

The background is a dense, red-tinted collage of various protest signs and slogans. Visible text includes "DON'T PARENTS ARE COLLECTIVE TOO", "PROTECT", "OK", and "protection".

WE THE PEOPLE

ACLU of NEVADA
2017 Impact Report

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The ACLU of Nevada is a nonpartisan organization committed to the defense and advancement of civil liberties and civil rights for all people in Nevada. Grounded in the principles of liberty, justice, democracy, and equality, we engage in education, advocacy, and litigation on behalf of the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Nevada Constitution.

BECAUSE FREEDOM DOESN'T DEFEND ITSELF



2017 kept us on our toes and brought many new challenges for the ACLUNV staff and supporters. As soon as the inauguration ended, President Trump ushered in discriminatory policies against multiple minority communities. With his first Muslim Ban, we rallied at Nevada's major airports to assist families caught up in the mess and tell the administration that we will not tolerate the hate they were sowing. We appeared at numerous community events to educate nervous constituents about standing up for their rights.

Then, starting in February, we successfully fought for the civil rights and liberties of all Nevadans at the 2017 Legislature, securing wins for women, LGBTQ youth, and juveniles in the criminal justice system. We tracked over 250 bills, providing testimony and educational materials, recruited volunteer speakers, and negotiated with opponents on laws we didn't support. We defeated the discriminatory voucher bill. We had hoped to update Nevada's public records law with our Silver State Sunshine Act, but we will try again in 2019.

We took on a number of important cases over the last year. We sued the state of Nevada over the deficient, unconstitutional public defense system in 11 rural counties, and we challenged an anti-immigrant ballot petition that would separate families and imperil public safety.

When the White House announced it was going to sunset the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, the ACLU of Nevada organized public information meetings and assisted eligible Dreamers with their DACA applications. We also advocated for police accountability by expanding the state body camera law, and urging Clark County to update its Use of Force Matrix, and for transgender-inclusive school policies in Clark County.

While we faced new and overwhelming challenges in 2017, we managed to achieve meaningful changes in public policy, and defend the rights of Nevadans throughout the state. None of these wins would be possible without the contributions of our membership and supporters, which quadrupled to meet these new challenges. We look forward to continuing our fights against discriminatory policies no matter who initiates them.

Our fight for equality, liberty, justice, and democracy is only possible with your involvement and support.

I look forward to standing with you in 2018 and seeing what new challenges we can overcome the victories we can accomplish together!

In liberty,

Tod Story,
Executive Director
ACLU of Nevada

DEMOCRACY | EQUALITY | JUSTICE | LIBERTY

EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

Legal Department Report

This was a busy year for the legal department as we fought for Nevadan's civil rights and liberties across several different issue areas including, voting rights, indigent defense, immigration, LGBTQ rights, and government transparency. We were able to accomplish great wins through legal advocacy, litigation, and public education.

We initiated a class action lawsuit against the State for failing to provide adequate counsel to criminal defendants in rural Nevada in violation of the 6th Amendment. The right to counsel is the lifeblood of the American criminal justice system and the ACLUNV is working with the law firm of O'Melveny and Meyers, the ACLU National's Criminal Law Reform Project, and the former Federal Public Defender, Franny Forsman, to defend that right. The system of publicly-appointed defense attorneys in Nevada's rural counties is plagued with serious systemic deficiencies like inadequate resources, use of de facto flat-fee contracts that do not reimburse attorneys for travel, expert witnesses, or investigators, delays in appointment of defense counsel and unmanageable case-loads.

The legal department also worked to quickly respond to national changes in immigration laws. After the first travel ban was imposed in January 2017, the legal department helped to advocate for the release from Customs and Border Protection of an elderly local couple who were legal permanent residents, but originally from Syria. We also sprang into action and created a legal volunteer observer program for the first several days of implementation of the travel ban. Over 50 attorneys and law students volunteered to take shifts at the airport. And, in response to this Federal Government's extreme secrecy around the travel ban the ACLUNV, along with the ACLU of Southern California sent a FOIA request to obtain travel ban documents. After the government failed to respond, we sued and are now litigating about our right to access these documents. And, after the Trump administration rescinded DACA, the ACLUNV in conjunction with other community partners and legal volunteers developed walk-in clinics to help individuals renew their DACA before the arbitrary renewal deadline.

We made great strides for voting rights in Nevada by entering into Memorandums of Agreement with both the Nevada DMV, and the Secretary of State to bring Nevada into compliance with the National Voter Registration Act, making it easier for Nevadans to register to vote at the DMV. We also successfully obtained a settlement for an inmate who suffered lasting damage from several strokes because of the Nevada Department of Correction's unconstitutional delay in medical care, and obtained significant compensation for a parent whose transgender son was unlawfully denied medically necessary care by his insurance company.



LIBERTY AND COMMUNITY

Policy Department Report

The 2017 legislative session was an overall success for the ACLU of Nevada.

Our biggest victory of the session by far was the defeat of all efforts to establish a discriminatory educational voucher program in the state of Nevada. Our coalition remained firm in our commitment to keep this damaging policy from moving forward. Dozens of public school advocates, parents, and teachers showed up for a three-and-a-half-hour Memorial Day hearing which solidified leadership's decision to kill the proposed legislation.

Criminal justice reform advocates across the country are looking to Nevada's felon rights reinstatement legislation (AB 181) and at our new record sealing laws (SB 125 and AB 327) as model policies for states to follow. We also took a critical first step in reforming solitary confinement practices in adult correctional facilities, working in tandem with the Nevada Department of Corrections (SB 402).

