

Reproductive Freedom Activist, Pro Bono Attorneys to Receive Awards

Guantánamo Lawyer to Speak at Bill of Rights Dinner

Lt. Cmdr. Charles D. Swift, a military lawyer who won a landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling overturning the use of military tribunals for detainees at Guantánamo, will be the featured speaker at this year's Bill of Rights Celebration Dinner. The event will take place on Saturday, Nov. 18 at the Red Lion Hotel on Fifth Avenue in downtown Seattle.

Also highlighting the dinner will be the presentation of ACLU of Washington awards to reproductive freedom activist Marcy Bloom, pro bono attorneys Don Scaramastra and David Taylor, and youth activists Claire Lueneburg and Sara Eccleston.

Featured speaker Navy Lt. Cmdr. Charles



Lt. Cmdr. Charles D. Swift

D. Swift, a lawyer for the Department of Defense, was assigned to represent Salim Ahmed Hamdan, a Yemeni citizen held by the United States at Guantánamo Bay.

Helped by a team of pro bono lawyers from the Seattle office of Perkins Coie, Swift mounted a vigorous defense that challenged the commander in chief's policy of using military tribunals for detainees at Guantánamo.

In June 2006, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark ruling in *Hamdan v.*

*Rumsfeld* that reaffirmed limits on executive power in the war on terror. The court found that the president had overstepped his authority in ordering military tribunals for detainees at Guantánamo, violating

U.S. law and the Geneva Conventions. For his work on the case, Swift in 2005 received the national ACLU Medal of Liberty – the organization's highest honor. Swift received his law degree from Seattle University Law School (then University of Puget Sound Law School).

Among honorees to be recognized at the dinner, the ACLU of Washington Board of Directors has named Bloom recipient of the 2006 William O. Douglas Award. The award is given for outstanding, consistent, and sustained contributions to civil liberties. A courageous advocate for civil liberties, Marcy Bloom has long been a leader in safeguarding the fundamental right to reproductive freedom. Bloom served for 18 years as the executive director and guiding force of the Aradia Women's Health Center, Seattle's first nonprofit abortion and gynecological health center, and a model for clinics nationwide.

Her activism spans the history of the reproductive rights movement. Bloom was on the front lines at a time when reproductive rights were not yet protected, helping women to locate safe providers and personally guiding them to states where abortions were legal and accessible. In the decades that followed, she dedicated herself to making health care and reproductive

services available to all women.

In addition to her visionary role in shaping Aradia, she stood up to picketing and threats by anti-choice forces, assisted in exam rooms, lobbied the Legislature, carried speculums to clinics in Mexico, and sat on the steering committee that oversaw the passage of Initiative 120, Washington's

Continued on page 8



Marcy Bloom (photo by Walter Bodle)

Police Accountability

ACLU Hails Independent Oversight of Sheriff

The King County Council voted on Oct. 9 to create an independent office to review complaints of misconduct by Sheriff's Office employees. The new Office of Law Enforcement Oversight was one of the recommendations of a blue ribbon panel that included ACLU of Washington Legislative Director Jennifer Shaw.

The King County Sheriff Blue Ribbon Panel issued its 76-page report on Sept. 11, after seven months of research and public hearings. The panel was appointed following a series of stories in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* that detailed alarming problems with oversight of Sheriff's deputies. The series showed that the Sheriff's office often did not investigate, discipline or fire officers accused of serious misconduct.

"The blue ribbon panel has created a system of oversight that will ensure that all Sheriff department employees are held to the highest professional standards," said the ACLU's Shaw. "Without independent oversight, the department can't earn the trust of the communities it serves."

In the panel's work, Shaw drew from her practical experience as a criminal defense attorney, as well as the ACLU's extensive expertise on police accountability issues. The ACLU has also participated in efforts to bring more accountability to police departments in Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane.

The report found that Sheriff supervisors

oversee too many officers at a time; the office lacks enough internal investigators to handle complaints against officers; it does not have consistent standards of performance for managers; and it has not done performance reviews for some employees in seven years. Most important, the office does not have solid internal or external methods for investigating employee misconduct.

