the same sex. The final court decision in 1992 was a victory for the privacy and equal protection rights of LGBT Kentuckians.

McMichael points to the ACLU-KY’s sophisticated understanding of interlocking oppressions as a unique attribute and strength of the



organization. She said, “I think it’s that unwavering commitment to civil liberties and the analysis about how attacks on civil liberties have a specific cut based on race, class, gender, and sexual orientation within our society [that] sets the organization apart.” She continued: “My experience is much more local, but definitely the local ACLU and the leadership of the ACLU-KY that I worked with for many years have always done that really, really well.”

Now working with the Highlander Center — the social justice leadership training school that provided

space for activists such as Anne Braden and Martin Luther King Jr. — McMichael still devotes herself to the service of the greater good. One of the big things McMichael stressed about fighting for rights is that it’s never about “sitting back down and saying, ‘Oh, it can never change, it can never be this way,’” but rather imagining the possibilities and “holding up that vision of what could be.”





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## PATTI MINTER

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After studying constitutional law as an undergraduate, Patti Minter developed an appetite for civil liberties. She went to graduate school to become a legal historian. Through her study of law and history, the work of the national ACLU repeatedly appeared before her. Minter admitted the organization's work fascinated her, and once she moved to Kentucky, she became immersed in numerous efforts of the local affiliate.

While working to enact a fairness ordinance in Bowling Green, Minter learned how difficult fighting for civil liberties can be in an area where, as she described it, "rights or rights culture are just not really part of the local discourse." As a faculty member on the university benefits committee at Western Kentucky University (WKU), Minter pushed for domestic partner benefits. "I remember bringing that forward at the first meeting, and when it wasn't well-received, I was like, 'Okay, this'll take two

or three meetings,'" Minter recalled. "Well, it took five years." However, her persistence was rewarded as she got on the radar of the ACLU of Kentucky and was asked to run for the board of directors.

Minter has used her leadership role to educate people on the philosophies of the ACLU on protecting civil liberties and the organization's history. Minter said, "When I look at the work we do to promote the rights of all here in Kentucky, I always try to remind myself that it's a long game. You're working to lay groundwork, and sometimes that can be a little frustrating, but you're laying the groundwork for what's going to be a long struggle for rights for everyone. And to try to help those battles stay won. So part of what I've learned from studying the work of the ACLU and now being a part of it and being part of both statewide movements and local movements, is I've learned to be very patient. Maybe no battle stays won, but no battle stays lost if you stay with it long enough."

***"Sadly, the need for the ACLU doesn't seem to be going away. I think there's no shortage of work to be done for the next 60 years. We work to make a better commonwealth for all Kentuckians."***

— Patti Minter


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# MODERN LEGAL PROGRAM

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*“The addition of a staff attorney means we can respond to increased needs as we seek to defend the Bill of Rights.”*

— David Friedman

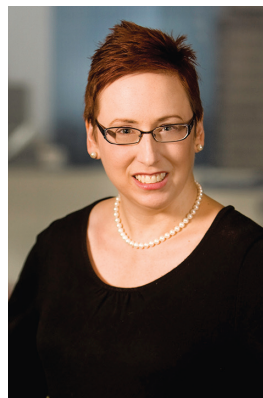
 For 49 years, the ACLU of Kentucky defended Kentuckians by providing volunteer lawyers to those whose civil liberties were denied by the state or federal governments. For much of that time, those litigation efforts were coordinated and conducted by a volunteer general counsel (**David Friedman** served in that position for 25 years). And that model served us well, in that the ACLU-KY was able to have an impact on a broad range of civil liberties issues through the time and talent of a cadre of cooperating attorneys and a volunteer Legal Review Panel. However, in 2004, the ACLU-KY hired its first-ever staff attorney, **Lili Lutgens**. She was brought on staff at a time when threats to civil liberties under the guise of national security made the organization's Legal

Program more vital than ever. And our ability to hire a paid staff attorney was made possible, in part, by a two-year grant from the national ACLU. Today, the contributions of our supporters ensures the ACLU-KY will be able to maintain an attorney on staff on a continuing basis.

In 2007, **William Sharp** joined the organization as its staff attorney following Lutgens' departure for another position. And in 2014, the Legal Program underwent another change when it recast Sharp's role as legal director, increased the size and role of the Committee on Litigation and Legal Priorities, and placed a renewed focus on recruiting capable volunteer attorneys and firms to assist with our litigation. The inclusion of new and highly qualified individuals to serve with

our already distinguished members on the Litigation Committee is a direct reflection of our efforts in this regard. And we were honored to recently add retired federal **Judge Boyce F. Martin, Jr.** to the committee's ranks.

The ACLU-KY has a long and distinguished history of successfully advocating for Kentuckians' civil rights and civil liberties in state and federal courts, including before the U.S. Supreme Court. And today's Legal Program, with its combination of a dedicated legal program director and a growing number of capable and dedicated cooperating attorneys, will continue the tradition of delivering high quality representation on cases that have a broad impact upon the rights of Kentuckians.



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*From top: Brenda Popplewell, Bill Deatherage, Amy Cubbage and Lili Lutgens*





*"It was my name,  
but it was no longer  
about me. It was  
about a principle—  
what's right and  
what's wrong."*

— Alicia Pedreira

## ALICIA PEDREIRA



Alicia Pedreira is the plaintiff in a long-pending lawsuit against the state and a state-funded private entity, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children (now Sunrise Children's Services). The organization fired Pedreira for being a lesbian, saying that was inconsistent with the organization's religious-based standards. Though Pedreira was transparent about her sexual orientation with the organization's officials before she was hired, a picture of Pedreira and her girlfriend, entered in a Kentucky State Fair photography exhibit without her knowledge, led to her firing.

In 2000, the national ACLU's LGBT Project and Americans United for the Separation of Church and State joined the ACLU of Kentucky to file suit on Pedreira's behalf, seeking to challenge the state's funding of the organization. In addition to basing employment policies on religion, the organization was pressuring young people in its care to participate in religious services. After several years of continued litigation, Pedreira's discrimination claims were dismissed on the basis that, although religious-based discrimination is unlawful, the discrimination at issue here was based on her sexual orientation and not her religious affiliations.

Fifteen years after it was first filed, attorneys are still working to resolve this case in a satisfactory manner that will help protect the religious liberties of those Kentucky children who are placed in the state's care.

The ACLU-KY salutes our clients who, like Alicia Pedreira, have been willing to put themselves forward to help fight injustice. And even though the ACLU-KY often works to bring clients relief quickly, the sustained support of our donors and members ensures that we are able to pursue justice for our clients even where, as here, the case lasts for more than a decade.

*"I think what we're seeing now is that you just have to keep on these issues. It's that constant struggle: you win victories, but by God, you have to protect them."*

— Jan Phillips

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## JAN PHILLIPS

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Jan Phillips' experience with the ACLU began in Tennessee, where she watched a friend work to get that state's chapter off the ground. After a short time, Phillips moved to Louisville and found herself in a similar position. "Initially, I got involved in the board, and I was on the board for several years," she said. "Nonprofit boards can be interesting because there's a sort of culture that you see in them where you just come, and you meet once a month, and you say to the staff, 'you're doing a good job,' and then you go home. So I was trying to change that into a culture that would actually take on some activities that would be board-driven, and that was a fun thing to do." Phillips later served as Executive Director of the affiliate after Suzy Post resigned from the position.

One board-driven activity was the ACLU of Kentucky push for Louisville to pass what would later be called a Fairness ordinance. After some deliberation, the city's Human Relations Commission recommended that a civil rights ordinance be put into place to protect LGBT citizens.

Phillips said the ACLU-KY board was interested in joining the grassroots effort in support of the Fairness ordinance. "One of the things we decided we would do was send a letter to every member of the ACLU-KY in Jefferson County, urging them to contact their alderman in support of civil rights protections." A volunteer went to the county clerk's office and looked up each member to figure out which alderman represented him or her. "It was a massive



undertaking because it was done before the age of the Internet," Phillips said. Although it's hard to gauge how much of an effect local members had on the aldermen's decision, the ACLU-KY's efforts were one part of broader community efforts, and in the end the ordinance was adopted.

