

A Message from Board President Roberto Reveles



ACLU Working to Hold Government Accountable From Bisbee to Prescott

The right to hold government accountable is fundamental. It's protected by the First Amendment and plays a vital role in keeping government officials in check. Unfortunately, most of the powers-that-be in Arizona aren't too keen on the idea of transparency. They frequently claim public disclosure of government documents or practices "makes them look bad" or "violates officials' privacy rights."

For the record, government officials have no reasonable expectation of privacy while exercising their official duties in public, and that includes law enforcement. That's why the ACLU decided to take action on behalf of Bisbee activist Alison McLeod after Border Patrol agents pressured YouTube to take down her video filming agents on the job. The public has a right to gather information about matters of public interest and given that

Customs and Border Protection – with a \$17 billion budget and 22,000 federal agents – is the largest law enforcement agency in the country, the public clearly has an interest in asking questions about how they're spending taxpayer dollars. The agents who pressured YouTube to take down Alison's video claimed their privacy rights were violated. YouTube eventually caved and granted the feds de facto veto power over material they found objectionable – yet another blow to the First Amendment.

Sometimes it's the good ol' boys network that tramples on free speech. In the case of KayAnne Riley, an ACLU client who was fired from her job at a Prescott animal shelter for criticizing government officials, her boss and his allies went as far as claiming her involvement with a group called Prescott Citizens Against Bullies was "affecting [their] friendship with the Mayor." So much for trying to expose government misconduct.

In some instances, as in the case of Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, government officials have gone as far as deliberately destroying documents in an attempt to cover up practices that flout the law. As part of our class action lawsuit challenging racial profiling by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Arpaio and his deputies admitted deleting emails and shredding thousands of documents related to traffic stops targeting Latino drivers, raising serious questions about what Arpaio was trying to hide. Now, Arpaio is putting up roadblocks to avoid disclosing records and transcripts related to a Pinal County investigation exposing misconduct within his own agency.

And when it comes to transparency, Sheriff Babeu is no lover of sunshine either. Over the past several months, the sheriff has deliberately tried to withhold information related to inhumane detention conditions, efforts to pressure county employees to support his political campaign and lawbreakers within his own department.

I have joined a small, but vocal, chorus of concerned citizens calling for increased transparency within the Pinal County Sheriff's Office. But given that these attempts to shield government practices from public scrutiny are happening in cities and towns all over the state, it will take much more than a small chorus to get the message out that open government is really the only way we can begin to assess local civil liberties problems. That's why the ACLU has created resources to help advocates actively promote government transparency. Visit www.aclu.org for tools on how to file open records and what to look for in documents. Because knowing how to gather and interpret this information puts democracy directly in the people's hands, which is right where it belongs.

Roberto A. Reveles

On September 18, in recognition of Constitution Day, the ACLU of Arizona Southern Chapter hosted a 2012 Legislative Preview at the home of Southern Chapter member Mohur Sidhwa. ACLU of Arizona Public Policy Director Anjali Abraham addressed a houseful of supporters on legislation that we can expect to see during the next session, including bills related to voting rights, reproductive freedom and immigrants' rights. The proponents of these bills are organized, well funded and determined to attack our country's founding tenets of liberty, justice, and equality for all. That's why it is so important – NOW MORE THAN EVER – to become engaged in our local advocacy efforts. Sign up to receive ACLU of Arizona's action alerts and we will keep you informed about how you can help stop these measures before they reach the Governor's desk! Go to the Action Center on our website at www.acluaz.org.

Below left: Mohur Sidhwa (left with Program Associate Addy Bareiss) hosted a 2012 Legislative Preview event at her home on September 18th.

Below right: Public Policy Director Anjali Abraham discusses the importance of grassroots advocacy to shut down legislative efforts that erode our constitutional rights.



The ACLU of Arizona had a table at the recent Rainbows Festival in downtown Phoenix. Volunteers discussed the ACLU's work to protect the rights of the LGBT community. Pictured: ACLU volunteer and recent law school graduate Courtney DeWitt (left), and Chris Miller enjoy the Rainbows Festival held October 1-2.

