



# the TORCH

The Newsletter of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico

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## Respect NM Women

*A Bold New Vision for Changing the Conversation about Abortion*



**W**e're lucky in New Mexico. Our beautiful state is one of the few remaining places in the country where a woman can make deeply personal decisions about abortion without government interference. New Mexicans understand that a woman and her family need access to a full range of reproductive healthcare, including abortion. While other states have enacted more than 300 laws that restrict access to abortion in the past 5 years alone, New Mexico remains a place where women from our communities and across the country can access the safe and legal healthcare our families need.

This respect for women, has made New Mexico a target for anti-abortion groups, however. Operation Rescue, one of the most extreme anti-abortion groups in the country with a history of violence against abortion providers, has set up shop in New Mexico. In 2013, anti-abortion groups attempted to pass an abortion ban by ballot measure in Albuquerque, a feat that had never before been attempted at the municipal level. Every year during the legislative session, anti-abortion legislators introduce a slew of bills to try and make it harder for women to access safe and legal abortion

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## 2016 Legislative Session Overview

**T**he 2016 Legislative session was one of the toughest in recent memory, but the ACLU of New Mexico was there every day protecting civil liberties, defending access to reproductive healthcare, and pushing back against lawmakers' attempts to try to incarcerate their way out of societal problems. Here are some of the highlights from this year's session:

### MASS INCARCERATION

In 2015, New Mexico was shaken by several high profile crimes, and many lawmakers reacted by promising to increase criminal penalties and throw even more people into our already overburdened corrections system. We know that this approach hasn't worked in the past, and does nothing to make us safer or address the root societal causes of crime. The rest of the country is beginning to recognize this, and is moving away from these damaging and unjust policies.

Here in New Mexico, however, legislators introduced more than two dozen bills that would do nothing more than erode civil liberties and contribute to the over-



incarceration of communities of color. There was even a "Three Strikes" bill, which would have added 12 new felony crimes to the books. What happens when someone gets convicted of three felonies? An automatic life sentence. You're out!

Despite this onslaught of bad legislation, we managed to stop many of the bills in committee and improve the

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HUNTER RILEY, ALBUQUERQUE

A friend of mine was sexually assaulted, and afterwards she came to me saying she had taken a pregnancy test and it was positive. She was scared and devastated and asked if I would come with her to Planned Parenthood. I was happy to be a support system for her.

I picked her up that morning and we drove to the clinic. The experience of getting out of the car was the worst part, she told me later. Having strangers yell at her and protest her decision tore her apart and emotionally exhausted her beyond any procedure she underwent that day. After the procedure she went home happy, healthy and feeling reassured in the decision she made.

I wish that more people had support and access to reproductive services without the fear and shame they experience just walking in the door.

Share your story at [respectNMwomen.org](http://respectNMwomen.org)

## Respect NM Women

Continued from page 1

in New Mexico. Every year, the ACLU of New Mexico, other NGOs, and community groups advocate tirelessly for decisions about abortion to stay where they belong: between a woman and her medical provider—no one else. We've been remarkably successful over the years, but playing defense year after year isn't sustainable. Holding the line is essential, but it's not enough.

In January, the ACLU of New Mexico, in cooperation with a broad cross section of community organizations and leaders, launched the Respect New Mexico Women campaign. Our goal is to not only defend reproductive freedom in New Mexico, but fundamentally transform the cultural landscape, ending the shame and stigma associated with abortion. Respect NM Women is a direct evolution from the Respect Albuquerque Women campaign that defeated the anti-abortion ballot measure in 2013. Now we're taking this strong coalition of community partners, and turning it into a statewide movement to build respect for women and their decisions.

We envision a New Mexico where women and families can talk about their reproductive health decisions without being judged or shamed. We see a future where medical professionals are no longer harassed, intimidated, or subjected to violence because of the care they provide. We envision a climate in which elected leaders have a mandate to passionately champion reproductive freedom.

Respect NM Women aims to do this by:

- Providing a platform for women and families to share their stories
- Building a passionate and powerful community around the idea that we should show respect for a woman's decisions about abortion



### Respect NM Women highlights the experiences of real New Mexican women and families

- Amplifying community voices, and lifting up the real-life experiences of New Mexicans

We are already making strides towards achieving this bold vision for New Mexico.