Phillips recalled also being passionate about the "motor voter bill," which made it easier for people to register to vote by, among other means, giving them the option to do so when they applied for a license. "Kentucky actually has a very liberal voter registration system, as opposed to other states," she said. "Many of the changes that have been made in Kentucky and many other states came back to the motor voter bill." Phillips explained that when she was working

with the ACLU-KY in support of the bill, she was happily surprised when the county clerk, a Republican, joined the effort. "It was really encouraging to see that support not only from liberal staff here in Louisville," she said, laughing.



## PEG PITTMAN-MUNKE

***“Do not be discouraged; things change over time. And at the same time you’re not being discouraged, you continue to work daily and not worry about whether you’re doing big things. Small things add up.”***

— Peg Pittman-Munke



Peg Pittman-Munke was living in Mayfield in 2010 when a group of local Muslims ran up against opposition from city officials in their efforts to build a mosque. The ACLU of Kentucky’s work to help the group secure their worship space inspired Pittman-Munke to renew her membership and become more active with the ACLU-KY, eventually joining the board of directors.

As the director of the Social Work program at Murray State University, Pittman-Munke has found several ways to connect her students to ACLU-KY education programs. Her students have hosted programs around the

state to learn more about immigrants’ rights work and reproductive rights battles. The students have also hosted talks with death row exonerees who share their stories of wrongful conviction and innocence. Pittman-Munke believes her students’ efforts have helped make for a more educated, less biased community. “If people know more, hear more, if they understand more, they are less likely to take what certain media outlets feed them as gospel. A great deal of changing people’s minds and hearts simply involves letting them hear the overall,” Pittman-Munke said. She continued, “It seems to me that when people are vulnerable and

people are not getting their rights, people who are able to understand that people have a right to certain things need to get involved. And it doesn’t really matter if it is for our issue or not. If there is a problem for one person, there is a potential for there to be a problem for every one of us. So it is kind of self-interest.”

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# SUZY POST

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"I got started because in the 1950s there was a U.S. Senator named Joe McCarthy..."

Suzy Post, in her decades-long career with the ACLU of Kentucky, served as a board member, board chair, and executive director. She started the Reproductive Freedom Project (RFP), and brought life back to the affiliate after a period of its being nearly inactive.

Post said she joined the ACLU-KY "right away" when she moved back home to Kentucky from California. "I was there because I thought then that the ACLU was a critical organization," she said. "I think it's even more critical now in this country." She also immediately joined the League of Women Voters, and much of her work in the coming years would be to get the national ACLU and ACLU-KY more closely involved in women's rights issues.

Along with opposing the Vietnam War, Women's issues and the RFP were Post's biggest passions during her career. She worked with Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the national level to make women's issues a priority for the

ACLU, then continued to do so at the local level when she became executive director of the ACLU-KY. "On the issues of war and women, I had a major influence," Post said. "Everything in my life came to a head in the 1970s: the Vietnam War, the women's movement, and getting elected."

As she explained it, Post's passion for social justice work was consistent in her life from the beginning. She described how she listened, "just outraged," to radio broadcasts of the McCarthy trials in the '50s. From that point to when she was elected president of the local board, her time as executive director, and her many roles in the greater activist community, Post poured passion into her life's work.

"I loved it. It's a wonderful feeling to know that your life has mattered," she said. "I wish I'd been the kind of person who'd had three or four or five kids and been able to say, 'My life has mattered,' but I wasn't that kind of person. Social injustice just ticked me off."



***"My advice would be to the people, the individuals who are being f\*\*\*ed over: Get together and create a power base. . . . You have to have a base. You can't do it alone. You can start it, but you can't be effective without a base."***

— Suzy Post





## SARA PRATT



During her time with the ACLU of Kentucky, as both general counsel and board chair, Sara Pratt worked on many court cases for the organization. A case of particular interest for Pratt was one “Jane Doe.” In 1988, Jane Doe was pregnant and also had breast cancer. Her doctors said the pregnancy would put her health at risk and recommended she have both an abortion and a hysterectomy at the same time. Doe preferred to have the procedures done close to home, family, and friends. But, due to a Kentucky law, the Owensboro-Daviess County Hospital would not provide the abortion.

Pratt had been preparing with David Friedman for a case against one of Kentucky’s hospitals over their failure to provide the abortion services for which many Kentuckians were willing to pay. Due to the time-sensitive nature of abortion-related cases, Pratt had to scramble to get everything together to have a hearing for Doe’s case. The judge would eventually grant the abortion, and Pratt would go on to attempt to argue that Kentucky’s abortion law was unconstitutional.

Shortly after Doe’s case, however, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of a Missouri abortion

law almost identical to Kentucky’s. Doe’s case was dismissed. Pratt said she still thinks about Doe. On the case, Pratt said: “This was one of those cases where, although we ultimately lost the case, we made a difference for one woman. That’s not what we thought we would be able to do when the case began. It was, however, enough.”

During her time with the ACLU-KY, Pratt worked on cases involving free speech, racial justice, and disability rights. She now serves as deputy assistant secretary for Enforcement Programs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.





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## EMI RAMIREZ

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***"It's easy to be overwhelmed with everything going on in the world, all of the problems. But the important thing is to do something and remember that no action is too small!"***

— Emi Ramirez



Maria Emilia ("Emi") Ramirez

has devoted years of her time and energy to the ACLU of Kentucky as a volunteer, an intern, a staff member, and later a member of the Board of Directors. After learning about the ACLU-KY's work during a class presentation, she signed up to volunteer because the affiliate's work matched her personal passions — restoration of voting rights for former felons, abolition of the death penalty, supporting the formation of gay/straight alliances in high schools, public education campaigns and actions around racial profiling, and teaching people of color, immigrants, and young people their rights when dealing with law enforcement.

Her parents supported her work, and respected her dedication, but a Bill

of Rights dinner several years ago gave her father some new insight into the organization. Emi recalled the evening, saying: "After [the keynote speaker's] remarks, my father looked at me and said the work the ACLU does is what makes the United States so special. My family is from Argentina and my parents lived through the military dictatorship, during a time when students who stood up were silenced, tortured, and killed. He finally understood the magnitude of work that the ACLU and I [were] doing and was very proud that I was working at the organization."

Emi's groundbreaking work to develop the affiliate's Immigrants' Rights Program and to get the Youth Rights Conference off the ground is part of her lasting legacy. Reflecting

on the contributions she is most proud of, Emi said: "It was very rewarding to have planned the first Immigrant and Refugee Rights Advocacy Day in Frankfort. It was the first time people from across the state came together to lobby for immigrants' rights."

The ACLU-KY celebrates Emi as a Face of Liberty and recognizes the strong foundations she helped build in a variety of program areas that our current work rests on today.




***"I believe the Bill of Rights would not be worth the paper it was written on if it were not for the American Civil Liberties Union."***

— Nancy Rankin

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## NANCY RANKIN

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 Nancy Rankin is one of the ACLU of Kentucky's longest serving employees. She joined the staff in 2000 as legal intake coordinator and office manager after a 22-year career at the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights (KCHR). Her personal passions around racial justice and women's rights meant she contacted and worked with the ACLU-KY many years prior to her employment with the organization. She points to one of those early interactions as particularly memorable.

While at KCHR, Nancy was contacted by a resident of the small town of Chaplin in Kentucky's Nelson County. The town had a short, dead-end street, Church Street, which included a section that was paved near the Methodist Church (with a white congregation) and nearby white residences. The street turned to gravel in front of neighboring black residences and the Baptist Church (with a black congregation) at the end of the road. Despite

repeated efforts to get the remainder of the road paved, county officials refused to do so. While KCHR was limited in how it could respond, Rankin contacted attorney Sara Pratt, then chair of the ACLU Board of Directors, to see if she might be able to find a solution. The ACLU-KY sent county officials a demand letter, and shortly thereafter the remainder of the road was paved. "Sometimes all it will take is a letter from the ACLU to at least prompt government to do the right thing, and this is just what happened," Rankin said.