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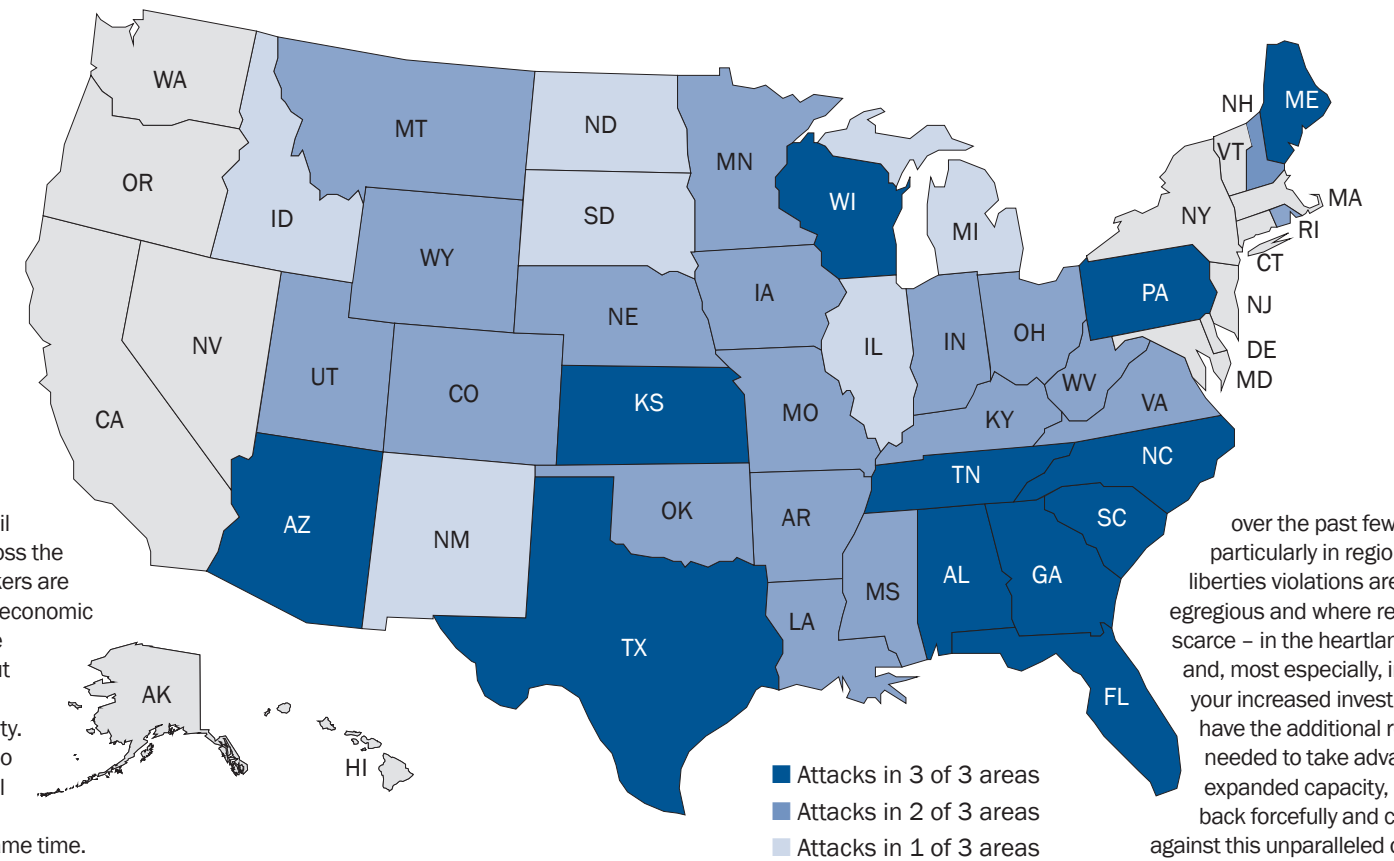
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ACLU Gears Up to Confront Extremist Agenda from Arizona to Florida



We are facing a civil liberties crisis. All across the country, state lawmakers are exploiting the current economic crisis to push extreme agendas that undercut the most vulnerable members of our society. Never have we seen so many unconstitutional bills generated in so many places at the same time.

