

CIVIL LIBERTIES BEACON

Newsletter of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut

WINTER
2012

Big Brother Goes Digital



Did you know the government can demand information from your mobile phone carrier about who you've talked to and where you've been – even if you aren't suspected of doing anything wrong?

Did you know that police agencies in Connecticut are collecting millions of scans of license plates, pinpointing the locations of private vehicles and storing that information indefinitely?

Did you know that the state legislature has considered bills that would allow private companies to install cameras at red lights in a scheme to ticket car owners, regardless of who is behind the wheel?

The American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut is working to end or prevent these intrusions into the lives of innocent private citizens. The first steps are to find out how police are using these powers and to tell the public about it.

"Advances in technology are making it easy for authorities to gather sensitive personal information," said David McGuire, staff attorney for the ACLU-CT. "We need to be sure they gather that information legally and use it responsibly."

In the case of warrantless cellphone tracking, the ACLU-CT is compiling data about how police agencies in the state have been obtaining secret court orders for cellphone data. The goal is to make sure the police show probable cause and obtain a warrant before intruding on the privacy of Connecticut residents.

The effort to gather information about cellphone tracking is part of a national ACLU campaign to strip away the secrecy surrounding it. ACLU affiliates filed hun-

dreds of related Freedom of Information requests in dozens of states.

License-plate scanning is also worrisome because the data can be compiled into a massive database that reveals the locations, movements and habits of people who aren't even suspected of wrongdoing. The ACLU-CT wants to work with state and local officials to make sure this data is not misused to track innocent people.

We'll also continue to oppose efforts to allow the use of cameras at traffic lights to identify vehicles so that their owners can be ticketed for alleged infractions. Among many other failings, these systems can't tell whether the owner was actually the person behind the wheel and they subvert the right of the accused to confront an accuser.

When drivers are ticketed by a police officer, they are immediately notified of the infraction and can prepare to explain or argue their case, Andrew Schneider, executive director of the ACLU-CT, explained in testimony before the state legislature's Transportation Committee. "With red light cameras, however, it may be days or weeks before a person is given notification of a citation. The longer time duration makes it more difficult to recall details and adversely affects the driver's ability to challenge the ticket."

The bill died in committee, despite pressure from several high-powered lobbyists paid by the private companies that operate the camera systems. The ACLU-CT continues to monitor and oppose their efforts.



1926 - 2011

EMANUEL MARGOLIS Civil Rights Luminary, Touched Many Lives

Emanuel Margolis, former chairman and legal advisor of the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut and a lifelong champion of civil rights, died Aug. 17, 2011 of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma at his home in Westport. He was 85.

Margolis was involved with the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union, later renamed the ACLU of Connecticut, from its inception and served on the board for 30 years. He was chairman from 1989 to 1995 and was legal advisor for many years.

"For more than half a century, Manny was a remarkable advocate for civil liberties and justice," said David McGuire, staff attorney for the ACLU-CT. "He was an invaluable mentor, a fierce advocate and a kind-hearted person. His teachings, legal work and spirit will continue to inspire future generations."

Margolis worked on many civil rights cases and campaigned tirelessly for peace. He represented fellow protestors of the

—Please see MARGOLIS, p 6

Message from the Executive Director



Andrew Schneider

There was of course no way of knowing whether you were being watched at any given moment... It was even conceivable that they watched everybody all the time.
– George Orwell, 1984

Like Big Brother's telescreens, the surveillance camera that have proliferated across Connecticut and the nation leave us all wondering who is watching us, and why.

This summer, the city of New Haven installed 21 surveillance cameras in neighborhoods identified as high crime areas, and plans to install more if funds are available. Lobbyists are pushing the legislature to allow cameras at traffic lights, which would be part of an electronic system to fine vehicle owners for violations. Never

mind that the cameras fail to identify the driver and also deprive the vehicle owner of the right to confront an accuser.

Numbers are difficult to come by, but a market research firm estimates that 30 million new security cameras have been deployed in the United States in the past 10 years. Constant surveillance is being combined with facial recognition software and automated systems that claim to analyze people's movements to detect and even predict criminal activity.

Under the Patriot Act, the government has also been reading private email and monitoring international phone calls without a warrant or probable cause. As our government increasingly erodes our expectation of privacy, the potential for abuse grows.

The ACLU is challenging these practices with litigation, legislative advocacy and education. Big Brother's surveillance is no longer the stuff of fiction, but we don't have to accept it. Join us in standing up against government spying on American citizens.