As she prepares to retire once again, Rankin looks back fondly on her time and work with the ACLU-KY: "I am proudest of my commitment to make the office run as smoothly (not that I always succeeded) as possible. I have been honored to be a part of a very committed staff that has always worked as a team with the ultimate goal to protect the civil liberties of all Kentuckians."

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# RFP FOUNDERS COMMITTEE

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MARY C. BINGHAM

SALLIE BINGHAM

LAURA LEE BROWN

MRS. W.L. LYONS BROWN

GINNY COPENHEFER

LINDA HAWPE

JESSICA LOVING

ELEANOR BINGHAM  
MILLER

SUZY POST

DONA WELLS



In 1989, after the Supreme Court ruled in the *Webster* decision that states could employ greater restrictions to abortion access, the ACLU of Kentucky founded the Reproductive Freedom Project (RFP.) While the affiliate had been working to defend reproductive rights for some time before *Webster*, Suzy Post, then executive director of the ACLU-KY, recognized the need to dedicate more resources to the fight for reproductive rights, and spearheaded the effort.

Post, in only the way she can, wrangled a group of donors, community activists and women dedicated to protecting reproductive freedom in the Commonwealth to put together the necessary funds to hire the first person in Kentucky dedicated to advocating for reproductive rights in the legislature. To that end, Post hired Tina Hester as the first RFP director, and charged her with acting as a full time lobbyist advocating for reproductive freedom in

the General Assembly, serving as an educational advocate for greater access to abortion, birth control, and other reproductive health care.

As with much of the ACLU-KY's work, a bold leader and dedicated group of volunteers found an issue that no other organization was addressing, and put in the time and resources to expand civil liberties in Kentucky. Because of their commitment, Kentucky has been able to stave off the worst of repeated attempts to chip away at reproductive rights and maintains one of only eight state affiliates with staff dedicated to preserving reproductive freedom.



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*RFP Founders  
Committee at  
the 2005 RFP  
Benefit.*

# RFP LEGISLATIVE WORK

BETH WILSON, ELEANOR JORDAN, KATHY STEIN, MARY LOU MARZIAN




KATHY STEIN

BETH WILSON

ELEANOR JORDAN

MARY LOU MARZIAN

*We recognize the legislative work of former ACLU of Kentucky Reproductive Freedom Project Director Beth Wilson and honor the long-time commitment to women's equality in the Kentucky legislature by former Rep. Eleanor Jordan, Sen. Kathy Stein, and current Rep. Mary Lou Marzian. In partnership with these legislators, and in coalition with reproductive rights advocates throughout the state, the ACLU of Kentucky's Reproductive Freedom Project has been successful in holding back most attempts to erect additional barriers to abortion services in Kentucky.*

 **Beth Wilson's** civil liberties career took off in the late 1980s, when she covered violent anti-abortion protests as a newspaper reporter in Knoxville, Tenn. "I got increasingly frustrated that I was sidelined and not in the thick of actually fighting for rights," Wilson said. "I didn't like being in the position of having to be a neutral observer because I didn't feel neutral about it. I was very angry." Wilson decided to quit the newspaper in order to pursue a master's degree in social work and work part-time in an abortion clinic. After graduating, Wilson moved to Louisville and became the director of the ACLU-KY's Reproductive Freedom Project (then called the Pro-Choice Project).

One of Wilson's first experiences as RFP director was to continue work on a piece of litigation that her predecessor had started, which pressed for Medicaid funding for some abortions. Although the litigation didn't result in a win for the ACLU-KY, Wilson said she "learned so much about how that process worked, and more importantly, we were representing real women who had a real need for a service and couldn't get it because they couldn't afford to pay for it."

As RFP director, Wilson spent a lot of time lobbying in Frankfort against the many anti-abortion bills introduced in the state legislature. She recalled that she often worked closely with Maria Price of the Kentucky Fairness Alliance (an LGBT rights

group), adding that because the two were both proponents for often unpopular issues, "it was a great opportunity to work on things that intersected and to find support from other lobbyists who were doing similar work."

"I was fortunate enough to lobby on an issue during a time when there was a group of amazingly strong, incredible women," Wilson said, referring in particular to state legislators **Mary Lou Marzian, Eleanor Jordan, and Kathy Stein**. "I could tell story after story of when we'd be in their offices at night after a long session in tears because we had worked so hard, and we had just lost a pretty major battle," she said. "But looking back, it was an incredible learning experience, I think for all of us, and I think it made incredibly savvy, smart politicians out of all of them."

After working as RFP director and later as executive director of the ACLU-KY, Wilson now works for the ACLU's Florida affiliate as its deputy director. "I think the ACLU is a really special organization, and I feel honored to now be in my twentieth year, still working for it," she said.



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## BOB SACHS

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***“I think as we grow and as we get bigger and bigger and have a larger and larger breadth, we have to maintain our closeness to the people around the state. . . . We speak for the disenfranchised a lot, we have to remember that.”***

— Bob Sachs



“It’s been an early attraction for me,”

Bob Sachs said, explaining how he became interested in civil liberties work. When he was enrolled in the Northwestern University School of Law in the ’60s, Sachs co-founded a campus civil rights organization. “I think I’d always been involved with civil liberties,” he said.

Later, Sachs moved to Louisville and joined the Louisville chapter of the ACLU before it merged with the larger Kentucky chapter. Soon after the merger, he served a term as ACLU of Kentucky president and then as a Kentucky representative on the national ACLU board.

Sachs, describing the shifts he noticed in the ACLU-KY’s makeup, said: “The big change over the years was the focus on reproductive freedom and LGBT rights. In my early years, it was on the Bill of Rights kinds of things, very conservative [topics]. We broadened our scope and involved more women.” Regardless, some issues came up again and again. “The prayer in school issue was always hot, from the very beginning,” Sachs said. “We thought we’d won that years and years ago, and it keeps popping up in different forms.” Although Sachs is an attorney, he limited his involvement with the ACLU-KY to serving on

the board, and in 2005, he hosted the organization’s 50th anniversary celebration.

“I think people are not on that board for any reason other than their passion for civil liberties,” he said. “I know there are certain ego benefits to being on some boards, but I don’t see the ACLU as that kind of board. It’s people who believe in civil liberties and who try to maintain and secure them. To me, that sets the ACLU apart from any other organization.”





## DON SANDS



Longtime ACLU-KY member Don Sands decided to take a more active role in the organization when his local central Kentucky chapter's board chair position opened up. Sands became board chair in 1999, after serving a few years on the central Kentucky chapter's board. Unlike the Louisville office, the central Kentucky chapter did not handle litigation, and instead served a primarily educational role.

Sands said the chapter saw an increase in both interest and membership in the early 2000s because people were alarmed by the actions of then-U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft. "That alarmed people about civil liberties."

"We'd have informative sessions to educate people about civil liberties issues," Sands explained.

"We'd try to help people make up their minds, talk to them about the sides and let them come to their own conclusions."

The chapter's forums, which took place about four times a year, were designed to represent both sides of the issue in question. "Sometimes the people on the other side would be more effective," Sands said.

"That was always a chance we took, but usually we thought the logic was on the ACLU side, so if we just presented an unbiased program, people would see the light and see things the way we wanted them to." Sands said that forums covering controversial issues like religion in schools often drew the biggest crowds and many attendees in opposition to the ACLU-KY.

The forums helped increase the ACLU-

KY's presence in central Kentucky. "It's so much a Louisville organization, Louisville-centered, and not enough involvement in the rest of the state," Sands explained. The central Kentucky chapter's forums, many conducted under Sands' leadership, helped to counteract that trend and keep the ACLU-KY a statewide organization.