King County Executive Ron Sims' proposed budget includes funding for the independent oversight office. As envisioned by the panel, the office would include a full-time director, investigator and support staff. It would have the authority to investigate claims of misconduct, full access to all current case information, and the option to submit recommendations directly to the Sheriff.

In addition, the panel recommended that the county provide funds to implement these changes:

- Improving the management and supervision of officers. This includes hiring more supervisors and implementing regular and meaningful performance reviews.
- Adding more internal investigators and improving the process for submitting and tracking complaints against officers.
- Establishing clear performance standards, including the posting of a code of ethics and values. ■



Don Scaramastra,  
Garvey Schubert Barer



David Taylor,  
Perkins Coie LLP

Attempt to Legalize NSA Spying Stalls in Congress

While Congress adopted an appalling military commissions bill, civil libertarians breathed a temporary sigh of relief when the U.S. Senate adjourned without approving legislation that would ratify the National Security Agency programs to spy on Americans. But ACLU lobbyists remain vigilant, as Congress plans to act on this dangerous bill in its "lame-duck session" after the elections.

The Senate did not vote on the Terrorist Surveillance Act of 2006 (S.3931), a measure that would have authorized the NSA to continue its program to tap without warrants the electronic communications between Americans and people abroad. The bill would also shield the executive branch and the companies involved from liability for participating in the program. It would limit challenges to the program to a secret

court chosen by the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court that could dismiss the case for "any reason" – yet another blow to our system of checks and balances.

The House has already approved its version of the bill, the Electronic Surveillance Modernization Act (H.R. 5825). The administration wants this legislation approved, even though the NSA's warrantless surveillance program is being challenged in the courts. A federal judge in Michigan declared the wiretapping program unconstitutional in August, in an ACLU lawsuit.

"We implore lawmakers to reject this effort to condone the president's abuse of power by granting him a legal framework for the vast and unchecked powers he seeks," said Lisa Graves, ACLU senior counsel for legislative strategy. ■

# President and Congress Trample Fundamental Values

The keynotespeaker for our Bill of Rights Dinner has achieved something that most attorneys only dream of: He convinced the U.S. Supreme Court to order a sitting president to follow the Constitution and the Geneva Conventions.

But thanks to an executive hungry for power and a Congress unwilling to challenge him, Lt. Cmdr. Charles D. Swift could be the last lawyer in a while to see that happen.

In the case of *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, Swift sought to obtain the normal protections of military justice for his client, Salim Ahmed Hamdan, Osama Bin Laden's driver in Afghanistan. On June 29, the Supreme Court ruled that President Bush exceeded his authority and violated the Geneva Conventions when he set up a system of military commissions for prisoners at Guantánamo.

Swift, assisted by Neal Katyal of Georgetown Law School and lawyers from the Perkins Coie firm in Seattle, filed a challenge to Hamdan's imprisonment and demanded a prompt trial. This right of habeas corpus is a long-honored part of our legal system with roots in the Magna Carta. Swift later filed a suit challenging the legality of the entire military tribunal system, and pursued the case to a successful conclusion before the Supreme Court.

Unfortunately, what the Supreme Court gave, Congress took away when the president signed into law the Military Commissions Act of 2006. Prisoners held by the military no longer can challenge their imprisonment, and no civilian courts have the power to review the lawfulness of the prosecution, trial, judgments, or procedures of military commissions.

And that is only the beginning. The

president now has the power to be judge and jury. He can arrest and detain legal residents and foreigners abroad indefinitely, just by defining that person as an "alien unlawful enemy combatant."

Torture has been legitimized, because the Act uses a definition of torture that has already permitted the simulated drowning of prisoners, sleep deprivation, hypothermia and other abusive techniques. And it allows the president to interpret the limits on prisoner abuse set by the Geneva Conventions. He now has the power – without oversight – to define acceptable interrogation techniques, and to keep a list of those techniques secret.

Prisoners can now be tried using secret evidence, hearsay or even the coerced testimony of witnesses. The Act also gives retroactive immunity to government officials who authorized or ordered illegal acts of torture and abuse – in effect, a "get out of jail free" card.