Issue areas: abortion access, immigrants' rights and voting rights

In Arizona, where we garnered both national and international attention for being the "testing ground" for anti-immigrant policies that discriminate against citizens and non-citizens alike, elected officials have moved on to pass and support restrictions that interfere with a woman's right to choose, exploit anti-Muslim sentiment and discriminate against minority voters.

The American Civil Liberties Union is meeting these battles head on – as we have for nearly a century – using a combination of strategic litigation, public education, and advocacy. For example, we have filed a lawsuit with the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence challenging a law that would exclude any nonprofit organization that provides

abortion referrals or counseling from receiving donations through the Arizona's Working Poor Tax Credit Program. And we are working through the courts to stop Gov. Brewer's efforts to derail the state's medical marijuana law and impede sick people from accessing vital medicine. We have helped prevent passage of discriminatory anti-immigrant bills in 14 states and have stopped enacted laws from going into effect in Arizona, Utah, Indiana, and Georgia. In addition, we have blocked a law in South Dakota that would have made access to abortion nearly impossible, and we have brought a legal challenge to a Kansas law that bans

insurance coverage of abortion – the first lawsuit to challenge a slew of similar state laws that have passed in the last year.

Our on-the-ground presence in every state gives us a window of opportunity to make major progress on issues such as marriage equality, sentencing reform and voting rights – issues that we have been working on tirelessly for decades. But we need your help to ramp up our efforts. Please consider using the enclosed envelope to support the ACLU in ways – and at a level – that you might never have before. With your partnership, we have built up local ACLU presence significantly

over the past few years, particularly in regions where civil liberties violations are the most egregious and where resources are scarce – in the heartland, in rural areas, and, most especially, in Arizona. With your increased investment, we will have the additional resources needed to take advantage of this expanded capacity, not only to fight back forcefully and comprehensively against this unparalleled onslaught on our civil liberties, but also to move issues forward proactively. Thank you, again, for your support. It is what allows us to strike back against these threats to our civil liberties and build on our hard-won victories to achieve results that once seemed unimaginable.

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School Desegregation and Mexican-American Rights

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Please join us as we host Professor and National ACLU Board Member Philippa Strum for an interactive discussion about *Mendez v. Westminster School District*, which recalls the first case about school segregation to be successfully challenged in federal court.

Strum, an author, educator, and champion of civil rights, provides a concise account of the legal issues and historical legacy of the case, while focusing on its contemporary significance, especially as it relates to current anti-immigrant measures in Arizona and nationwide that discriminate against both citizens and non-citizens alike.

Saturday, November 5, 2011
4:00-5:30 PM
Tempe Center for the Arts
700 W. Rio Salado Parkway
Tempe, AZ 85281

Featured Speaker
Philippa Strum
Senior Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center
Author of *When the Nazis Came to Skokie: Freedom for the Speech We Hate*

Please RSVP by November 1st
to Lindsay Nordstrom at 602-650-1854
ext 105 or rsvp@acluaz.org

Update From the Desk of Staff Attorney Victoria Lopez



Protecting Critical Services for Women and the Organizations that Serve Them

On behalf of groups that provide counseling and other services to victims of domestic violence, the ACLU of Arizona with the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project filed a First Amendment challenge to a state law that seeks to deny a woman's access to abortion services or even critical health care information. The law would exclude otherwise qualifying nonprofit organizations from receiving donations through the state's Working Poor Tax Credit Program if that organization provides referrals or "promotes" abortion. For example, the law is so broad that it prevents a woman who is pregnant as a result of an assault from even discussing the range of options available to her. As a result, the plaintiff organizations, including the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence, are predictably "chilled" in their discussions with clients or risk losing a funding source. The law not only violates free speech, it cruelly deprives women in crisis of the information they need for their specific circumstances.

Censorship by the Pinal County Sheriff

The ACLU of Arizona with the firm of Rosen, Bien & Galvan and the Human Rights Defense Center filed a federal lawsuit against Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu and Pinal County challenging the constitutionality of a Pinal County Jail policy prohibiting inmates from receiving any magazines, hardcover books or letters of more than one page in length. The plaintiff, Prison Legal News (PLN), is a non-profit monthly journal on corrections news and publisher of books, including prisoner self-help materials and criminal justice-related publications. In the lawsuit, we argue that the county's "post-card only" policy amounts to censorship, prevents inmates from receiving Prison Legal News and infringes on PLN's fundamental First Amendment rights, including the right to reach its audience and be heard. PLN is asking the court to order Sheriff Babeu to cease the unconstitutional practice of censoring PLN and limiting inmate mail to short messages on postcards, and to compensate PLN for past and continuing injuries caused by the censorship.