***"It's also true of the ACLU that a lot of members don't agree with every position of the ACLU. You can find people with very diverse views who believe overall in the ACLU's protection of civil rights. . . . If you believe half of what the ACLU stands for, you should be a member of the ACLU. If you believe 80% of it, you should be a board member."***

— Don Sands

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## ROBERT SEDLER

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***“During the time when I was litigating cases for the ACLU-KY, I indeed did get to meet a lot of wonderful people, and it is they whom I now remember with great affection and respect. For me, it’s been a blast.”***

— Robert Sedler



Robert Sedler served as the ACLU of Kentucky’s first general counsel from 1967 to 1975. Much of Sedler’s work with the ACLU-KY involved protecting citizen’s First Amendment rights. His first case with the ACLU-KY was filed after organizers against the Vietnam War and strip mining were arrested for “teaching sedition.” This victory secured the safety necessary for organizing activity to continue in Eastern Kentucky.

In 1968, the Kentucky legislature passed the Kentucky Un-American Activities Committee (KUAC), and Sedler was again able to help restore the rights of the



suppressed. Sedler helped lead two cases against the constitutionality of KUAC which, while unsuccessful legally, were part of a broad-based opposition to KUAC that eventually ended with the program not being funded after 1970.


During the 1970s, when racial discrimination and school segregation issues were at the forefront, Sedler stepped up to represent ACLU-KY in two major desegregation cases, in Lexington-Fayette County and Louisville-Jefferson County. The Lexington-Fayette case ended with a plan that is still in use, while the Louisville-Jefferson case established one of

the only metropolitan areas that is still racially integrated to this day. Sedler would go on to fight racial segregation in areas such as high school basketball officiating and jury service.

Sedler fondly remembers the people with whom he worked in the ACLU-KY. “I tell my students the best thing about litigating civil rights and civil liberties cases is that you get to meet a lot of wonderful people in the process.” Sedler recalled specifically Tom Hogan, who Sedler said deserves the most credit for the successful implementation of the Louisville desegregation plan.



## MARCIA SEGAL

 Marcia Segal originally got involved with the ACLU of Kentucky because, she said, “it just seemed like the right thing to do.” After moving to Louisville, Segal got involved in numerous causes, and participated in demonstrations for open housing and against war. However, what stood out to Segal during her time with the ACLU-KY was her work on women’s rights. In an effort to expand women’s reproductive

rights — during a time when abortion was facing restrictions in Kentucky — Segal designed a survey to be administered to OB-GYNs and other physicians who were most involved with pregnant women. She presented the survey findings in testimony to a committee of the General Assembly.

Segal also worked to get women on an even plane with men. “There was a civil rights commission at that time,” she said, “but they only dealt

*“If we don’t stand up for everybody’s rights, nobody’s going to stand up for our rights. So it’s really important for people to understand their rights, for people to have information about what their rights are, for people to have access to legal as well as financial and emotional support when their rights are threatened, and for each one of us to be a conservator or champion of the rights of other people.”*

— Marcia Segal

with black-white issues. There was nothing in the legislation that dealt with gender discrimination, so we had a big campaign to change that.” Outside of directly working to change government policies, Segal worked to dissipate the sexist culture present in the 1960s and 70s by taking aim at traditional institutions with cultural influence, such as Louisville’s *Courier-Journal*. Segal recalls that “the newspaper used to list employment ads, and it would say: ‘Jobs of interest men,’ and ‘Jobs of interest women.’ There was an incredible amount of job discrimination in the state at the time. There were women trying to get into coal mining unions and building trades and things like that, and so that was an issue that I remember we worked on.”

Segal lauds the ACLU-KY for its willingness to take on legal battles (not all of the other civil rights/civil liberties organizations work on legal issues, she said) but also for its distinction between civil rights and civil liberties. Segal said civil liberties are not necessarily matters of opinion on an issue. So, the ACLU-KY defense of civil liberties can sometimes come with defending controversial groups such as the Ku Klux Klan or neo-Nazis. “Sometimes it can become uncomfortable or controversial, or make you examine your conscience really heavily,” Segal said. “Do I really believe in this? And yeah, I’m a real civil liberties person: I do believe in everyone’s right to speak.”



*"I think if anyone feels strongly about an issue and wants to undertake either legal representation for someone or involvement in times of change, my example here is that one lawyer with a group of clients can actually change the course of constitutional law history."*

— Bill Stone

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## BILL STONE

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When Bill Stone volunteered in 1978 to represent a group of plaintiffs challenging a new state law requiring all public school classrooms to display a copy of the Ten Commandments, he had no idea what he was in for. "I didn't expect that I would be spending two years of my life on the case," he said.

Stone, a young lawyer who had only joined the ACLU the year before, began work on the landmark case by looking for what he called "perfect plaintiffs."

"We had a mother with children in school, a Jewish rabbi, we had a nonbeliever," Stone explained. "I honestly thought it was a case I would file at Franklin Circuit Court and probably win within a month." The results were not what he expected.

After losing in the circuit court, Stone pursued the case through the Kentucky legal system and all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where he won the case without the aid of oral arguments. Stone explained that his case "set the standard for religion in the classroom," and is still cited in new decisions today.

After his Ten Commandments case, Stone worked on many other cases for the ACLU-KY. However, he points to his work in 2006 with Jenessa Bryan and Emi Ramirez to set up a Youth Rights Leadership Conference as something that he is "extremely proud of."

When the national ACLU notified affiliates of potential grants for youth programs, Stone wrote up a proposal, and the ACLU-KY was awarded one of the grants. He,



Bryan, and Ramirez then went to work designing a program full of speakers and activities. "We put the whole agenda together and selected the student organizers who helped us put on the program," Stone said. "I'm probably as proud of doing that youth rights conference as I am of any litigation because I think it's been continuing since 2006."



*We are all very human, no matter our titles — which, I guess, is what civil rights is really all about.”*

— Eric Tachau, 1995



## MARY K. AND ERIC TACHAU



Mary K. and Eric Tachau were involved in the KCLU (now known as the ACLU of Kentucky) very early in the organization's history. Both were deeply involved in the civil rights movement in Kentucky. In 1964, the couple's major contributions to the movement began when Eric was named treasurer of the Allied Organizations for Civil Rights (AOCR). The organization spearheaded the efforts for the march on Frankfort in support

of the Kentucky Public Accommodations law, enacted two years later. The KCLU was among the proud sponsoring organizations of the AOCR.

Mary Katherine Tachau, known as Mary K., served as the president of the ACLU-KY board of directors during the organization's historic challenge to the Louisville-Jefferson County segregated school system. The suit, led by the ACLU, was a joint

effort by leading civil rights organizations, including the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, the NAACP, and the Legal Aid Society. Mary K.'s leadership and expertise as a noted constitutional historian were critical in this effort, one of the few cases where the court ordered cross-district busing.


Mary K. and Eric Tachau's union was built around their shared commitment to civil rights and social justice. In reflecting on

the ACLU of Kentucky's 40th anniversary, Eric wrote, "Perhaps my greatest source of joy is that shared commitment with my partner of 43 years and my lifetime lover." The Tachaus always identified themselves together and supported each other's activities. As the ACLU-KY celebrates its 60th anniversary, the organization honors the Tachaus' shared work and sacrifices on its behalf.

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## LEE B. THOMAS JR.

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 Lee B. Thomas Jr. has garnered a lot of accolades, awards and attention for his expertise as a CEO, first with the American Saw and Tool Co. and Vermont American Corp., and currently with Universal Woods Inc. Thomas has also been recognized for his work toward peace and social justice, including his induction in 2010 in the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame. When you meet Thomas, he won't tell you about any of this. Instead, he'll ask questions to learn more about you, and then he'll show you a picture of his late wife, Dr. Joan Thomas, and tell you about their 62 years of marriage, and her work practicing medicine in low-income, underserved communities of Louisville. It is the type of work Joan did, motivated by compassion and centered on human dignity and respect, that Thomas most wants to emulate in both his business and personal lives.