The ACLU lobbied heavily against the Act, and we will continue to press for reforms and pursue legal challenges in court. Some of our lawsuits against abuses of power are already yielding fruit. In August, a federal judge in Michigan ruled that the NSA's warrantless domestic spying program is unconstitutional. In October, another judge in Detroit rejected an effort to dismiss our challenge of PATRIOT Act provisions that allow the FBI to access records or belongings of people without evidence that they pose a risk to security.

With your support, we will work to sweep this dishonorable system of military justice into the waste bin of history, along with the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 and the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. ■

## Streetwise



Kathleen Taylor  
Executive Director

GUANTANAMO  
TORTURE OF PRISONERS OF WAR  
WARRANTLESS WIRETAPPING  
ILLEGAL COLLECTION OF  
PERSONAL PHONE RECORDS  
PRESIDENTIAL SIGNING STATEMENTS  
HAD  
ENOUGH?



This ad was placed by the ACLU in selected newspapers across the country, including *Seattle Weekly* and *The Stranger* in Washington. Additional text asked people to contact lawmakers and urge that Congress preserve our system of checks and balances.

## Events Calendar

**November 8:** Panel discussion of "Reflections on the Constitution" (Olympia)

**November 13:** Kitsap County Chapter meeting (Bremerton)

**November 15:** Grays Harbor County Chapter meeting (Aberdeen)

**November 18:** ACLU-WA Board meeting (Seattle)

**November 18:** Bill of Rights Celebration Dinner (Seattle)

**December 6:** Pierce County Chapter meeting (Tacoma)

**December 13:** "ACLU Freedom Files: Youth Speak" (Olympia)

**December 15:** Bill of Rights Day Celebration (Tacoma)

**January 10:** "Civil Liberties in This Year's State Legislative Session" (Olympia)

**January 20:** ACLU-WA Board meeting (Seattle)

**February 13:** Lobby Day (Olympia)

For information about times and places of events, contact the ACLU office.

## Create a Legacy of Liberty

One of the most important ways that you may express your commitment to individual freedom is by providing financial support for the protection of civil liberties after your lifetime. Through a generous commitment by ACLU supporter Robert W. Wilson, if you establish a bequest provision in your will or trust, or a charitable gift annuity to the ACLU Foundation by December 31, 2006, 10% of your gift (up to \$10,000) will be matched in immediate cash for our litigation, research and public education programs.

For more information on the Legacy of Liberty Challenge and estate planning, visit [www.legacy.aclu.org](http://www.legacy.aclu.org), or contact Theda Jackson Mau, Director of Development, at 206.624.2184.



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NSA Spying

# Commission Orders Telephone Companies to Secure Call Records

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) has asked phone companies to preserve call records that may have been illegally surrendered to a government spying program.

The order follows a request by the ACLU of Washington for an investigation of whether phone companies illegally surrendered these records to the National Security Agency, as part of a secret data-mining program. The program was described in newspaper stories earlier this year, but it has not been confirmed by the NSA or the president.

On Sept. 27, the UTC decided to postpone a full investigation of the phone companies until Congress or the courts can clarify legal questions about jurisdiction and national security. In the meantime, the UTC asked all phone companies to secure the customer records that may have been shared, and to identify all people in their companies with knowledge of the program.

“The state commission has recognized the importance of the right to privacy and the state’s role in protecting it,” said Doug Klunder, director of the Privacy Project of the ACLU of Washington. “By protecting these records, the UTC is ensuring that it can investigate these strong allegations once

the legal questions are resolved.”

A May 11 article in *USA Today* reported that three phone companies – AT&T, BellSouth and Verizon – provided the NSA with the personal calling details of millions of customers, including telephone numbers called, time, date, and duration of calls. According to the article, the companies surrendered this information

agreements.

Such customer information can also be easily matched with other databases to obtain the name and residence of each caller. This information would enable the government to track every phone call made by every Washington residential customer, including the identity of the people they have called and the length of each conversation.

Phone companies and the federal government have argued that the states cannot investigate the NSA program because it would compromise national security, also known as the “state secrets privilege.” They have refused to confirm or deny details of the program already published by media.