What One Letter Can Do: Protecting Free Speech

Maricopa Community Colleges (MCC) will begin allowing Jeff Boghosian and members of Vegan Outreach to leaflet on their campuses after the ACLU wrote a demand letter demonstrating that restrictions and bans on leafletting raised serious First Amendment concerns. Jeff, a longtime member and advocate for Vegan Outreach, was barred from leafletting on the Mesa Community College campus in 2008 after being approached by security guards who threatened him with trespass charges for peacefully passing out educational materials. Mesa Community College's previous policy banned leafletting in all areas of campus. Similar bans and restrictions at other MCC campuses severely limited Jeff and Vegan Outreach's ability to spread their message. In its letter, the ACLU of Arizona argued that peaceful leafletting in areas of campus generally open to the public was congruent with the educational mission of MCC member schools; restrictions on speech in public places had to be narrowly tailored as to not trample the First Amendment rights of the public; and, restrictions on leafletting at university campuses in Arizona had previously been struck down. The ACLU continues to work with Jeff, Vegan Outreach, and MCC staff to ensure that the First Amendment rights of all visitors and students to MCC campuses are respected.

ACLU-AZ Members: Please Vote in the Board Election



The ballot lists 14 nominees for positions on the ACLU of Arizona Board of Directors. ACLU of Arizona By-laws require that the board consist of at least 30 elected directors. The members are running for staggered terms (10 three-year terms and 4 one-year terms) based on the number of votes they receive. This is an uncontested election so all vacancies will be filled.

Please follow these instructions:

- Two ballots are supplied – Voter A and Voter B – in case you have a joint membership.
- Only current ACLU members who have paid their renewal dues in the last 15 months may vote.
- Mark the space next to the name of each candidate you wish to elect. You may vote for one, several or all of the candidates. Your vote is confidential.
- Clip and place the completed ballot in the envelope provided inside the newsletter. You may also use the envelope for a donation if you wish. For added privacy, first put your ballot inside a plain envelope, seal it and then place it inside the envelope that we have provided for you.
- Please sign your name on the outside envelope. Affix postage and mail the ballot so that it is postmarked no later than Friday, November 11, 2011. Mail the completed ballot to: 2012 Board Elections Committee, ACLU of Arizona, P.O. Box 17148, Phoenix, AZ 85011.

For information, please contact Lindsay Nordstrom at (602) 650-1854 ext. 105.

ACLU of Arizona Board of Directors Ballot

Voter A

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audra Antone | <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Jacuzzi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laura Dent | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Lee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luis A. Fernandez | <input type="checkbox"/> Doris Marie Provine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John M. Fife | <input type="checkbox"/> Augustine Romero |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marilyn Freed | <input type="checkbox"/> Rita (RJ) Shannon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Green | <input type="checkbox"/> Mohur Sarah Sidhwa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jere Humphreys | <input type="checkbox"/> Phillip Stevenson |

Please check all nominees you wish to vote for.
Results will be announced January 2012.

ACLU of Arizona Board of Directors Ballot

Voter B

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audra Antone | <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Jacuzzi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laura Dent | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Lee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luis A. Fernandez | <input type="checkbox"/> Doris Marie Provine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John M. Fife | <input type="checkbox"/> Augustine Romero |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marilyn Freed | <input type="checkbox"/> Rita (RJ) Shannon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jason Green | <input type="checkbox"/> Mohur Sarah Sidhwa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jere Humphreys | <input type="checkbox"/> Phillip Stevensong |

Please check all nominees you wish to vote for.
Results will be announced January 2012.

Audra Antone As a young adult, I was a youth leader for Gila River Youth Council, a recognized Native American Youth Group. Today, I'm involved in the political movement in Arizona and in my own community. For example, I serve as Democratic-Committee Person for Precinct #60 in Pinal County 2010, and also serve on an Election Board for Tribal Elections. In addition, I was elected to the Blackwater Community School Board in 2008, served on the Patient Centered Care Advisory Council in 2005, and the Gila River Prevention Coalition in 2010.