Under the Respect NM Women banner, the ACLU of New Mexico ran a full page ad in every major newspaper in New Mexico during the legislative session featuring an open letter from New Mexican medical providers calling for respect for a woman's decisions about abortion. We've recruited more than 60 medical providers across the state, 40+ faith leaders, and thousands of other community members to join us in this movement to fundamentally shift the conversation about abortion in New Mexico.

We've also launched a website at [respectNMwomen.org](http://respectNMwomen.org), where New Mexicans can share personal stories, add their name to the expanding list of people in our state who are standing with women, and sign up for action alerts.

We need your voice, your strength, and your passion to help us transform New Mexico into a place where all women can not just access a safe and legal abortion, but also feel safe and supported in doing so.



### 1. JOIN

Join the community at [respectNMwomen.org](http://respectNMwomen.org), follow us on Twitter @respectNMwomen and like the Respect NM Women Facebook page. You'll get the latest updates, action alerts, and news about local Respect NM Women events.

Everyone has a story, and we can't wait to hear yours! Our personal stories are a powerful tool for fighting against the shame and stigma surrounding abortion and women's health. Respect NM Women is a place where women, families, and community members can talk about these important issues in a safe, supportive environment.



### 4. SHARE



### 3. SUPPORT

Abortion Provider Appreciation Day is this month! Upload a photo of yourself with a message of support for local providers at:

[respectNMwomen.tumblr.com](http://respectNMwomen.tumblr.com)

### 2. TELL



a friend

Have a conversation with a friend about why you respect a woman's decisions about abortion. Invite them to be a part of the growing community that is standing up against abortion shame and stigma.

## Executive Director's Notes: Congress is Targeting Our Clinics



PETER SIMONSON  
Executive Director

*"I feel like I'm a time traveler to the Salem Witch Trials. Unfortunately, this time, those being burned at the stake are our scientists, who hold future medical breakthroughs in their hands. They are joined by brave women's healthcare workers who are simply trying to care for their patients."*

These are the words of, Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA), one of the minority members of a congressional panel that singled out abortion providers and medical researchers here in New Mexico earlier this year in a partisan investigation.

Last year, an anti-abortion group released deceptively edited videos that made false and misleading claims about Planned Parenthood's fetal tissue donation program, a program which has helped countless people by furthering medical research aimed at treating diseases like Parkinson's, ALS, and Alzheimer's. These

videos have since been discredited and the individuals responsible for making them have now been criminally indicted, but Congress has used them as an excuse to set up a series of hearings to attack Planned Parenthood and other clinics and research institutions with fetal tissue donation programs.

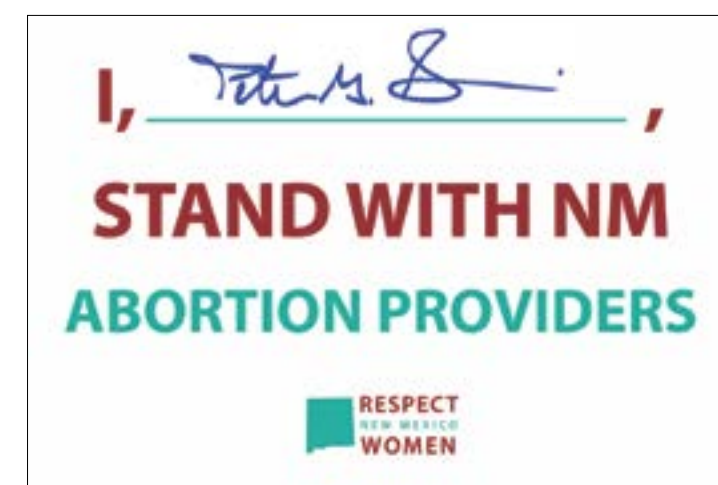
Three separate congressional investigative committees found no evidence of wrongdoing by Planned Parenthood. Undeterred, Congress broadened their effort earlier this year by creating the Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives, which has turned its sights on New Mexico. One of the panel's first reported actions was to demand information from Southwestern Women's Options (SWO), an Albuquerque abortion clinic, and the University of New Mexico (UNM), which uses fetal tissue donated by SWO to conduct life-saving research intended to help treat infants born prematurely. The panel generated media attention last month when it issued congressional subpoenas demanding information from SWO and UNM.