Message from the Board President



Andy Schatz

Roger Baldwin, co-founder of the ACLU, once said: "No fight for civil liberties ever stays won." Indeed, much of the history of the ACLU is courtroom success in striking down unconstitutional laws, only

to face renewed and equally unconstitutional laws.

But good legislation can last – and your ACLU of Connecticut has achieved some lasting legislative wins. In 2011, the State adopted laws prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity and decriminalizing possession of small amounts of marijuana, two primary ACLU initiatives. Both wins were aided by as many as 30 deputized ACLU-CT lobbyists meeting with dozens of key legislators on our first (annual) Lobby Day.

Our volunteer activity, led by our six geographic and five campus chapters, is critical to help leverage our fine but lean paid staff – in lobbying, litigation and grass-

roots organizing. Our committees discuss and act on important issues, including racial profiling, the school-to-prison pipeline, drug policy and privacy. Our chapters have sponsored high-level discussion programs on terrorism, drug policy, privacy, video games and censorship, terrorism, campaign finance reform, prison reform, LGBT rights and cyberbullying – just during the past year! Critically, the chapters provide a basis for our staff in Hartford to know what is going on throughout the state and to pull together support necessary to address statewide and local issues.

It has often been said that democracy is not a spectator sport – and nowhere is your participation so necessary and appreciated as in the protection of civil liberties. Together, we can accomplish so much more, so please:

- Attend Lobby Day on 2/29/12;
- Attend chapter meetings or join a chapter board;
- Join one of our issue committees;
- Keep informed – we post everything online at acluct.org. Visit often!
- Keep us informed – you are an important link in our success.

Because freedom can't protect itself.

Civil Liberties Beacon, Winter 2012

Membership in the ACLU of Connecticut includes a subscription to **Civil Liberties Beacon**. For membership information, visit acluct.org/join or call 860-523-9146, ext. 8465.

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Jeremy Shafer

Legal Assistant

Isa Mujahid

Field Organizer



Meet the New Staff

Jeanne Leblanc, at left, former online editor of The Hartford Courant, started work in July as the communications and education manager.

Jeremy Shafer, center, who is studying at Manchester Community College to be a paralegal, started work in July as the new legal assistant.

Isa Mujahid, right, who has worked as an Army medic, legal assistant and community organizer, joined the staff in October as the field organizer.

In Brief ...

After winning a temporary injunction in **Does 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 v Enfield Public Schools**, the ACLU-CT and Americans United for Separation of Church and State await a ruling on our request for a permanent injunction prohibiting the Enfield schools from holding high school graduation in a cathedral.

A naval officer was recognized as a conscientious objector and won an honorable discharge after the ACLU-CT filed a habeas corpus petition on his behalf in federal court in **Izbicki v Mabius, et al.** The Navy twice denied conscientious objector status to Michael Izbicki, an ensign stationed in Groton, but later acknowledged that his Christian convictions preclude his participation in war in all forms.

The ACLU prevailed in the case of **Green Party of Connecticut v Garfield** on claims that “trigger provisions,” in Connecticut’s campaign finance law, which awarded money to publicly funded candidates based on the private spending of their opponents, penalized candidates and parties who could not qualify for public funding. While the Supreme Court ruling in an Arizona case reinforced the victory on trigger provisions, the court almost simultaneously denied the ACLU’s request for review of other aspects of its challenge to Connecticut’s campaign finance law.

In 2010, the ACLU-CT won an injunction in **Biediger, et al. v Quinnipiac University** preventing Quinnipiac University from eliminating its women’s volleyball team. A district court judge found the university failed to provide equal opportunity for women to participate in varsity sports. While Quinnipiac pursues its appeal of the participation decision, additional claims that it failed to provide benefits and facilities for women varsity sports teams and retaliated against the named plaintiffs remain to be tried in the district court.

WE’VE MOVED...

The ACLU-CT office is now at
330 Main Street, First Floor
Hartford, CT 06106

Connecticut Supreme Court Hears Case of Force-Fed Inmate on Hunger Strike

The Connecticut Supreme Court heard arguments Oct. 25 in the case of William Coleman, an inmate seeking the right to refuse force-feedings by the state Department of Correction.

“They strap him into a chair, strap down his hands and force a tube down his throat,” ACLU-CT cooperating attorney William E. Murray told the Supreme Court justices, describing how Coleman has been restrained and fed against his will during his four-year hunger strike.