The ACLU believes the UTC does not need to examine any information relating to state secrets, but can instead limit itself to information about telephone company practices of information disclosure.

The ACLU has sought investigations in several states. In September, the Vermont Public Service Board decided to investigate the allegations of illegal records sharing, dismissing claims by Verizon that the state lacked jurisdiction under the state secrets privilege. ■



Privacy Project Director Doug Klunder answers questions from KUOW's Tom Banse following his testimony with the Washington UTC.

without customer consent or a warrant, court order, or other legal process.

Providing records of calls without a court order or customer consent would violate the federal Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986. The sharing of phone record information also appears to violate the companies’ own customer privacy

## Donate at Your Desk!

*Workplace Giving to the ACLU*

Fall is upon us and many companies are kicking off their annual employee giving drives.

The simplest way to support the defense of civil liberties is to designate a tax-deductible gift to the ACLU of Washington Foundation. Through payroll deduction, you can make either a one-time gift or installment payments.

What’s more, many businesses will match employee contributions. Inquire at your company’s personnel office for more information about this convenient way to do your part to make a difference in the defense of civil liberties.

**Thank you!**

# Lawsuit on Free Speech Violations at WTO Settled

The city of Seattle has agreed pay compensation to two people arrested or harassed by police for expressing their opinions during the 1999 World Trade Organization conference. The settlement resolves a six-year-old lawsuit filed by the ACLU on behalf of several protesters.

Victor Menotti of San Francisco will receive \$62,500, and Doug Skove of Vashon will receive \$12,500. In the suit, the ACLU asserted that police arrested Menotti simply because he was talking about WTO policies on a downtown street, and that a police officer confiscated a sign from Skove because he did not like its content.

“Officials must honor the rights of peaceful protesters even when the mayor has declared a state of emergency. The settlement is an important step in holding the city accountable,” said ACLU Staff Attorney Aaron Caplan.

During the WTO protests in 1999, then-Mayor Paul Schell issued a Civil Emergency Order creating a militarized zone in an area of two dozen blocks in the core of downtown Seattle. Police patrolled the borders of this No-Protest Zone and restricted entry to persons who had official WTO business; owners, employees, and customers of businesses within the zone; residents of the zone; and emergency and public safety personnel. In practice, police prevented anyone who sought to express anti-WTO views from entering or remaining in the zone, even if they lived or worked there. The city’s actions far exceeded any legitimate needs to provide security.

The ACLU filed the suit in March 2000. Plaintiffs were individuals either kept out or forced out of the No-Protest Zone solely because they had anti-WTO cartoons, buttons, stickers, or signs. Three plaintiffs



Police confront protesters at the 1999 World Trade Organization meetings in Seattle.

who were originally parties to the lawsuit accepted settlements of \$5,000 each from the city in August 2000. The settlement resolved the claims of the two remaining plaintiffs in the suit.

- Victor Menotti came to Seattle to attend the WTO conference as a credentialed representative of the International Forum on Globalization. On Dec. 1, 1999, he was speaking at Fifth Avenue and Pike Street to a journalist and interested citizens about his concerns over WTO policies on wood products. Police officers nearby pursued Menotti and arrested him; no formal

criminal charges were ever filed.

- Doug Skove on Dec. 2 was carrying a sign reading, “Is the WTO in Control of Seattle Also?” and “I Have a Right To Non-Violent Protest.” While talking to a journalist on Sixth Avenue, a police officer came up from behind and snatched the sign. When Skove complained, the officer informed him that he was not supposed to protest in that area. Another police officer later confiscated a second sign of his without explanation.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in 2005 that the protections of the

Bill of Rights apply even during a time of public unrest. The appeals court sent the case back to the trial court to determine whether the police violated the rights of Victor Menotti and Doug Skove. Unfortunately, the appeals court also found that the establishment of the No-Protest Zone per se did not violate constitutional rights.

