

A DREAMER AND A DOER

When the ACLU brought Lorella Praeli on board this spring to shape the organization's advocacy and engagement on immigration, it put the Trump administration on notice that the fight was on.

A seasoned campaigner at 29, Lorella is the former head of Latino vote operation for the Hillary Clinton campaign and before that, a force behind the push to implement DACA, which offers temporary deportation relief and work authorization to young adults who came to the United States as children.

Lorella was one such child: She and her parents moved to the United States when she was 10 to receive treatment for a leg amputated after a car crash. It wasn't until her senior year of high school that Lorella learned that she was undocumented, a revelation that fueled her early activism. When she became an American citizen in 2015, President Obama was on hand to swear her in, saying, "Your story is forever woven into the story of our nation."

Associated Press/Mark J. Terrill



MEET SOME OTHER NEW HIRES

RONALD NEWMAN

Director of Strategic Initiatives

A graduate of Morehouse College and Yale Law School, Ronald Newman joined the ACLU earlier this year to launch People Power's grassroots organizing platform. His work focuses on mobilization efforts for volunteer activists to drive meaningful policy change in their local communities. Previously, Ronald spent six years as a lawyer at the State Department and three years as the director of human rights and refugee protection on the National Security Council at the White House.

SARAH GILLOOLY

Policy Director, ACLU of North Carolina

Sarah Gillooly oversees the ACLU of North Carolina's policy, legislative, and organizing agenda, and serves as its chief lobbyist and political strategist in the state's legislature.

Sarah comes to the ACLU from the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, where they led a nationwide project on contraceptive equity policy and helped the organization's affiliates identify cost-saving public policy goals.

KP TRUEBLOOD

Director of National Strategy

KP Trueblood joined the ACLU to provide strategic direction as the organization continues to defend civil liberties. Her goal is to align resources across the organization and ensure the ACLU is working efficiently and effectively to communicate with its constituents. Previously, KP served as director of White House operations for President Obama.

KIRK BAILEY

Political Director, ACLU of Florida

As the leader of the ACLU of Florida's political coalitions, Kirk Bailey is focused on reducing Florida's incarceration rate and restoring the voting rights of more than 1.6 million Floridians with past felony convictions. Kirk has an accomplished career as a public policy advocate, and

previously served as vice president of government affairs at the Outdoor Industry Association and counsel at the Hamilton Fish Institute on School and Community Violence.

ANDRE SEGURA

Legal Director, ACLU of Texas

A longtime senior staff attorney for the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project, Andre Segura recently joined the ACLU of Texas to lead the state's defense of civil rights. A Texas native, Andre has played a key role in challenging recent executive orders aimed at establishing a Muslim ban, attacking sanctuary cities, and expanding immigration enforcement. One of Andre's notable cases includes demonstrating that Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office maintained a pattern and practice of racial profiling.

Questions? Please contact Caroline Pronovost, Office of Major Gifts, at (212) 519-7869 or cpronovost@aclu.org.

SUMMER 2017 IMPACT REPORT



STAFFING THE RESISTANCE

The resistance to Donald Trump's damaging and extremist agenda is growing every day, and the ACLU is leading the charge. In the words of Executive Director Anthony D. Romero, "There's no limit to how big a resistance we can build at the ACLU."

Since Trump was elected, our members have quadrupled to 1.6 million, and we've seen an average growth in membership by state of nearly 243%.

Our members' passion is key to the fight ahead. So are advocates and litigators waking up every day, armed with a strategy, and ready to defend the Constitution and protect people's rights.

Thanks to the recent outpouring of support, we have already embarked

on a substantial investment in hiring the best and brightest people, creating 100 new staff positions in states like Florida and Texas, where on-the-ground presence can make a real difference. And we are hiring nearly 100 additional lawyers, organizers, and other staff to beef up our national offices in New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

We are the David to the government's Goliath: The government has more than

19,000 litigators, 11,000 of whom work for Attorney General Jeff Session's Justice Department alone.

We've fought the worst assaults against justice, equality, and democracy for over 97 years. It is our mission—and our mandate—to rise to the challenge yet again. With you on our side, and with the talent and passion of the people you'll read about in these pages, we will succeed. Thank you for standing with us.

SMART JUSTICE

Bill Cobb, deputy director of the ACLU's Campaign for Smart Justice, joined the ACLU earlier this year to contribute to the program's groundbreaking efforts to end mass incarceration. Bill recently sat down with Udi Ofer, the campaign's director, to talk about what makes him uniquely qualified for this new role.

UDI: The ACLU's Campaign for Smart Justice has an ambitious goal: to reduce the jail and prison populations by 50%. Simultaneously, we are focused on reducing the consequences for those living with a criminal record. When did you realize how challenging it is for formerly incarcerated people to reenter society?