SWO and UNM have both publicly stated their willingness to cooperate with the panel's investigation. The ACLU believes that no American should be compelled to stand before their government unnecessarily. To show your support for New Mexico's brave abortion providers, a postcard is included with a simple message: "New Mexico Stands with NM Abortion Providers." I ask that you add your name to the card to send a message of thanks and encouragement for the staff at Southwestern Women's Options and return it to us so we can hand deliver the cards to the clinic.

Standing up for what's right isn't always easy, and Southwestern Women's Options shouldn't have to do it alone. In the days and weeks to come it will mean a lot to Southwestern Women's Options to know that community members like you stand behind them.

Southwestern Women's Options, one of only a handful of clinics that provide abortions in New Mexico, is under attack. Every day they provide quality, compassionate care to the women who seek their help, despite constant harassment and intimidation from anti-abortion groups. Now a congressional panel is targeting SWO for investigation, simply because they provide abortion care to our community and help UNM conduct life-saving research.

Show your support by signing your name to the included postcard, writing a message of thanks and encouragement on the back for the clinic and their staff, mailing it back to us so we can deliver the cards by hand.



Use the postcard included in this issue!



Visit [respectNMwomen.org](http://respectNMwomen.org) to check out the open letter signed by more than 50 NM medical providers we placed in every major paper this legislative session!

If you are a medical professional who thinks that the government shouldn't interfere in private medical decisions about abortion, it's not too late to sign on. Just visit the website and add your name to the growing number of people in the medical community who are standing with New Mexico women and families.

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*Project Coordinator*

2016 Session Overview

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ones that made it to the Governor's desk. In addition to blocking regressive crime bills, we worked on several bills that would increase protection of civil liberties and find solutions for our broken criminal justice system.

CRIMINALIZING YOUTH

This legislative session was particularly harsh for young people. Because several of the high profile crimes last year were allegedly perpetrated by teens, the issue of curfews once again reared its ugly head. This isn't the first time the ACLU of New Mexico has fought attempts to criminalize youth for being out past bedtime. In 1999, the ACLU filed a lawsuit that struck down Albuquerque's teen curfew law. Criminalizing youth is not the answer to making our communities safer. Research shows that curfews are ineffective at reducing juvenile crime, but they do place youth at risk by forcing armed police officers into unnecessary confrontations with anyone who looks young. The ACLU was joined by many allies in the community and we were able to defeat this bill in the Senate after it passed through the House.

Another bill with serious implications for youth this session aimed to increase penalties for possession, manufacture, or distribution of sexual images of a child under 18. While the intention of the bill was to punish those who possess, make, and distribute child pornography, this bill would have had sweeping and unintended consequences. For example, youth who engage in the consensual exchange of provocative photographs (commonly known as 'sexting'), could have been charged with distribution and manufacture of child pornography under the original wording of the law. Regardless of how you feel about your kid sharing risqué photos, chances are you don't want him or her serving a life sentence for it. We worked diligently with partners and lawmakers to include an amendment that would exclude teenagers who consensually share photos from being charged under this law, which was recently signed into law by the Governor.

BAIL BILL

An exciting proposal for us this year was a bill to amend the deeply flawed bail system in New Mexico. We threw our support behind an amendment to the New Mexico Constitution early on because it would have kept defendants from being held in jail for no other reason than that they can't afford to pay a bail bond. The bill would have eased jail overcrowding, while still denying bail for defendants who the court deems by clear and convincing evidence to be a true danger to our community.

Unsurprisingly, the bail bonds industry didn't like this idea, and used their powerful lobby to muddle the language of the bill, and it became less clear that it would

have the same positive effect that we originally anticipated. For this reason we made the hard decision to pull our support for the amended bill.

ANTI-ABORTION

Yet another coordinated attack on a woman's ability to make private decisions about abortion this year. Legislators introduced four bills with the goal of restricting access to abortion, including two separate proposed bans on abortions later in pregnancy. The ACLU of NM worked with a strong coalition of partners to defeat these bills, and we were victorious in weathering yet another session with a woman's ability to access abortion intact.

REAL ID DRIVERS LICENSE

After six years of bitter fighting, New Mexico finally reached a compromise on the issue of drivers' licenses. The ACLU opposes REAL ID as a classic example of government overreach that compromises our privacy while doing nothing to make us safer. While not perfect, the driver's license bill passed by the legislature allows New Mexicans to opt out of REAL ID by choosing to get a driver's authorization card instead of a state drivers' license. Many New Mexicans are rightly concerned about REAL ID and other national ID schemes, and we are pleased that people in New Mexico have a choice of whether to participate or not. The bill also ensures that our immigrant families are able to drive safely and legally, by allowing them to apply for a drivers' authorization cards as well.