Coleman seeks to overturn a lower court ruling that granted the Department of Correction permission to force-feed him. The ACLU-CT argues that the force-feeding via a nasogastric tube suppresses Coleman’s hunger strike and violates his First Amendment right to protest, as well as violating his right to bodily privacy and integrity.

There is scant domestic precedent involving cases like this, said David McGuire, staff attorney for the ACLU-CT, which makes it appropriate to look outside the United States for guidance. Most international authority prohibits the force-feeding of competent



Staff Attorney David McGuire

detainees on a hunger strike, he said.

“We hope the Supreme Court will stop the state from continuing this barbaric practice,” McGuire said.

Supreme Court Declines to Consider Burlington Student’s Free Speech Case

The U.S. Supreme Court refused on Oct. 31 to consider the case of a student at Lewis S. Mills High School in Burlington who was punished for criticizing school officials in her blog and calling for a protest over cancellation of a concert.

By refusing to hear the case, the Supreme Court left intact the ruling of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, a decision that made no changes in the interpretation of student free speech rights, said Sandra Staub, legal director of the ACLU-CT. The appeals court never directly addressed whether Avery Doninger’s constitutional rights were violated, but ruled only that school administrators were covered by qualified immunity, meaning they were not liable for damages.

“This leaves the issue to be settled on another day,” Staub said.

Without definitive guidance from the U.S. Supreme Court, lower courts have struggled

with the application of well-established limits on school authority for disciplining students for off-campus, Internet-based communication.

The Third Circuit Court of Appeals recently took a strong stand for students’ free speech rights in two Pennsylvania cases in which students were suspended for posting online parodies of their principals. The court held in *Layshock v Hermitage School District* and *J.S. v Blue Mountain School District* that schools can’t punish students for off-campus speech that doesn’t cause a substantial disruption on campus.

“It would be an unseemly and dangerous precedent to allow the state, in the guise of school authorities, to reach into a child’s home and control his/her actions there to the same extent that it can control that child when he/she participates in school sponsored activities,” wrote Chief Judge Theodore McKee in the *Layshock* opinion.



Gov. Dannel P. Malloy signs the gender identity bill in the presence of supporters, including Andrew Schneider, executive director of the ACLU-CT, third from right.

Leap into Lobbying

You can help the ACLU-CT protect and promote civil liberties. Mark your calendars and get ready for our second annual Lobby Day, to be held on Leap Day – Feb. 29, 2012.

You're invited to join us at the state Capitol for a program to prepare you to lobby your representatives directly on legislation that will affect civil liberties. Participants will hear a guest speaker, learn about the ACLU-CT's 2012 legislative agenda and get instructions on how to lobby. Lunch will be included.

This year the focus will be on four important issues:

- Legalization of marijuana for medical purposes
- Abolition of the death penalty
- Prohibition on the use of traffic cameras
- Strengthening and enforcement of laws against racial profiling

The program will begin at 10 a.m. in the Old Judiciary Room at the Capitol. RSVP to Field Organizer Isa Mujahid at imujahid@acluct.org or at 860-523-9146, ext. 8473.

Advances in Drug Policy, Civil Rights

Civil liberties advanced in Connecticut recently with two new laws, one prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression and the other decriminalizing the possession of small amounts of marijuana.

The ACLU-CT fought hard for both pieces of legislation, which Gov. Dannel P. Malloy signed into law.

The gender identity law, which took effect Oct. 1, makes it illegal to discriminate against transgendered people in employment, housing, public education, accommodations and commercial transactions. The law protects a vulnerable population that has suffered discrimination in virtually all aspects of life.

"People who do not perfectly fit into conventional ideas of male or female gender roles are often victimized when engaging in activities most people take for granted, such as checking into a hotel, attending school, eating at a restaurant, and using public transportation," ACLU-CT Staff Attorney David McGuire told the state legislature's Judiciary Committee.

On July 1, a new state law took effect that decriminalizes the possession of less than half an ounce of marijuana. The maximum penalty for a first offense has been reduced

from a year in prison to a \$150 fine. Since the law took effect, the state has seen a steep decline in arrests for possession of marijuana.