BILL: I always knew about those challenges but didn't really experience it until I faced employment discrimination for years after my release from prison. Employers looked at my record and decided I wasn't worthy. Then I faced housing discrimination. I looked at going back to school and saw education discrimination. It became a whirlwind of overcoming obstacles.

UDI: We know it's essential that formerly incarcerated people play a leading role in ending mass incarceration. But that hasn't always been clear to those outside the system.

BILL: Formerly incarcerated people see blind spots in the movement, have answers to problems those outside the system might not know exist, and we increase the urgency, accuracy, and effectiveness of the movement. Understanding firsthand what it's like to be impacted by an unjust system helps organizations develop solutions that really work.

UDI: You've long sought, through volunteer and professional roles, to help improve the lives of people negatively impacted by the system. How does your personal experience help fuel the movement to end mass incarceration?

BILL: With 17 years of professional advocacy experience in combination with my incarceration and personal struggle to overcome its collateral consequences, I have grassroots insight and can see the gaps in advocacy.



Bill Cobb is working to cut the prison and jail populations in half and tackle systemic racism in the criminal justice system.

UDI: We're at a significant moment with the Campaign for Smart Justice, collaborating with affiliates, advocates, impacted communities, and many more. How do you think you've impacted the campaign so far?

BILL: Making sure that we don't work incrementally but rather fight for big change that will end our nation's mass incarceration crisis. I provide guidance on how to stay aligned with values important to the impacted community.

UDI: What are you working on that excites you?

BILL: Working with ACLU affiliates on reaching goals and policy targets with impacted people is incredibly exciting. I see such potential for the movement to gain momentum toward reducing our nation's prison population and combatting racial inequities in the criminal justice system.

A NATION OF IMMIGRANTS

The call went out from the ACLU the day after the election: immigrants' rights lawyers and activists needed. Those who answered—some of the top talent in the country—are by now used to the post-tweet scramble and all-nighters putting together a year's worth of litigation in a week or a month.

From the infamous Muslim travel ban to attempts to deport Iraqis who could face persecution or death if returned, the ACLU and its affiliates have been in overdrive since November 9. In addition to having a deep bench of expertise across the country—represented by the five staffers featured here—the ACLU is also drawing strength from the growing resistance movement and from our longstanding supporters who understand that the very values we hold dear are at stake. It's a fight we can and must win.

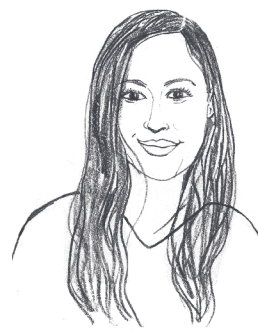


Omar Jadwat: The Eye of the Storm

As the director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project (IRP), Omar stays the course by looking for the silver lining even as the storm rages. "As we fight these battles," he reminds his team, "we're establishing important legal precedents and building organizational and community strength that will serve us well going forward. It's a tough time, but we're going to come out of this stronger than we were at the start."

Lee Gelernt: The Stalwart

In his 25-year ACLU career, Lee has litigated successfully before the Supreme Court and nearly every federal circuit. He won the first injunction against the first Muslim ban and is now leading the ACLU's battle against SB4, a Texas law that punishes local police who don't act as defacto immigration agents. With a gift for making complicated legal issues sound simple, Lee is one you can count on, in and out of the courtroom.



Katrina Eiland: The Encyclopedia

After leaving a partner-track job at a large plaintiff-side law firm to join the ACLU this spring, Katrina jumped into the battle on behalf of 29-year-old, Georgia resident Jessica Colott, whose protections under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) were arbitrarily revoked by the Trump administration. Government lawyers who tried to convince a court not to reinstate Jessica's DACA status were no match for a woman with a passion for justice and an encyclopedic knowledge of the law.

Astrid Dominguez: The Bridge Builder

As the ACLU of Texas' policy strategist for immigrants' rights, Astrid toggles between fighting abuses at the border in a cross-affiliate and national initiative, organizing diverse statewide coalitions, and buttonholing key votes at the State Capitol. A recent win includes blocking a Texas bill to license immigration detention centers as "child care" providers, a shameful and sneaky attempt to thwart court rulings that would keep immigrant children out of jail.



Anand Balakrishnan: The Creative Realist

A recent addition to the team, Anand, a Houston native, is known for thinking around the corners of a problem. He worked closely with the ACLU of Michigan in a thus-far successful effort to stave off the deportation of Iraqis who face persecution if returned, including Christians who Trump has previously promised to protect, bringing legal insights and a much-needed dose of dry wit to a dire situation.