ACLU-NM Policy Director Steve Allen (Center), with the bipartisan sponsors of the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, Republican Rep. Jim Dines (L) and Democrat Sen. Peter Wirth (R). The ACLU was one of 16 states that simultaneously introduced legislation in January to protect our digital privacy against unwarranted searches.

DIGITAL PRIVACY, SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, AND MORE

The ACLU of New Mexico was a champion of both The Electronic Communications Privacy Act, which requires a warrant to obtain electronic communications information, and a bill to limit the use of solitary confinement in New Mexico prisons and jails. Unfortunately, the governor did not place these bills on her legislative agenda, which is required to be considered during a budget session year. However, we are excited about the momentum we built around these important issues, and look forward to reintroducing the bills next year in the long session.

There were a few other bills worth mentioning that we kept a close eye on, but never gained much traction. The first was a religious exemption bill that would allow businesses to deny services to customers based on their sexual orientation, gender, or sex. Immediate backlash from the community and strong opposition from legislators stopped it in its tracks. Lastly, two bills were introduced that would have regulated marijuana like alcohol for recreational use. The ACLU supports decriminalizing marijuana and ending the failed war on drugs, but unfortunately these bills didn't make it through this year.

If you want up to the minute news from the ACLU during New Mexico legislative sessions, be sure to follow us on Twitter @ACLUNM and like the ACLU of New Mexico Facebook page.



ACLU-NM Regional Center  
for Border Rights Fights the  
Practice of Deporting People  
without their Belongings

What if armed men took everything from you—your ID, your cash, your debit cards, your cell phone—and then dumped you a thousand miles away from home with nothing but the clothes on your back? What would you do? How would you survive? Most of us can't imagine a circumstance under which this could happen to us, but for the thousands of people who are deported without their personal belongings, this is their reality.

A 2013 study led by the University of Arizona, Bordering on Criminal: The Routine Abuse of Migrants in the Removal System, documented the widespread practice of robbing non-citizens of their personal belongings—one of every three people reported dispossession at the hands of U.S. government agents. The rate of dispossession more than doubled for individuals apprehended or deported in the El Paso Border Patrol Sector, which includes all of New Mexico. This figure excluded perishable belongings like food or water, and of particular concern, U.S. government agencies failed to return individuals' money, cell phones, or the Mexican IDs they carried in over 20% of the cases where they reported dispossession.

For years, border rights advocacy groups, including the ACLU of New Mexico Regional Center for Border Rights (RCBR), have worked for years to stop the systematic robbery of people we deport. Earlier this year we made an important first step towards ending this illegal practice. In February, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the government of Mexico announced revised repatriation agreements that included the following language:

"The signatory participants should take all feasible steps to ensure that property, valuables, and money retained, are available for return to the rightful owner at the time of initial release from DHS custody."

"These new agreements are a big step forward for basic fairness in our border policy," said RCBR Director Vicki Gaubeca. "It is cruel and dangerous to strip people of their personal belongings, including IDs and other important personal documents, and then strand them in a place they've likely never been before. America is better than that, and today we're a little closer to treating others with the same dignity and humanity we would want for ourselves."

But having the new agreements in place doesn't mean the battle is over—someone still has to hold the government accountable. In March, the RCBR, along with the Programa de Defensa e Incidencia Binacional, El Centro de Recursos para Migrantes/Migrant Resource Center, and the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, filed an administrative complaint with DHS, taking the agency to task for its habitual dispossession of thousands of people. The complaint recommends that DHS promptly investigate the cases of abuse documented in the complaint and that DHS ensure that all belongings are returned to people at the moment of their release or repatriation, a policy that is consistent with repatriation agreements that DHS and the government of Mexico have just signed.

Support the ACLU's Fight for Our Civil Liberties



With your help the ACLU is fighting to ensure that the rights and liberties promised in the Constitution are available to every single person in our country. Together, we can set the stage for genuine progress. You can also make a tax-deductible donation online at [www.aclu-nm.org](http://www.aclu-nm.org).