Other wins for the ACLUNV and our partners included protections for family planning services and contraception that could be lost with the repeal of the Affordable Care Act (SB 233); protections for special immigrant juveniles (AB 142) and immigrant victims of crime (AB 122); and several wins for the LGBTQIA community, including taking the first step to amending the State's Constitution to reflect marriage equality (AJR 2), and a ban on conversion therapy of juveniles (SB 201).

Disappointingly, the death penalty repeal bill sponsored by Assemblyman James Ohrenschall (AB 237), and our public records act overhaul legislation (SB 170), never made it to a committee vote. We were also disappointed by the governor's veto of a very watered-down version of Assemblywoman Amber Joiner's medically accurate and inclusive sex education bill (AB 348). Further, we were unable to defeat politically motivated and well-funded bills, including SB 26 and "Marsy's Law". SB 26, in effect, punishes private, constitutionally protected First Amendment speech and boycott activity. "Marsy's Law" is a misleading measure that will tip the balance of our criminal justice system, undermining the paramount constitutional intent to protect the rights of the accused.

We look forward to monitoring the implementation of bills and building upon the progress made this session.

The ACLU of Nevada is grateful for our coalition and community partners.

Alternatives to Violence Program - Nevada Immigrant Coalition - Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN) - NAACP Reno/Sparks - ACTIONN - Mi Familia Vota - Transgender Allies Group - National Juvenile Justice Network - Nevada Teen Health and Safety Coalition - Northern Nevada Latino Alliance - Northern Nevada Area Coalition - Guiding a New Generation - Latino Leaders Roundtable - UNR School of Social Work - Be the Change Project - Immunize Nevada - UNR Voices for Planned Parenthood - Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center - Reno Area Alliance for Homeless - FUSED at UNR - Catholic Charities - NV Coalition for Fair Sentencing of Youth - Campaign for Fair Sentencing of Youth - Strategic Services - Boyd School of Law at UNLV - Ridge House - Lutheran Episcopal Alliance Network - Let Nevadans Vote Coalition - Silver State Voices - Battle Born Progress - Human Services Network - Reno Justice Coalition at UNR - Clark County Public Defenders - Human Rights Campaign - Gender Justice - Nevada Cure - Freedom to Marry - Nevada Legal Services - Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada - The Center (Las Vegas) - Build Our Center - Washoe County Public Defenders



MORE THAN 550
complaint forms
were received by
ACLUNV in 2017.



A THIRD
of all complaint
forms submitted to
ACLUNV concerned
prisoners' issues.

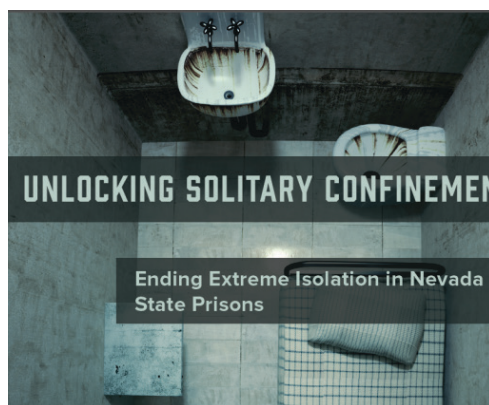


ACLUNV has more than
5,000 followers per
social media account.

2017 AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF NEVADA LEGISLATIVE REPORT



Our report on the 2017
Legislature is available at
aclunv.org



Our 2017 report "Unlocking
Solitary Confinement" is
available at aclunv.org

KEY FINANCIALS

REVENUE

Affiliate Donation Revenue

Attorney Fees

National ACLU Support

National Grants

Shared Nationwide Gifts

TOTAL

AMOUNT

\$691,647.08

\$5,000

\$249,274.85

\$100,000

\$230,314

\$1,276,235.93

EXPENSES

Direct Program Costs

Support Services

Fundraising

TOTAL

AMOUNT

\$532,595

\$131,201

\$80,808

\$744,604



THE YEAR AHEAD

2018 will continue to challenge those devoted to civil rights and liberties, and the ACLU of Nevada will continue to resist wrongheaded policies in the Silver State through advocacy, communications, lobbying, and litigation.

IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS

Anti-immigrant policies will continue to haunt immigrant communities, local law enforcement agencies, and civil rights activists in 2018. ACLUNV challenged a ballot petition seeking to ban sanctuary cities in Nevada and will continue to fight the deportation agenda.

SMART JUSTICE

The 2017 Legislature passed a number of valuable criminal justice reforms, but more work will be required to address America's mass incarceration problem. This year we will monitor the implementation of new rules for juveniles in the criminal justice system and will identify priorities for 2019.

TRANSGENDER EQUALITY

Transgender communities have come under attack again and again under the Trump administration. We will continue to advocate for inclusive policies that protect the rights of our transgender communities in 2018.

VOTING RIGHTS

We will be rolling out our voter protection program for the midterm election and working on same-day voter registration and to restore voting rights for former prisoners, many of whom may not know they can now register to vote again.

SEEKING LEGAL HELP?

The ACLU of Nevada is interested in redressing violations of civil rights and civil liberties. When determining whether to take a case, the ACLU of Nevada will evaluate whether the situation raises significant civil liberties or civil rights issues and the possibility for the suit to impact larger social change. Because of limited resources we take on only a few cases each year and thus must try to concentrate our resources on areas where they can effect the most positive change. If the ACLU of Nevada is unable to litigate the matter or to provide direct assistance, we will make every effort to provide you with other resources to help remedy the injustice suffered.

To file a complaint, please visit: <http://www.aclunv.org/complaint>



AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

Nevada

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