The new law keeps thousands of Connecticut residents out of jail and out of the criminal justice system for minor marijuana infractions, especially the young men of color who were disproportionately targeted for prosecution, said Andrew Schneider, executive director of the ACLU-CT. "This is sensible public policy and a welcome victory for civil liberties after 40 years of failure in the misbegotten war on drugs," he said.



Volunteer lobbyists at Lobby Day 2011

"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

— Thomas Paine

Your contribution directly funds legislative advocacy and chapter activities to advance and defend your civil liberties.

Here is my gift of \$ _____ toward the work of the ACLU of Connecticut.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Clip and mail to: ACLU-CT, 330 Main St., First Floor, Hartford, CT 06106

Contributions to the ACLU of Connecticut are **not** tax-deductible.

Legislative

2012 Legislative Agenda

The constant struggle to preserve, protect and promote civil liberties takes place not only in the courthouse but also in the state-house. As 2011 draws to a close, the ACLU-CT is preparing to continue that struggle on several fronts, including these:

Death Penalty Abolition

The state House and Senate passed repeal of the death penalty two years ago, only to have the bill vetoed by then-Gov. M. Jodi Rell. Gov. Dannel P. Malloy has said he'll sign a repeal bill but another attempt was blocked in the Senate earlier this year, when two senators switched sides. Meanwhile, concern is growing around the nation about the execution of Troy Davis in Georgia, other questionable convictions and racial disparities in capital punishment. We must end this deeply flawed and inhumane punishment, the ultimate denial of civil liberties.

Medical Marijuana

It's time to legalize the compassionate use of marijuana for medical purposes. Sixteen states and the District of Columbia already allow it. A Quinnipiac University poll earlier this year found that 79 percent of Connecticut residents believe marijuana use should be legal with a doctor's prescription. A bill legalizing the use of marijuana for

medical purposes passed the state Legislature in 2007 but Rell vetoed it. Malloy, however, supports the legislation.

Traffic Cameras

The companies that sell traffic camera systems make a lot of money from tickets for traffic infractions, so it's no wonder they've hired a pack of powerful lobbyists to push the state Legislature to allow them in Connecticut. The trouble is, this robotic policing fails to identify the drivers of cars and automatically punishes the vehicle's owner, who has no opportunity to confront an accuser. The ACLU-CT will continue to resist efforts to allow traffic cameras so that Connecticut drivers can continue to be entitled to due process.

Racial Profiling

Collecting data should be the first step in finding out how pervasive the problem of racial profiling is in Connecticut, especially when it comes to traffic stops. But that's not happening. Since 1999, police departments in Connecticut have been required to report each occasion when they pull a car over, including information about the race of the driver. Unfortunately, enforcement of this law—the Penn Act—has been lax and compliance has been poor. It's time to put more teeth into

Connecticut's anti-racial profiling laws.

Taser Safety

The legislature failed to act last year on a proposal to establish guidelines for the use of Tasers and other stun guns by police, as well as minimum training standards and reporting requirements. Since then, two more people in Connecticut have died after being Tasered, according to news reports, bringing the total to 11. In the most recent case, a Trumbull man died in Bridgeport when he resisted attempts to force him into an ambulance. Finding a way to use these weapons safely and appropriately is important for police and the public.

Reproductive Freedom

Coordinated attacks that chip away at a woman's right to choose an abortion continue across the nation, ranging from pressure to require parental notification to restrictions on insurance coverage. As these challenges arise in Connecticut, we must continue to meet and defeat them.

We must also be vigilant in protecting recent advances in civil liberties, including same-sex marriage, transgender rights and drug sentencing reforms. When those issues come to the table, we'll be there.



Board Elections Coming Up Soon

The Board of Directors of the ACLU of Connecticut will be elected effective April 2012 for two years. If you would like to nominate yourself or another member, please email info@acluct.org or call 860-523-9146 ext. 8465.

Ballots will be sent via email in February unless you specifically request that one be sent by mail. If you have not already received an email about this call for potential board members, you may not be on our email list and should send your email address to info@acluct.org and ask to be added.

Chapter News

Digital privacy was the subject of an Oct. 26 panel discussion sponsored by the **Greater New Haven Chapter** of the ACLU of Connecticut. Catherine Crump, staff attorney for the ACLU Speech, Privacy and Technology Project was featured along with trial lawyer Norm Pattis and law student Mario Cerame. The discussion covered cellphone tracking, traffic cameras and other technological intrusions on privacy.