In 1955, Thomas was the

first person to provide financial backing to form the KCLU (now the ACLU of Kentucky). His contribution was in response to the sedition charges leveled against Anne and Carl Braden for their purchase of a home on behalf of the Wades, an African-American couple in Louisville. The case came during the height of the McCarthy era, a time when Thomas writes, "Joe McCarthy and his crowd wrapped themselves up in the American flag and trampled on individual civil liberties." Though Thomas disagreed with the Bradens' politics, he put up money to defend them and get the KCLU off the ground, because he recognized the charges against the Bradens "as a threat to all liberty-loving people, including Quakers."

A Quaker by faith, Thomas is a founding member of Louisville Friends Meeting. He believes "all persons have inherent worth, independent of their gender, race, age, nationality, religion




and sexual orientation." His opposition to sexism, racism, religious intolerance, warfare and the death penalty led him to marches against the Vietnam War, civil rights marches alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and more recently, Iraq war protests. Sixty years after his first financial contribution to the ACLU-KY, Thomas is still a donor. He wants to "support the civil liberties of all people — the extreme right, the extreme left, and those in the middle."

***"I have tried to stand up for what I believe in."***

— Lee B. Thomas Jr.



## ENID TRUCIOS-HAYNES

 Enid Trucios-Haynes is an immigration lawyer and scholar, the President of the ACLU of Kentucky Board of Directors, and the granddaughter of unauthorized, noncitizens who were able to get on a path to citizenship that no longer exists. Her personal connection to the U.S. immigration system continues to inform and inspire her work for immigrants' rights today.

Trucios-Haynes recalls the 2011 General Assembly as an important moment in

this work. The ACLU-KY worked in coalition with immigrant rights' groups to defeat anti-immigrant legislation in Frankfort. The bill, a copycat of the Arizona law that was challenged by the ACLU before the U.S. Supreme Court, would have required local police to verify the immigration status of all persons suspected of unauthorized presence, regardless of any suspected criminal activity.

Trucios-Haynes' work with the ACLU-

KY extends beyond immigrants' rights, and into her classrooms at the University of Louisville. She is the faculty sponsor of the ACLU-KY Brandeis School of Law chapter, open to the entire University of Louisville campus, which has become an active partner in educating young civil liberties leaders in Kentucky. She also works with the Brandeis School of Law Marshall-Brennan Program. Trucios-Haynes, along with Professor Cedric Powell, has supervised law students teaching a civil rights curriculum at Central High School for the past three years. This work, supervised by Professor Laura Rothstein with Central High School teacher Joe Guttman, has touched the lives of many law and high school students who are our future leaders.

One observation from all of this work Trucios-Haynes points to, the protection of civil liberties, requires constant and consistent effort as well as broad coalitions

working together. She said, "The ACLU of Kentucky is the leading organization in our state defending civil rights and liberties through its outreach, education, lobbying and, most importantly, its ability to protect individuals through its excellent legal program. Few organizations can bring all of these resources to protect the civil rights and liberties. We do this work as an organization on behalf of all of the citizens of our state."



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# JEFF VESSELS

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Former ACLU of Kentucky executive director Jeff Vessels' first experience with the ACLU was in 1986, at the Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men. One of the speakers at the conference was from the ACLU, which at the time was formalizing the organization's LGBT rights work in a new department called the LGBT Project. "[The speaker] talked about the connections among social justice issues and how the ACLU sort of connects those dots," Vessels said. "It made a lot of sense to me."

When he returned home to Owensboro after the conference, Vessels became an ACLU-KY member. Soon he was organizing local meetings and serving on the board. After a few years, he became executive director of the state affiliate. During his tenure, Vessels and the ACLU-KY worked on many issues, including LGBT Fairness ordinances, racial justice, and separation of church

and state cases involving display of the Ten Commandments.

Vessels pointed to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks as one of the most significant moments in his five years leading the ACLU-KY. "We had three staff members at the time, and we were in the office when we heard the news on the radio that the towers were falling," he said. "And when we absorbed the shock of that news, we realized that our whole world and the work that we were doing had turned upside-down."

After Sept. 11, representing the ACLU and speaking out against the Patriot Act became controversial actions. "Anyone who didn't go along with what the George W. Bush Administration wanted to do was labeled unpatriotic," Vessels said, adding that the ACLU was one of the few voices calling government overreach into question. "Any time we spoke out, we were also accused of being unpatriotic, of being the enemy. The

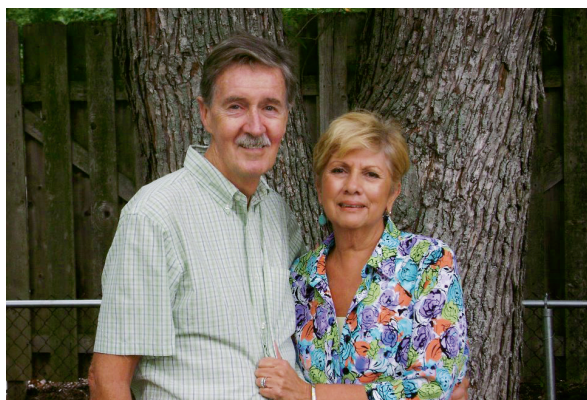


public was so frightened that they just wanted to go along with whatever made them feel safer, so at the national level, the ACLU coined the phrase: 'Safe and free.'"

***"I think to be a civil libertarian you have to be optimistic. You have to have optimism that the country and the world can be better, and despite all the challenges and the negativity that might surround you, you really have to stay committed to your vision of what true justice means."***

— Jeff Vessels





(top) Linda and Larry Allewalt; (center) Teena Halbig; (bottom) Marty and Geri Herbert.

***“[We] believe strongly that the right to vote is the responsibility of each citizen, not to be taken lightly. To learn that our vote will be diluted and not counted properly was disappointing”***

— Marty and Geri Herbert

## VOTING RIGHTS PLAINTIFFS



In a 2013 lawsuit, the ACLU of Kentucky joined forces with the ACLU’s Voting Rights Project and cooperating attorney Ben Carter to represent several Kentucky voters — **Marty and Geri Herbert** of Boone County, **Linda and Larry Allewalt** of Shelby County, and former Kentucky League of Women Voters President **Teena Halbig** of Jefferson County — in a challenge to the constitutionality of Kentucky’s then-operative House and Senate legislative districts. We argued that the districts — which were enacted in 2002 using the 2000 Census data — violated the Fourteenth Amendment’s “one person, one vote” principle because they were grossly imbalanced in light of the 2010 Census data and, as a result, unlawfully diluted many Kentuckians’ votes, including our clients’.

The three-judge panel assigned to hear the case consolidated the ACLU-KY suit with a similar suit

filed by several Northern Kentucky politicians and voters. After extensive briefing, the court issued its ruling on Aug. 16, 2013, agreeing that the 2002 maps violated the U.S. Constitution. And it also entered a permanent injunction barring the state from using the 2002 maps in future Kentucky elections.

After that favorable ruling, the General Assembly conducted a special session in which it enacted new legislative districts based on the 2010 Census data.

The ACLU-KY’s work on “one person, one vote” reaches back more than 45 years, but the assault on this fundamental freedom continues. The organization will continue legal and advocacy efforts to protect voting rights in the commonwealth.



## THE WALLACE FAMILY

***"A SEDITION TRIAL," says Mr. Witte, referring to the Braden trial, ... , "provides shocking evidence of the extent to which people in our democracy have lost faith in the substance and vital processes of liberty. Only when our faith in the correctness of the ideals of liberty is so strong that we can tolerate, even boast of the heretics in our midst, can we justifiably claim to be the heirs of the estate of freedom bequeathed us by Jefferson, Tom Paine and the others who defied the wrath of the crown that they might honor their own consciences as free men."***

— from an editorial written by Tom Wallace, praising James. G. Witte Jr., an Indiana educator, for speaking up on behalf of Carl and Anne Braden when they were charged with sedition.