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## 2015 ACLU-NM Board of Directors Candidates

**A** ACLU of New Mexico Board Members are elected to serve staggered three-year terms with a third of the positions becoming vacant each year. This year, the Board Administration Committee of the ACLU-NM Board of Directors has nominated ten candidates to fill seven board openings. Any ACLU-NM member may vote using the ballot located at the bottom of page eight of this newsletter.

### John Briscoe

Using the founding principles of our nation, the ACLU works to defend the basic human rights of all individuals. We are fortunate to live in a country that was founded upon such principles and service to the primary organization defending those rights is an honor and a privilege.

I have enjoyed nine years of Board service and look forward to continuing participation. The ACLU NM has become an important entity in our state with the guidance of many dedicated individuals. I want to do whatever I can to make sure that continues and feel that Board service is an important way to see that the principals of respect for all individual's basic rights remain at the forefront of public discussion.

We have accomplished a lot during my time on the board such as eliminating the death penalty in NM, protecting a woman's right to choose an abortion, and outlawing forfeiture of private property to law enforcement before actual conviction of a crime. As a board member, I have also seen the board become more informed and focused on the work of the organization. I hope I can help make progress both as an effective organization and also as an effective board.

### Michelle Brown-Yazzie, Esq.

I would be honored to continue to serve on the Board of Directors of ACLU-New Mexico. When I began serving on the Board I was eager to bring my knowledge and experience to the table to join the fight to protect civil liberties for all. I am amazed at how much I have learned during my term on the Board about how often rights of people can be trampled by others who are most focused on their own self-interests. I also have a new understanding of how important it is that all people need to be aware of the issues of our time and to be involved to ensure that our civil liberties are protected.

I am an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation and a descendent of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes and the Oglala Lakota Nation, and was raised in both reservation and urban settings. Throughout my life, I have witnessed and have been directly impacted by institutionalized inequities and apathies, such as in the areas of education, health care, housing and more. As the daughter and granddaughter of advocates for Native American rights, I have a passion to serve my community towards achieving a better quality of life and equality for all.

I believe that victories are achievable, but that it takes involvement and work to achieve those victories. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve and partner with the members of ACLU and its staff in furtherance of the goal of protecting civil rights and liberties for all New Mexicans.

### Revathi A-Davidson, MA; MPH

My interest in serving as an ACLU-NM Board member dates from my long-time commitment to the ACLU and to what the organization represents. As an immigrant from India - itself a vibrant democracy - I have long valued the notion of individual liberty as it is understood in the United States. However, for some time now, of particular concern for me has been what appears to be the steady erosion of individual civil rights, whether in the arena of reproductive rights, immigration and refugee resettlement, physician-aid-in-dying, or voting rights.

I have lived in Albuquerque since 1979 and retired in 2013 after a long career as a healthcare and hospital administrator. In addition to my prior work supporting Planned Parenthood, I have for the past five years worked with the VAWA Immigration attorney at Catholic Charities translating documents from Spanish into English for victims of domestic violence and who are petitioning for citizenship. I have also been active with NM Compassion and Choices and the effort to make physician aid-in-dying legal in the state. My previous healthcare experience has made me acutely aware of the need to assure this benefit for all NM citizens. Additionally, working with others at UNM, I have also been engaged in translating key healthcare decision-making documents into Spanish. Health literacy is essential to support both health equity and the ability of individuals to make informed decisions. In this context, and working with other colleagues, we have been giving workshops related to healthcare decision-making around the state.

I welcome the opportunity to use my personal belief in individual civil liberties as well as my extensive administrative, project management, communication, and analytical skills on behalf of the ACLU-NM's many initiatives.

If elected, it will be my intention to serve for the term of my appointment. Thank you for your consideration.

### Ramon Gonzales

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve the ACLU of New Mexico Board of Directors. Our community needs a credible, respected, clear voice to guard and advance civil rights and liberties. In New Mexico, the ACLU serves that role with distinction. As a stable, well-run organization with dedicated and talented staff and volunteers, the ACLU has advanced the cause of civil rights and liberties in many critical issues in New Mexico.

I am a New Mexico native from a long-time New Mexico family. I grew up in Albuquerque, attended college in Denver and Stanford Law School. I have practiced employment and labor law for 35 years, first as a member

of the Sutin Law Firm in the 80's. While at Sutin, my good friend, Ray Schowers, introduced me to the important work of the ACLU. More recently, I've served as in-house counsel and had leadership roles in the Human Resources Departments of two of New Mexico's largest employers. I have also contributed many years of service to several New Mexico non-profit organizations, frequently at the state and national board level.