The **Southeast Connecticut Chapter** held a public forum Oct. 4 in Groton on the topic of "The Patriot Act at 10." The panelists were

Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul McConnell, Capt. Glenn Sulmasy of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, ACLU-CT Staff Attorney David McGuire and trial lawyer Norm Pattis.

Video games and the Constitution were the subject of a presentation Oct. 23 by the **Southwest Connecticut Chapter**. Martin Margulies, professor emeritus and adjunct professor at the Quinnipiac University School of Law, was the featured speaker, addressing a recent Supreme Court decision that struck down a California law prohibiting the sale of violent video games to minors.

Death Penalty Forum

The **Southeast Connecticut Chapter** will host a panel discussion Feb. 7 about the death penalty in Connecticut, featuring speakers on both sides of the issue. It will be held in the meeting room at the Waterford Public Library, 40 Rope Ferry Road, from 7 to 8:30 pm. The snow date is Feb. 21. An RSVP to rsvp@acluct.org is appreciated but not required. For more information, email info@acluct.org or call 860-523-9146.

MARGOLIS, continued from p. 1

Vietnam War and more recently attended weekly peace vigils in Westport. His commitment to free speech, even speech he detested, was so unshakeable that he successfully defended the right of the Ku Klux Klan to hold a rally in Meriden in 1981.

"Manny was a tireless fighter for civil liberties and civil rights and showed that an attorney can be both a vigorous advocate and a gentleman," said Andrew Schatz, president of the ACLU-CT board.

ACLU-CT board member Don Noel, also one of Margolis' successors as board president, remembered him as "not only a great civil libertarian, but a wonderfully warm human being."

Margolis was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and was drafted into the Army in 1944, interrupting his studies at the University of North Carolina. He returned in 1946, with a Purple Heart, to complete his degree, later earning a Ph.D from Harvard and a J.D. from Yale Law School. He was a partner in the Stamford law firm of Wofsey, Rosen, Kweskin & Kuriansky. He also taught First Amendment law at the Quinnipiac University School of Law.

He lived in Westport for 46 years with his wife, Estelle. He also leaves five children and 10 grandchildren.

His passionate defense of civil liberties in Connecticut was widely recognized and honored. Among the many awards he received were the Connecticut's Law

Tribune's Publisher's Award, the state Supreme Court Law Day Award and the Champion of Liberty award from the Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

"We are sad to have lost a great freedom fighter," said Andrew Schneider, executive director of the ACLU-CT, "but we are heartened to know that Manny's spirit will live on in our principled defense of the Bill of Rights."

A funeral was Aug. 19 and a memorial service was held Oct. 8 at the Westport Library following a peace vigil on the Ruth Steinkraus Cohen Post Road bridge, where several of the protesters held banners reading: "For the love of Manny. For the love of peace."



Former Board Member Nancy Barton Dies at 60

Nancy E. Barton, a former member of the board of the ACLU of Connecticut, died Oct. 7. She was 60 years old.

Barton, who served on the board from 2008 to 2010, also helped to revive the Southwest Connecticut Chapter. She will be remembered at the ACLU-CT for her devotion to civil liberties, Executive Director Andrew Schneider said, adding that she continued to help the organization with lobbying, fundraising and other efforts even after she left the board.

"Her political insight and friendship will be dearly missed," he said.

A longtime Greenwich resident, Barton was retired from GE Capital in Norwalk, where she had been a senior vice president and general counsel. She had also served as co-chair of the American Bar Association's Committee on Corporate Counsel.

She was also active in civic affairs and Democratic politics in Greenwich, having served on the town Board of Estimate and Taxation. In 2010 she ran for the state Senate in the 36th District but lost to the incumbent.

She was also president of the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut, a Stamford treatment facility for children with behavioral problems.

She was a graduate of Tufts University and the Boston University School of Law.

Education

Banned Books Week Reading

Michael Moore, Mark Twain and other targets of censorship were the topics of discussion at the annual Banned Books Reading, sponsored by the ACLU-CT and the Hartford Public Library at the library on Sept. 26. Panelists included WFSB anchor Dennis House, pictured with Henry Dutcher, director of the Enfield Public Library, as well as Hartford Councilman Luis Cotto, author Susan Schoenberger, Saint Joseph College Professor Kerry Driscoll and Capital Preparatory Magnet School students Haddiyyah Ali and Aleyah Seabrook. WNPR radio host Colin McEnroe served as moderator. Read more about the program and watch it on video on the Web at acluct.org/banned.