### Tom Wallace

was a noted conservationist who used his position as editor of the *Louisville Times* to wage campaigns on issues for which he felt passionately. Wallace was a hard-hitting and respected editor who once remarked that "an editorial page without spunk is bunk." That phrase could aptly apply to three

generations of the Wallace family (and counting) who have dedicated their lives to addressing injustice.

His grandson, **Tom Wallace Lyons**, a third generation supporter of the ACLU of Kentucky, attributes a great deal of the ideological underpinnings of the family to the principles espoused by his grandfather.

Tom and **Augusta French Wallace** had two children, Augusta and Henry. Augusta was an active supporter of civil rights who marched on Washington to support Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1963. She also became an early advocate of reproductive rights, and was instrumental in supporting the formation of the ACLU-KY's Reproductive Freedom Project.

**Henry Wallace** and his wife **Sonja deVries** were ardent opponents of the death penalty, and were drawn to the ACLU as an organization willing to stand up against the abuse of power. Henry spent his adult life working alongside Anne Braden, who his father had defended in his blistering editorial some years before. He also worked with others in the struggle for African-American civil rights, later in the fight for LGBT equality, and in any instance where people were marginalized or locked out in society. Upon his death, Henry became the largest donor to date of the ACLU-KY, strengthening our work for the future.

Cousins Tom Wallace Lyons and **Carla Wallace** both recount connecting with the ACLU in their teen years through conversations with their parents. Tom became an advocate against the death penalty as well, while Carla has spent her life working against racism and for LGBT equality.

Carla became a co-founder of the Fairness Campaign in Louisville, which emerged from those fighting for racial equality to fight for LGBT rights. From the beginning, the Fairness Campaign has held a dual mission of dismantling racism and advocating for the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities. Understanding the intersections between all forms of oppression is a trait most think of when you mention the Wallace family. That can be traced to the multi-generational connections they have passed down to one another.

Carla's siblings are equally committed to working against injustice through the arts, both here and abroad. Her sister **Naomi** is an internationally renowned playwright lauded for her work that weaves the historical and political. Her sister **Sonja** is a poet and filmmaker whose work covers justice movements all over the globe, most notably Cuba and Palestine. Naomi's and Sonja's children are carrying on the family's legacy in their own ways.

"It's never about our work being done. It's best to embrace a lifetime of working for equity and justice than to think this is something that has a stopping point, and share that forward to those that come after us." — Carla Wallace



1967 open housing demonstration in Louisville.

***“These experiences and their consequences were extremely costly to me personally, but their benefits were probably greater. I participated in a period of American history when significant moral progress was achieved, and I was a member of the movement which achieved it.”***

— Hal M. Warheim

## HAL M. WARHEIM



The open housing law, passed by the City of Louisville in the fall of 1967, was the product of a three-year struggle by a cluster of agencies and organizations, including the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union (KCLU). In the process, a community crisis was created, enormous racial hostility was exposed, activist proponents were persecuted and jailed, Derby Week events were canceled due to fear of violence, thousands of black voters were registered, and the Republican Board of Aldermen, who had refused to pass the civil rights legislation, were replaced by Democrats who had agreed to do so if elected. Also, a series of laws used to deny the civil rights of protesters were struck down on constitutional grounds through litigation in the courts.

I, among others, helped organize nighttime demonstrations, despite a court injunction, in the South End of the city

where marchers were jeered, cherry-bombed, and stoned by crowds of white racists and were tear-gassed, roughed-up and jailed by the police on exaggerated charges which demanded exorbitant bail.

As in any community in crisis, the world cracked open in 1967 and, in that moment, I was able to see the raw realities which exist beneath the puffed and preened public surfaces of human nature, religion, politics and societal affairs. The tuition was high, but I learned lessons about myself, churches and clergy, races and racism, and the necessity of organized power in the pursuit of justice which became the core of my teaching and practice of ministry.

— excerpted from the ACLU of Kentucky’s 40th anniversary publication





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## CARL WEDEKIND

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***"I continue to be amazed at the workings of this world, but I decided it is simply better to believe that if you keep after it, good things will eventually happen. I believe this, and off we go again."***

— Carl Wedekind,  
*Politics, Religion and  
Death: Memoir of a  
Lobbyist*



"The man whose life we were trying to save was Harold McQueen, and if ever there was a loser, it was Harold McQueen." So begins Carl Wedekind's account of his pro bono efforts with the ACLU of Kentucky to save a convict from the death penalty. Wedekind and his legal partner on the case, David Friedman, worked in a frenzied race against time: McQueen was scheduled for an execution less than a month away.

The lawyers and their assistants worked night and day to make their argument to any and every court with authority on the case. But in the

end their efforts were unsuccessful: McQueen was executed in the electric chair on July 1, 1997. As Wedekind wrote in his book *Politics, Religion and Death: Memoir of a Lobbyist*, that night "Harold McQueen's journey ended, and my journey as an abolitionist began."

After the McQueen case, Carl Wedekind's influence grew as an advocate for the abolition of the death penalty in Kentucky. He served as director for the Campaign to Abolish the Death Penalty, on the ACLU National Board of Directors, and on the Board of Directors for the ACLU-KY for many years, often focusing on

the abolition cause. His memoir of his experiences as a lobbyist in Frankfort against the death penalty reflects on his many hours and years of effort that are seen in Kentuckians' slowly changing views on the death penalty.

Wedekind passed away in 2011, but his legacy has been immortalized through the posthumous Carl L. Wedekind Fellowship, which provides for a local high school senior to work part-time for the ACLU-KY and continue the organization's work while honoring the lobbyist-activist's memory.





*"I think that people have to self-start, people have to have the goal and the willingness to make changes, to be sure that we don't let the government or anybody else just roll over us."*

— Dona Wells

*Dona Wells far right.*

## DONA WELLS



"I have always felt that women needed to have the right to control their own bodies," Dona Wells explained. "Even growing up in a really kind of conservative town, I always thought it was crazy for women not to be able to control their own bodies and their own reproductive lives."

Wells worked for years in Louisville abortion clinics, and with the ACLU, to ensure that Kentucky women would continue to have access to safe and legal abortions. She served on the search committee over and over when it was time to hire a new director for the ACLU of Kentucky's

Reproductive Freedom Project (RFP) and used her experience and connections to make RFP as effective as possible in its reproductive rights work.

One of RFP's main projects is to fight the anti-abortion bills that have a tendency to come up in the state legislature. RFP's second director, Tina Hester, made building connections statewide a RFP priority, and Wells was eager to help. "I was really helpful in that because I was also a member of Business and Professional Women," she said. "How many times do you mention the ACLU and people are like, 'Well that's a radical

organization'? Obviously, they don't feel that way about Business and Professional Women."

Hester's and Wells' goal was to have constituents of every state representative and senator in their contacts database. "Our state [government] was obviously more likely to listen to a constituent than to listen to someone else," Wells explained. RFP's work, which is based on those contact-building efforts, has largely been successful, and many attempts to eliminate or restrict women's access to abortion in the state have successfully been stopped.

"The ACLU is totally instrumental. Every time

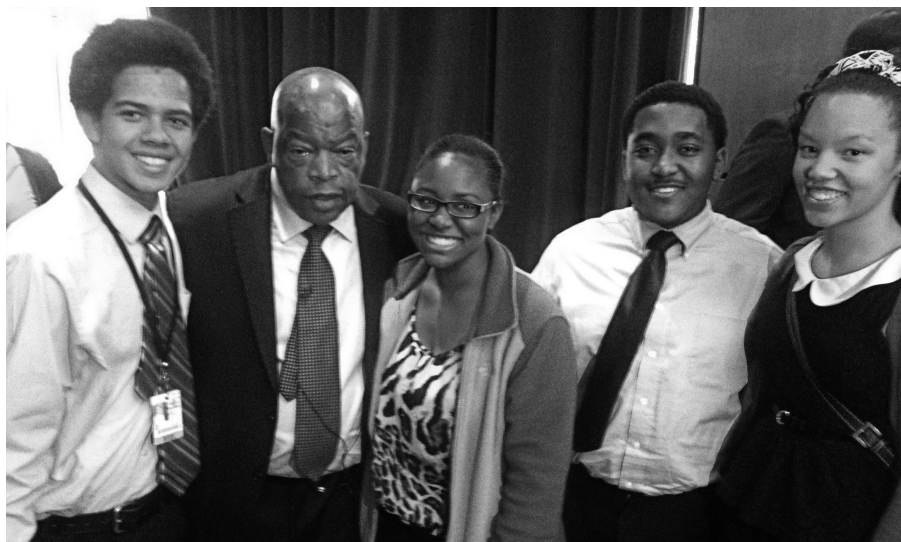
we've got any kind of significant abortion rights, the state of Kentucky will always pass a law trying to deny those rights to women," Wells said. "And of course, the ACLU was there every single time to go to court."