Laura Dent is a graduate of the University of Arizona and holds a degree in Political Science with minors in Latin American Studies and Spanish. She is currently serving as an aide for Tucson City Council Member Regina Romero and is pursuing her Master's degree in Public Administration. Laura is corresponding secretary for the Arizona Democratic Labor Caucus, and has worked for the AFL-CIO in southern Arizona and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union. As a first generation Arizonan of Colombian-Canadian descent, she is dedicated to the empowerment of women and Latinos and currently serves as chair of Las Adelitas Arizona, an organization that promotes the engagement of Latinas in the political process. During this time of heightened tensions throughout our state and changing societal norms, she believes an adherence to our civil liberties is critical to protecting our Constitution and the fundamental freedoms it provides.

Luis A. Fernandez is an Associate Professor in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Northern Arizona University. He is the author and editor of several books analyzing policing, including *Policing Dissent* published in 2008. His latest book, titled *Shutting Down the Streets: Political Violence and Social Control in the Global Era*, is due out in 2011 by New York University Press. He has worked in conjunction with the ACLU for the last decade, starting as a legal observer during anti-war marches. He serves as the ACLU representative in the Governor's Citizen Traffic Stop Advisory Board, where he worked closely with ACLU staff to reduce racial profiling in Arizona. More recently, Dr. Fernandez is working on immigration issues, tracking police abuses of human rights.

John M. Fife served as Pastor Emeritus of Southside Presbyterian Church in Tucson for 35 years. During that time, he was Moderator of the 204th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and Chair of the Mission Responsibility Through Investment Committee of Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). As the co-founder of the Sanctuary Movement in North America, Fife and his congregation led efforts to provide a safe haven to Latin American refugees during the 1980s. Fife also is a founding member of Samaritans and No More Deaths and is on the Board of Directors of the Tucson Youth Board, House of Neighborly Service, Tucson Ecumenical Council, TEC Legal Aid Council, Pima County Neighborhood Reinvestment Committee, and Borderlinks. He received a B.A. from Washington and Jefferson College, a Master of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and Honorary Doctorates from Macalester College and Washington and Jefferson College. He currently serves as a volunteer with No More Deaths, Samaritans, and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.

Marilyn Freed As a native Arizonan, UA graduate, and a retired teacher, I am invested in our community. I care about the rights and responsibilities of each resident. As a parent, grandparent, and community activist, I am well aware of the many demands faced by Arizonans. As a classroom teacher and while serving two separate terms as President of the Tucson Education Association, I learned of the difficulties encountered by non-English speakers, the poor, and anyone who feels intimidated by the political and legal structures. As a three-term president of Democrats of Greater Tucson, I am well aware of the frightening decisions being made by our Legislature and Congress. The work of the ACLU has never been more needed and important. I offer my name for nomination to the state board of the ACLU to demonstrate my commitment to legislative advocacy in the best of equity and fairness for everyone.

Jason Green I consider myself an advocate for the African-American community, the LGBT community and the HIV positive community. Although professionally I am part of the corporate world (I have worked for Xerox Business Services for fourteen years), it is my volunteer civic duties that keep me motivated. I have been volunteering for the communities I'm passionate about for well-over a decade. I've served as the Maricopa Chair of the AZ Black AIDS Task Force and I have served on the board of directors for This Is H.O.W. (the nation's only all-transgender halfway house) and on the board of AZAN (the Arizona Advocacy Network). I am the founder of UGIMA (United Gay Informed Men of African-descent). And I am the author of *The ABCs of Coming Out*. I attended Troy State University for my undergraduate studies receiving a B.S. in political science and a B.S. in history. For my graduate studies, I received an MBA (with an emphasis in Global Management) from the University of Phoenix.