High School Conference

Students, schools and free speech in the age of the Internet was the theme of the 2011 First Amendment High School Conference, held Oct. 24 at Saint Joseph College in West Hartford. The conference began with a presentation by Martin Margulies, professor of constitutional law at Quinnipiac University School of Law, on student rights and free speech, and ended with three short mock trials on cases that addressed online criticism of teachers, threats and cyberbullying. Four volunteers, pictured at left, argued the cases before panels of student judges. Arguing as lawyers were, from left, Anna Keegan, Lowell Tillett, Mario Cerame and Melvin Kelley.

Constitution Day

The United States Constitution turned 224 on Saturday, Sept. 17, and the ACLU-CT marked the occasion with several days of educational programs and presentations. Volunteers visited high schools around the state to teach students about the history of the Constitution and how it applies to their lives. Among the volunteers was John Cesaroni, a student at the Quinnipiac University School of Law, pictured at right speaking to students at Eli Whitney Technical School in Hamden. If you know any high school teachers who would like us to send a volunteer in 2012, please ask them to email info@acluct.org.



Photo courtesy of Eli Whitney Technical School

More Events:

Balasz Denes, executive director of the Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, spoke in Fairfield and West Hartford in late May on Anti-Semitism and Civil Liberties in Hungary and Eastern Europe. His appearances were sponsored by the ACLU-CT and several other organizations.

At the ACLU-CT's annual Milton Sorokin Symposium in April, ACLU national director **Anthony Romero** debated **Kevin Hasson**, president of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, on the relationship between religion and the public schools.

Rick Kay, a professor at the University of Connecticut School of Law, moderated the debate.



What's This?

It's a QR code that can be scanned by certain smartphone apps. This one will call up auct.org on the phone's Web browser

Upcoming:

Mark the date on your calendar: the annual **Milton Sorokin Symposium** will be held on the evening of April 19, 2012 at the University of Connecticut School of Law in Hartford. The topic will be cyberbullying.

Free speech and cyberbullying will also be the topic of the annual High School **First Amendment Essay Contest**. Students across Connecticut will be invited to address a question on the topic, to be announced soon at www.acluct.org/essay. First prize is \$1,000, second prize is \$500 and third prize is \$250.



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Create a Legacy of Liberty

For more than 90 years, the commitment of generations of ACLU supporters has helped to establish the freedom we enjoy today.

They knew that our nation's founding principles need our advocacy to ensure that the rights and protections of the Constitution will be made real for everyone. Thousands of passionate civil libertarians have stepped forward and expressed their most cherished values by making a deeply meaningful gift to the ACLU in their estate plans. We invite you to join this special group of ACLU supporters who have made freedom, justice, and equality their personal legacy.

Whatever your stage of life, and whatever your family and financial picture, there are flexible ways to plan a gift that works for you. The most popular type of legacy to the ACLU is a simple bequest through one's will. What's more, a will is one of the best ways to manage your assets and provide for your family's specific needs.

Not ready to tackle writing your will?

There are many easy giving options you can get started with:

One of the most accessible ways of planning a legacy is by using something many of us already have: a retirement account.

If you have ample life insurance coverage, then using part of the proceeds to leave a legacy may be an easy choice.

The trend today is toward more opportunities to designate beneficiaries of specific assets, especially bank and brokerage accounts.

For people who are retired (or approaching retirement) and concerned about maximizing their income, a charitable gift annuity can be a perfect fit.

By including the ACLU in your will, you can leave a legacy of liberty for generations to come. Our gift planning staff is available to answer your questions and assist you in any way possible. Please e-mail legacy@aclu.org or call toll-free 877-867-1025 for additional information or to speak with the gift planning staff.

Thank you!

The Rewards of Staying in Touch with Us



Have you been receiving emails from us inviting you to civil liberties events, calling you to take

action, suggesting ways to volunteer and keeping you informed on other important matters?

If not, we probably don't have your email address. Please send it to us at info@acluct.org and ask us to add you to the email list.

We promise to keep your address absolutely private and to use it only for important ACLU matters. We'll never share it with anyone outside the organization. And, of course, your address will be removed from our list if you ever request that.

So, please, send us your email address so we can keep you informed between these printed newsletters.

And don't forget to visit our website at www.acluct.org and our Facebook page at facebook.com/aclu-connecticut. They're both great places to find out what the ACLU-CT has been up to and to read news coverage about it.