***"The ACLU of Kentucky has shown so many young people that our voices matter."***

— Jason Jewell, University of Louisville student and ACLU-KY volunteer.

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*ACLU-KY youth met Congressman John Lewis in Louisville.*



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## YOUNG CIVIL LIBERTARIANS

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There are thousands of young people who have had some connection to the ACLU of Kentucky. And there are dozens of young leaders who have shaped the face of the ACLU and their communities. The ACLU-KY's work with high school and college-age civil libertarians is centered on the idea that in order to shape the future, we have to invest in young people today.

The affiliate is proud to partner with the University of Louisville Brandeis School Of Law and Central High School's Law and Government magnet for the Marshall-Brennan program. The program trains third-year

law students to teach constitutional law to the next generation of civil libertarians. The ACLU-KY salutes Central High School teacher **Joe Guttman**, who works closely with the affiliate's staff to make sure students are connected to all the community resources and tools they need to succeed and make a difference.

Over the years incredible students such as **Dwight Haggard, Andrea Wilson, Christien Russell, Jamitra Fulleord** and many more have volunteered hundreds of hours to organizing programs like our annual Youth Rights Conference (convened in partnership

with the Muhammad Ali Center), and the YMCA's Kentucky Youth Assembly (a three-day experiential learning conference where students participate in a simulation of Kentucky's democratic process).

The ACLU-KY applauds the accomplishments of past youth leaders who check in often with updates from college, study abroad trips, new jobs, work on presidential campaigns, and so much more. These young Faces of Liberty are the next generation of committed advocates for social justice. The affiliate's work with them makes the entire organization more valuable.

# ACLU OF KENTUCKY BOARD MEMBERS (1955-2015)

*Listed below are those who served as members of the ACLU of Kentucky Board of Directors. We've made every effort to include all that served alongside their dates of service. We apologize for any omissions.*

Mikki Adams 1980-1982  
Michael Adelstein 2001-2002  
Michael Aldridge 2005-2007  
Stuart Alexander 1963-1965  
Ann T. Allen 1997-2015  
Julia Allen 1955-1963  
Earl Alluisi 1966-1973  
E. Deedom Alston 1962-1965  
Clarence Amster 1966-1970  
Bonnie Walker Armstrong 1980-1982  
Isela Arras 2008-2012  
David B. Bronson 1964-1965  
Phillip Baker 2012-2013  
Patricia W. Ballard 1993-2004  
Stephen Barger 2015  
Sebastian Barr 2013-2015  
Richard Beal 1989-1992  
Tom Beehan 1972  
Guy Bell 1983  
Ann K. Benfield 1988-2005  
Carl Bensinger 1964-1969  
Deedra Benthall 1978  
Ed Berman 1978-1982  
William F. Billingsley 1955-1967  
Emily Bingham 1996-2005  
Norbert Blume 1955-1959  
David Bolotin 1958-1969, 1983-1985  
Emily Boone 1981  
James Bowling 1979-1983  
Anne Braden 1974-1975, 1981-1983  
Bill Branaham 1972-1974  
Barry Brandon 1995-1997  
Carolyn Bratt 1978-1979  
Richard Brautigam 1998-2001  
Kathy Brickey 1974  
Dennis Bricking 1970-1971, 1983-1986  
Betsy Brinson 1999-2002

Richard Brown 1980-1967  
Wm. David Brown 1965-1967  
Barbara Buchanan-Lewis 1984-1990  
Kimberly Bunton-Douglas 2000-2003  
Walter D. Clare 1993-1996  
Marvin Coan 1978  
Bill Cole 1993-2001  
Lewis Cole 1964-1969  
Khalilah Collins 2010-2013  
Lewis Conn 1966-1969  
Allison Connelly 1993  
Blanche Cooper 1974  
Johnette Sims Cotton 1991-1992  
Linda Scholle Cowan 1979-1983  
Linda Craig 2002-2003  
Glenn Crothers 2014-2015  
James A. Crumlin 1960-1962  
Amy Cubbage 2007-2012  
John Cumbler 1995-2007  
Bobby Cunningham 1988  
Art Curtis 1973-1974, 1980-1981  
Macarthur Darby 1980  
Kent Davis 2002-2003  
Lawrence Davis 1962  
Lois "Katz" Davis 1979-1987  
Pearl Davis 1963-1973  
Terry Davis 1974  
Wayne Davis 1974  
Cherie Dawson-Edwards 2007-2015  
Lois R. Dean 1957-1959  
Wynant Dean 1957-1959  
J. Earl Dearing 1960-1962  
Dolores Delahanty 1972  
Robert Delahanty 1968-1973  
Mark Denham 1978-1980  
Michael Denney 1976-1977  
Lee Dew 1972  
David Dobson 1962-1968  
Andrew Downey 2013-2015  
Scott A. Duvall 1999-2002  
R.A. Duvall 1962-1965  
Stafford Easterling 2011-2015  
Keith Elston 1991-1995, 2006-2010  
Carl Enoch 1986-1990  
Doug Epling 2012  
Barbara Epreman 1988-1990  
Alexander Erlén 1960-1969  
Ellen Ewing 1976-1978  
Louella Farmer 1974  
Phillip Field 1973  
Aida Fine 1982-1985  
Susan Fonner 1963-1965

Joel Fort 1957-1959  
Arnold Foster 1963-1965  
Emerson Foulke 1968-1971  
Arthur Fraizer 1963-1965  
Joseph Freeland 1955-1967  
David A. Friedman 1984-2009  
Sam Fritschner 1987-1988  
Katherine Fulkerson 1967  
Ben Fuson 1982-1984  
Nancy Gall-Clayton 1980-1983  
Lella Garner 2011-2012  
Shannon Garth-Rhodes 2010-2012  
Janet Geurin 1988-1990  
George Gibson 1964-1977  
Carolyn Sue Gill 1980-1983, 2002-2007  
Sheldon Gilman 1998-2001  
Esther Ginsherman 1983-1984  
Alvin Goldman 1967-1971, 1974-1977  
Ellie Goldman 1981-1990  
Steven Goldstein 1990  
T Gonzales 2014-2015  
Michael Goodwin 2014-2015  
Paula Gould Gay 1964-1978  
Zakkula Govindarajuli 1993-1994  
Jane Graham 1976-1977  
Bernard Gravitt 1972-1978  
Ellen Greist 1977-1978  
J. Bennett Guess 1997-1999  
Judy Haaga 1991-1992  
Edwin Hackney 1979  
Wade Hall 1970-1971  
Roberta Harding 2003-2004  
Necia Harkless 1993-1995  
Herman Harris 1983  
Richard Harwood 1957-1959  
Richard Heckman 1967  
Nelson Helm 1989-1992  
Robert M. Hensley 1960-1962, 1966-1969  
Clinton Hewan 1995-2013  
James Hickey 1967-1971  
Judith Hicks 1972-1973  
Bani Hines-Hudson 2001-2005  
Tom Hogan 1971-1973, 1977, 1984  
Casey Holland 2000-2003  
C.A. Holmquist 1983-1985  
Sandy Hoover 1999-2004  
Samantha Howell 2006-2007  
C. Kenneth Hudson 1982-1990  
Helen Irvin 1979-1981  
James D. Ishmael 1983  
Morris Jeff 1969-1972  
Lyman Johnson 1963-1974