I've spent my career working in the field of employment. I understand the importance of protecting the legal and civil rights of all who are involved in this sensitive intersection of interests. I look forward to contributing my talents to continue the ACLU's important work.

### Kevin Hoover

The ACLU of New Mexico has become a part of my life and my extended family. The staff and board truly care about the work and I'm so proud to be a part of it. I have had the honor of serving on the board of the New Mexico ACLU since 2004. In that time I've come to see and truly appreciate the amazing work that this organization does.

I serve on this board to make sure that every voice is heard and that this organization has every resource necessary to protect the civil liberties in this state. It's not just for my causes (LGBT & women's rights) that I serve, but for all human rights causes.

We fight for the rights of people to exist and thrive, regardless of their background or their past. I am continually amazed to listen to the stories of our clients and see the difference that we are making in their daily lives. The work we do personally impacts people's lives and I believe we are the most important and influential civil rights organization in the state.

I have made this organization a priority in my life and will continue to do so for as long as I am allowed. I would be honored to serve another term on the NM ACLU board.

### Stanley M. Hordes, Ph.D.

I am proud to serve on the Board of the ACLU-New Mexico, and to support the magnificent work performed by the staff and legal team to protect the civil rights and liberties of New Mexicans, and I would like very much to continue in this role in the future.

I have been passionate about the need to protect civil liberties for decades. My first encounter with the issue came early in life, when the principal of my elementary school threatened me with a beating unless I participated in the singing of Christmas carols. At the time I knew nothing about the separation clause of the First Amendment, but I sensed that something wasn't quite right.

But it was the study of history that forged my belief that the protection of constitutional rights to freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, freedom of the press, separation of church and state, and right of habeas corpus, are essential to the maintenance of a civilized society. History has shown how easy it is to succumb to fear during times of crisis by suppressing these basic principles, resulting in the loss of the freedoms envisioned by the visionary founders of our nation. It was the suppression of civil liberties by a frightened society in World War I and its aftermath that led to the establishment of the national ACLU in

1920. Today we are witnessing a similar collective fear of terrorist acts by "doers of evil," accompanied by other assaults on our constitutional rights.

### Patricia Jones

ACLU NM YOU ROCK !!!

I am Patricia Jones from Hobbs, NM located in the Southeast corner of NM. I am seeking renewal of my seat on the ACLU board of Directors. Being on the board has changed my life and I've had the pleasure of seeing it change the lives of other.

Bigotry is toxic. The polls are showing that people are still demeaning and supporting mean spirited, sexist, fascist, anti immigration and Islamophobia. This also shows we are a long way from our nation being the land of the free and the home of the brave.

In spite of all the turmoil in our nation, states, and local cities the ACLU stands firm in defending The Bill of Rights even when it hurts. So thank you for addressing our boarder issues, challenging our broken criminal justice system and the unjustified mandatory minimum guidelines. I made my first thought my opening statement so let me reiterate ACLU-NM you ROCK!!!

### Jim Ludwick

My name is Jim Ludwick. I wish to be considered for the Board of Directors, and I am willing to serve if selected.

I have been a strong supporter of civil liberties since I was a student during the late 1960s and early 1970s -- an outspoken opponent of the draft, an advocate of abortion rights, and a supporter of First Amendment principles. I am dedicated to the entire array of civil liberties. For most of my career, I was a public-affairs newspaper reporter. I believed in the old-fashioned notion that a reporter should "comfort the afflicted, and afflict the comfortable."

I consistently uncovered problems: unfairness, abuses, financial improprieties, conflict of interest, malfeasance, negligence, hidden slush funds. More recently, I pursued an interest in animal protection, as an executive of the city Animal Welfare Department. During 2015, I became a whistleblower, exposing abuse and public endangerment in my own department, even though I knew it could bring retaliation -- which it did.

Along the way, I filed a public-records lawsuit that brought incriminating documents into the daylight. I believe I could make a contribution as a member of the ACLU board. I am dedicated, I have an understanding of public issues, and I am accustomed to dealing with controversy. My wife, Lu Lu Sage, and I are members of the ACLU's national DeSilver Legacy Society, recognizing the planned gift of our estate to the ACLU. We also support Health Care for the Homeless and Animal Protection of New Mexico.