ACLU cooperating attorney James Lobenz of the firm Carney Badley Smith & Spellman and ACLU Staff Attorney Aaron Caplan handled the case. Still pending is a lawsuit filed by Trial Lawyers for Public Justice on behalf of people arrested at Westlake Mall during the protests. ■



## Education Equity

# District Limits Police Questioning of Students

The Grand Coulee Dam School District in eastern Washington has adopted a new procedure that requires administrators to call parents before their children can be questioned at school by police. The policy follows six months of research, community education and advocacy work by Rose Spidell, ACLU of Washington staff attorney with the Education Equity Project.

The new procedure makes clear that police interviews at school should be the exception, and that the school bears responsibility for contacting parents and allowing them to be present



Rose Spidell

when police question students of any age. The procedure was drafted in collaboration with the ACLU, parent committee leaders, the district's new superintendent and the Colville Tribes' Reservation Attorney.

Former district policy required school officials to contact parents only when students 12 or younger were questioned by police.

"We received many thanks from parents relieved that their 13-, 14- and 15-year-old children

will no longer have to stand alone when they are interrogated by police officers," said Spidell, whom the

ACLU sent to live and work in Grand Coulee for a six-month period. "Without parents in the room, police were asking kids to sign waiver forms giving away their Miranda rights."

An ACLU analysis of Grand Coulee Dam school discipline statistics showed that Native Americans are disciplined out of proportion to their numbers and that students lost significant amounts of class time to in-school suspension. Additional data from the high school shows Native American students are referred to juvenile court for truancy far more often than white students, and without first receiving the benefit of the intervention efforts contemplated by the state's truancy laws.

Spidell lived in Grand Coulee from March to August, collecting data, meeting

with parents and with school administrators. She held several workshops to educate parents and students on rights relating to school discipline, police in schools and truancy enforcement. The meetings were well attended, with the last August conference drawing more than 150 people.

Now back in the ACLU office, Spidell will continue work on education equity for Native American students through a two-year Skadden Fellowship.

The ACLU-WA Education Equity Project seeks to address the disparities in discipline, graduation rates, dropout rates, and academic achievement for Washington's students of color. The project is also working to mitigate the disproportionate use of police to address discipline of minorities in school. ■

## ACLU Report Highlights Disparity in WASL Scores

A new ACLU report highlights the drastic differences in Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) test scores between students of different racial and ethnic groups in the state. Titled "Racial Disparity in Education: Questions WSIPP and Policymakers Should Consider," the report pinpoints areas to investigate in order to understand the causes of the disparities.

According to the 2005 WASL results, only 47 percent of white 10th-grade students passed all three sections of the test. But only 21.7 percent of Native Americans, 18.1 percent of African Americans and 20.1 percent

of Latinos passed all three sections.

"We want policymakers to take a very hard look at the reasons for such dramatic racial disparities. These disparities will become especially critical in 2008, when the WASL becomes a graduation requirement for all students," said Jennifer Shaw, legislative director for the ACLU of Washington.

The report has been submitted to the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP), the state agency assigned by the Legislature to track student performance in the WASL and to explain why students fail the test. ■



ACLU plaintiffs Brenda Bauer (right), Celia Castle, and their daughter at a marriage equality press conference on the day the State Supreme Court announced its ruling

## Equality Work Continues Despite Marriage Loss

The ACLU is awaiting a ruling on a motion for the Washington Supreme Court to reconsider its decision to uphold the state ban on marriages between people of the same sex. Meanwhile, the ACLU and its allies are planning future work to continue the drive for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) equality.

The ACLU plans to keep up its public awareness work about the numerous benefits to married couples that are not available to same-sex couples. It will continue to lobby for laws that protect the common property of LGBT couples, enhance public and private benefits for families, and prevent illegal discrimination. The ACLU will also pursue lawsuits challenging unequal access to benefits, services, or other entitlements.

The motion to reconsider was filed in August, a month after the court ruled 5-4 against 19 couples seeking the right to marry in Washington. The decision reversed two lower court rulings backing marriage equality. Appeals of the two cases — *Castle v. State* brought by the ACLU and *Andersen v. King County* brought by Lambda Legal and the Northwest Women's Law Center — were jointly decided on July 26.

The court did not file a majority opinion. But the plurality opinion written by Justice Barbara Madsen said that the state Legislature had a valid interest in limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples to further procreation and encourage the raising of children by biological parents.