Jere Humphreys I am nearing the end of my first three-year term on the ACLU of Arizona Board of Directors after serving on the Central Chapter Board. Currently, I chair the board committee on nominations and sit on the executive and bylaws committees. As a long-time professor of music at Arizona State University, I am an award-winning researcher who speaks, teaches, and consults on six continents. In addition to professional leadership positions, I serve on boards related to The Fulbright Association, the University of Michigan Alumni Association, and Habitat for Humanity International, for which I am also a volunteer construction house leader, fundraiser, and co-founder of a foreign national affiliate. It is an honor and a privilege to contribute to the crucial work being accomplished by the ACLU of Arizona, led by Executive Director Alessandra Soler Meetze and her staff, and by President Roberto Reveles and the board of directors.

Ken Jacuzzi has traveled, learned, taught, and worked on three continents. He has a MBA, speaks four languages, patented inventions, painted portraits, and also has a severe disability. Ken published his memoir, celebrating entrepreneurship, his wife, people with disabilities, caregivers, and the undeniable value of each of us.

Steve Lee This is my fourth decade on the board. Whew! As an attorney and former law professor, my special interest is the legal program. I am General Counsel, heading up the Legal Panel, which reviews ACLU cases. I also sometimes give legal advice to the affiliate.

Doris Marie Provine I am interested in being on the ACLU of Arizona board because I support the organization's work, and because, as a lawyer and educator, I might be able to contribute to the cause in some small way. I have a Ph.D. in political science and a law degree (both from Cornell University). I am a professor of Justice Studies at ASU where I teach courses on immigration, human rights, and justice theory. I write about courts and legal policy, e.g. the war on drugs (Unequal Under Law: Race and the War on Drugs, Chicago, 2007). I am currently studying the response of local police pressure to become more involved in federal immigration enforcement. I have come to believe that the ACLU approach of inquiry, complaint, and (if necessary) litigation is the most effective way in the current political environment, with its many challenges to rights and liberties.

Augustine Romero is TUSD's Director of Student Equity and Co-Founder of the Social Justice Project. He co-created the Critical Compassionate Intellectualism Model of Transformative Education. This model has led to higher levels of achievement, higher graduation rates, and higher college attendance levels for its students. Dr. Romero has been a keynote speaker in over 70 U.S. and international conferences and lecture series, and his internationally recognized research has been featured in numerous academic and media publications. He has served on numerous advisory boards including: Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano Latino Advisory Board; Civil Rights Chair, The League of United Latin American Citizens, State of Arizona; City of Tucson's Public, Education and Government Task Force; and the University of Arizona College of Education's Professional Preparation Board. In 2010, Dr. Romero was awarded the League of United Latin American Citizens Presidential Citation, and in 2011 he was Hispanic Professional Action Committee's Man of the Year.

Rita (RJ) Shannon is currently the Minority AIDS Coordinator in the Office of HIV/AIDS, STDs and Hepatitis C at the Arizona Department of Health Services. Over the past 16 years, RJ has become a well-known educator and lecturer on a wide-range of civil liberties issues, including hate crimes, social justice and HIV and sexual health and healthy relationships. She served as the first Black female chairperson for the Phoenix Human Relations Commission, and has been honored for her HIV-prevention and outreach efforts in Black, Latino and Native communities. A Chicago native, RJ moved to Phoenix in 1982.

Mohur Sarah Sidhwa I have lived in Arizona these past 30 years. I have a graduate degree in Anthropology from the Univ. of Arizona. I am self-employed as a career and start-up business coach. I have served on a number of State, City of Tucson and Pima county Boards and Commissions. Examples: I have been vice chair of the Pima County Democratic Party, as well as the Arizona State Democratic Party. I am a commissioner on the Pima County Women's Commission and serve on the board of the Pima County Medical Foundation. The last two are multi-partisan. As an immigrant and a woman born and raised in South Asia, I fully understand the need to be vigilant with regard to civil liberties, especially as to how they impact women. As a religious minority in the US, I am also hyper alert to separation of church and state issues.

Phillip Stevenson My interest in continuing to serve on the ACLU Arizona's board of directors is driven by my strong support for ACLU's mission and activities. Of special importance to me are efforts to address the unconstitutional policies and practices of Arizona's justice system. I have worked as a researcher and policy analyst for state criminal justice agencies for 13 years in Arizona and Illinois and been involved in system reform in the areas of racial inequity, juvenile detention and corrections, and ex-prisoner reentry. I believe that my work and life experiences and academic training gives me a skill set that could add value to the work of the ACLU of Arizona.