### Aroop Mangalik, MD

Since I immigrated to the US in the mid 70's, I have been aware of the ACLU. I have supported the idea of balancing the rights of individuals with the rights of the state. I have always admired the ACLU for protecting and promoting individuals' rights. The ACLU has

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Online Community

Receive email alerts and take action on key civil liberties issues when it matters most.

Sign up at:

[www.aclu-nm.org](http://www.aclu-nm.org)

Make a difference today!



Have you liked the Regional Center for Border Rights Facebook page yet?

Are border rights issues like immigration reform, border militarization, Border Patrol accountability, and internal checkpoints important to you?

Make sure to "like" our Regional Center for Border Rights Facebook page to get breaking news updates about border issues and learn more about what we're doing to defend civil liberties in the border region.

[www.facebook.com/ACLUNMRegionalCenterforBorderRights](http://www.facebook.com/ACLUNMRegionalCenterforBorderRights)



THE TORCH

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made me aware of the need for a balance. I remain a strong supporter of civil liberties.

I became involved with the ACLU after the lawyers took up the case of Morris v Brandenburg. As you may be aware, I am one the signatories of that law suit that seeks to decriminalize Aid in Dying for terminally ill patients. I was impressed by the professional way in which the lawyers acted.

I feel I will be an asset to the Board of the ACLU because of my medical and academic background. I was on the faculty of UNM School of Medicine for 30 years. Apart from my teaching and patient care activities, I am actively involved with the Ethics Committee, the Ethics Institute and the Human Research Review Committee. I also co-tutored a course on Health Law and Ethics at the UNM Law School last fall.

I have a broad perspective on medical and social issues, I am a good listener and I like to hear and discuss different views on medicine and life in general. I look forward to further discussions with you.

John Salamack

I respectfully request that the membership of ACLU-NM allow me to continue to serve on the Board of Directors for another term and thank the membership for allowing me to serve up to the present.

ACLU-NM continues to be an important part of my life in New Mexico. During my tenure on the Board, I have learned a great deal about civil liberties in New Mexico and in the United States as a whole. I am more committed than ever to the mission, goals and ideals of the ACLU. The accomplishments of ACLU-NM speak for themselves and we celebrate those successes. But we are also vigilant that there is always more work to be done—both locally and nationally.

In the current political climate, it is essential that civil liberties and constitutional rights be preserved, defended and enhanced. The Board and staff of the ACLU-NM are in the vanguard to ensure that these liberties and rights are not eroded, diminished or lost. I am committed to participating in this work.

It is my hope that the ACLU-NM membership will allow me continued Board membership into the future.

Instructions for Voting

There are ten candidates running for seven open seats. You may vote for up to seven of the ten candidates. To vote, check or mark the box next to the candidate's name. For households with two ACLU of New Mexico members, each member may vote—simply have the second member check off the votes in the second column of boxes. For households with one ACLU of New Mexico member, check off votes in one column only.

We must confirm ACLU of New Mexico membership and still keep the votes anonymous. We need your help to do this. Cut out the ballot and insert it in a plain envelope marked "ballot" then place this envelope in a second envelope with your name and return address so that we can check to make sure you are a current ACLU member. Remember to include a second name if you have a household membership.

After we confirm membership, we discard the outer envelope and count the ballots anonymously. Ballots must be postmarked by April 15, 2016. Volunteers will count the ballots on April 22, and all candidates will be notified of the results prior to posting the results in the next issue of The Torch and on the ACLU of New Mexico website: www.aclu-nm.org.



2016 ACLU-NM BOARD ELECTIONS BALLOT

Board of Directors candidates in alphabetical order. Please vote for up to seven (7) board members:

Ballot for Member #1:

- Ballot for Member #1: JOHN BRISCOE, MICHELLE BROWN-YAZZIE, REVATHI A-DAVIDSON, RAMON GONZALES, KEVIN HOOVER, STANLEY M. HORDES, PATRICIA JONES, JIM LUDWICK, AROOP MANGALIK, JOHN SALAMACK

Ballot for Member #2:

- Ballot for Member #2: JOHN BRISCOE, MICHELLE BROWN-YAZZIE, REVATHI A-DAVIDSON, RAMON GONZALES, KEVIN HOOVER, STANLEY M. HORDES, PATRICIA JONES, JIM LUDWICK, AROOP MANGALIK, JOHN SALAMACK