"The court did not come to grips with the very real harms done to same-sex couples

by denying them equal access to the many benefits of legal marriage," said Paul Lawrence, the lead attorney on the ACLU's legal team for the case. "The court's reliance on the tie between procreation and marriage does not make sense. Many opposite-sex couples get married with no intention of having children, and many same-sex couples do in fact raise children."

Representing the 11 couples in *Castle v. State* are Paul Lawrence, Matthew Segal and Amit Ranade of Preston Gates & Ellis; Carolyn Hicks of Stokes Lawrence; Roger Leishman of Davis Wright Tremaine; and ACLU-WA Staff Attorney Aaron Caplan. ■

Marriage equality plaintiff Kevin Chestnut passed away in Seattle on Sept. 15, after fighting a courageous battle with a rare cancer. A foundation has been established in his honor, with information available at [www.kevinchestnut.org](http://www.kevinchestnut.org).

Chestnut was proud to have been a part of an historic lawsuit. "Thank you, ACLU, for allowing us to represent the case in public and tell of our love story," said longtime partner Curtis Crawford, who married Chestnut in Canada. "It would please us both to let others know that marriage has ramifications for death and the uncertainty of legal standings."

When Curtis applied for Kevin's Death Certificate, he successfully requested to be listed as "spouse," even though the state has no record of their Canadian marriage license.

## Court Restricts Searches

The Washington Court of Appeals has ruled that people awaiting bail cannot be strip-searched without a warrant or reasonable suspicion of smuggling contraband. The ruling agreed with a friend-of-the-court brief filed by the ACLU.

The August ruling came in the case of *Plemmons v. Pierce County*, where a victim of identity theft was erroneously arrested, detained and strip-searched, even though she was not dangerous or suspected of carrying contraband.

"In our state, local jails cannot strip-search someone unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Strip searches are very invasive, and we're glad that the court has clarified that strip searches cannot ever be considered a standard practice," said Aaron Caplan, ACLU-WA staff attorney.

In 2001, Abra Plemmons had her purse stolen. A few months afterwards, she was stopped for speeding in Montana, and her name matched an arrest warrant for someone who forged a check. She was arrested and released on condition that she post \$10,000 in bail and show up for arraignment at a court in Tacoma.

The Tacoma court required an additional \$5,000 in bail, which Plemmons did not have in hand. The court ordered her to be held until she could post bail. During that delay, the Pierce County Jail, using a standard procedure, submitted her to a strip search before placing her in a general intake area. Plemmons posted bail that evening and was released. The county eventually

realized she was innocent and dismissed the forgery charges.

Plemmons later sued the county for conducting an unconstitutional strip search. State law allows strip searches of pretrial detainees without a warrant only for persons who are likely to be violent or carrying contraband or weapons, or who have been committed to detention by a court. But the law was not very clear on how to treat nonviolent people who are arraigned and will be released when they post bail. These pretrial detainees have not yet been convicted of any crime.

In 2005, a Pierce County Superior Court judge ruled in favor of Plemmons, and the county appealed.

The ACLU-WA submitted an amicus brief with the Appeals Court in support of Plemmons. The ACLU explained that when the Legislature enacted the law against strip searches at local jails, it clearly intended to rule out general policies to strip search of temporary detainees such as Plemmons.

The ACLU amicus brief was written by Robert Hyde of the law firm Rafel Manville and Mathew Pile of the law firm Riddell Williams.

The state laws restricting strip searches of detainees were passed in 1986, after intense lobbying by the ACLU-WA. The ACLU pursued these laws after litigating several cases on behalf of people unjustly strip-searched without a warrant at jails and detention centers. ■

# Lt. Watada Has a Right to Free Speech, ACLU Says

The ACLU has filed a friend-of-the-court brief contending that Lt. Ehren Watada should not be punished for his public objections to the war in Iraq. The ACLU takes no position on his challenge to the lawfulness of the orders to report for duty in Iraq.

“Soldiers should not be court-martialed for explaining their views on important political issues when doing so does not adversely affect military functioning. Lt. Watada was exercising his free speech rights as a citizen in a democratic society,” said Kathleen Taylor, executive director of the ACLU of Washington.