Mary Johnson	1991-1992	Anita Nelam	1978	Eleanor Self	1996-2000, 2005-2013
Walter Jonas	1966-1990	Frank Neuber	1972-1980	Forrest Shearon	1976-1977
Ricky L. Jones	2004-2009	Tom Neudecker	1972-1978	David Short	1978
Reinette Jones	2006-2007	Patricia Nitchie	1978	Isabel West Silverman	1981-1987
Arnita Jones	1976-1977	John O'Mara	1970-1972	Angela Singla	2015
Dennis Jones	1993-1994	Becca O'Neill	2011-2014	Seymour Slavin	1981-1987
Linda Jones	1973-1974	Barbara Owens	1996-2002	Bruce Smith	1977-1978
Paul Jones	1971	Darryl Owens	1971	P.A. Smith	1961-1963
Ann Joseph	1986-1987	Geneva Parris	1979-1982, 1985-1995,	Stanford Smith	1983-1985
Ed Kagin	1970		1997-1999	Pallen Nubia Starks	1981-1984
David Kaplan	1981-1983	C.H. Parrish	1957-1963	Robert Stenger	1980-1984
David Kelly	1974-1977	Djenita Pasic	2000-2015	Donald Stern	1997-2007, 2012-2013
Michael Kennedy	2007-2012	W.L. Past	1963-1969	William Stone	1979-1987
Erin S. Kennedy	2011-2015	Joan Seitz Pate	1980-1982	Rufus S. Stout	1960-1970
Daniel Kirchner	2014-2015	Edwin Paul	1965-1970	Randy Strobo	2009-2015
Lois Kronholm	1969	Marta Pearson	1981-1983	Gary Sykes	1978
Joe Kuc	1977-1978	Maie Perley	1955-1963	Eric Tachau	1979-1984
Raymond LeRoux	1967-1969	Jan Phillips	1986-1989	Mary K. Tachau	1960-1974
Phoenix Lindsey-Hall	2009-2011	Rebecca Phillips	1993	Kristina Talbert-Slagle	2000-2002
Anne Lloyd	1973	Adalberto Pinelo	1998-2013	Robert Tannenbaum	2002-2010
William Lloyd	1971	Fern Pirkle	1961-1970	Michael Taylor	1981-1982
Phil Lloyd-Sidle	2011-2012	Peggy Pittman-Munke	2013-2015	Timus Taylor	1962
Keith Look	2006-2015	Ed Porter	1976-1977	Preston Terry	1970-1971
Lee Look	2009-2015	Suzy Post	1964-1982, 1994-2003	Charles Thomas	1980-1982
Jessica Loving	1981-1985, 1993-1999	W.H. Powels	1966-1969	Lee Thomas Jr.	1955-1967
Jonathan Lowe	2013-2015	Charles Pratt	1978-1981	George Thompson	1973
Louis Lusky	1956-1965	Sara Pratt	1983-1992	Pam Thompson	1977-1978
Arnold Lynch	1965-1967	Naomi Pressma	1970-1971	Al Tinsley	1985-1994
Kathleen Lyons	1987-1988	Maurice Rabb	1955-1971	Judy Tipton	1974
Bill Maddox	1996-1999	John Rabun	1972-1974	Rebecca Trammell	2004-2005
Tom Maher	1977-1978	William M. Radigan	1988-1999	Connie Troutman	1982-1984
Blanche Mahoney	1965-1971	Mahjabeen Rafiuddin	2006-2008	Enid Trucios-Haynes	2010-2015
Donna Maier	1976-1977	Maria Emilia Ramirez	2010-2013	Hank Tutino	1971
Wallis Manske	1967-1969	Morgan Ransdell	2010-2011	Jean Varble	1991-1992
John Martin	2001-2009	Nancy Ray	1972-1983	Jeff Vessels	1988-1993
Gene Mason	1969-1971	William Read	1971-1972	Grace Volpert	1980-1982
E. Kenneth Mayer	1981-1990	Derek Reed	1979-1983	Alice Wade	2002-2008
Thomas A. McAdam III	1980-1983	Jack E. Reeves	1957-1973	Edwin Walbourn, III	1978-1980
Harry McAlpin	1960-1962	Chris Rivers	1984-1990	Sherri Wallace	2005-2006
Linda McCray	1995-1997	Forrest Roberts	1991-1999	Carla Wallace	1991-1995
Galelyn McElroy	2006-2009	Marsha Roberts-Blethen	1981-1985	Hal Warheim	1967-70, 1993-1997
Nell McGothlin	1981-1983	D.B. Robertson	1957-1976	Maya Warrior	2014-2015
William McGothlin	1971	Priscilla Robertson	1957-1976	Beverly Watts	1995-1999
Steve McMurtry	1972-1974	Janet Robinson	1973	Russell Weaver	1988-1995
Kevin McNally	1988-1990	Don Rodgers	2013-2015	Carl Wedekind	1958-59, 1991-2011
Tom Meadows	1976-1977	James Rosenblum	1963-1972	Dona Wells	1984-2009
James Merritt	1961-1966	Susan Rostov	1982	Scott Wendelsdorf	1976-1978
Leslie Millar	2003-2004	Priscilla Rothman	1977-1978	Rebecca Westerfield	1976-1981
Alexis Miller	2011-2013	Carolyn Ryant	1979-1984	Bettie Weyler	1981-1990
Martha Miller	1972	Robert Sachs	1981-1988, 1998-2001	Robert Whyne	1999-2002
Patricia Minter	2009-2015	Grover Sales	1963-1965	Jesse Wiel	1983-1984
Prudence Todd Moffett	1983-1985	Don Sands	1999-2011	Morris Wilhelm	1972-1973, 1981-1984
Nelda P. Moore	2002-2007	Jeff Sauer	2005	Serena Williams	2001-2003
Marvin H. Morse	1960-1969	Glenn Schilling	1967-1969	Mary Jo Winkler	1981
Paul Morsey	1999-2003	Georgia Schneider	1955-1959	Deborah Privett Winslow	2004-2009
Frank Moxley	1978-1990	Louise Tachau Schulman	1958-1960	Mary Lou Woosley	1958-1978
Irvin Moxley	1970-1971	Rebecca Schupbach	1989-1992	Yacoub Yacoub	2003-2008
David Park Musella	2012	Attica Scott	2007	Sung Chul Yang	1981-1982
Wilfred Myll	1955-1969	Leland Scott	1967-1969	Edgar A. Zingman	1955-1972
John Nader	1974	Robert Sedler	1968-1977	Robert Zumwinkle	1988-1994
David A. Nash	2008-2011	Bill V. Seiller	1964-1966		





## AFTERWORD

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During interviews for these profiles we asked each participant for advice to pass along to a future generation working for justice. Invariably, the answer was some variation of the famous quote that has become something of an unofficial ACLU motto, “*Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.*” And even after 60 years of fighting to extend rights to all Kentuckians, the ACLU of Kentucky must continue to be ever vigilant to ensure equal protection for everyone in our fair state.

The beauty of the United States lies within the freedoms embodied in the Bill of Rights. We often say that no one agrees with the ACLU on every issue, but most people appreciate the principled dedication to upholding Constitutional principles that we stand for.

I am grateful to the leaders profiled in this book for their bravery and unwavering commitment to justice when society seemed determined to quash their voices. And I am proud to be a small part of the history of this

organization, training future generations and educating both the public and decision makers on the work that still lies ahead.

Together we have made incredible progress in extending civil liberties in Kentucky, and we hope that you will continue to strive for a more just society, inspired by these stories that show what is possible when (extra)-ordinary people take action. Cheers to the next 60 years!

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**Michael Aldridge**  
*Executive Director*  
*ACLU of Kentucky*



## CONTACT

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315 Guthrie Street  
Suite 300  
Louisville, KY 40202-3820

**Legal Intake line:** 502-581-1181

## LINKS

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