Watada, an officer with the 3rd (Stryker) Brigade of Fort Lewis, became convinced that the war in Iraq is unlawful and that he has a duty as an officer to not participate in it. When he learned that his unit was to be deployed to Iraq, he made requests to be transferred elsewhere, but they were denied. In early June, he shared his views with reporters and at a press conference. On June 22, he refused to board the bus for his deployment to Iraq.

In addition to charges for refusal to report to duty, the military is seeking to penalize Watada for statements made to reporters expressing his objections to the United States’ involvement in the war in Iraq.

He is being charged with violating two articles of the Uniform Code of Military Justice: Article 88, which prohibits use of “contemptuous words” against the president and other top governmental officials; and Article 133, which prohibits “conduct unbecoming an officer” – behavior that dishonors or disgraces an officer or “seriously compromises the officer’s character as a gentleman.”

The ACLU brief argued that Watada did not use contemptuous language and did not behave in a dishonorable manner. The purpose of Watada’s public remarks was to explain the motivations for his actions. The remarks reflected his deeply felt beliefs and showed a seriousness of purpose and high moral character.

ACLU-WA Staff Attorney Aaron Caplan wrote the amicus brief.



Lt. Ehren Watada

Watada enlisted in the army after finishing college because he wanted to aid his country after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He has been deployed in Korea, and has received good reviews for his service.

In August, a military investigator recommended that Watada be tried for allegations of missing a troop movement, conduct unbecoming an officer and contempt toward officials. If found guilty, he faces up to eight years in prison.

The ACLU brief addressed these statements by Watada:

**Statement 1:** “I could never conceive of our leader betraying the trust we had in him ... As I read about the level of deception the Bush administration used to initiate and process this war, I was shocked. I became ashamed of wearing the uniform. How can we wear something with such a time-honored tradi-

tion, knowing we waged war based on a misrepresentation and lies? It was a betrayal of the trust of the American people. And these lies were a betrayal of the trust of the military and the Soldiers ... But I felt there was nothing to be done, and this administration was just continually violating the law to serve their purpose, and there was nothing to stop them ... Realizing the President is taking us into a war that he misled us about has broken that bond of trust that we had. If the President can betray my trust, it’s time for me to evaluate what he’s telling me to do.”

**Statement 2:** “I was shocked and at the same time ashamed that Bush had planned to invade Iraq before the 9/11 attacks. How could I wear this [honorable] uniform now knowing we invaded a country for a lie?”

**Statement 3:** “It is my conclusion as an officer of the Armed Forces that the war in Iraq is not only morally wrong but a horrible breach of American law ... As the order to take part in an illegal act is ultimately unlawful as well, I must as an officer of honor and integrity refuse that order ... The wholesale slaughter and mistreatment of Iraqis is not only a terrible and moral injustice, but it’s a contradiction to the Army’s own law of land warfare. My participation would make me party to war crimes.” ■

# ACLU Provides Legal Help to Gay-Straight Alliances

All Walter Schlect and his friends wanted was to start a new student club to address prejudice on campus.

But the Associated Student Body at West Valley High School would not consider their application. Despite appeals, the ASB forwarded the application to the school principals. The principals stalled for a while, before demanding that the group apply directly to the school board.

Why all the fuss? Schlect wanted to form a Gay-Straight Alliance club. Students at many other schools in Washington had done the same, but administrators at his school in Yakima felt a GSA could be too controversial for their community.

“They were worried about creating a volatile situation, worried about safety. They thought people could target the GSA and that gay students would get teased more,” Schlect said. “We were ready to give up. We thought the school board would be a disaster.”

That’s when Schlect sought help from the ACLU. Staff Attorney Aaron Caplan sent the school principal a letter in April 2005, detailing the students’ legal rights to form a club and meet on campus. Shortly afterwards, school administrators approved Schlect’s application.

Fortunately, Schlect’s experience is not typical, as many schools realize the benefits

of having a Gay-Straight Alliance on campus. But some administrators still have an overblown fear of these clubs, sometimes stemming from prejudice, other times from ignorance of the law. That’s why it’s important for students seeking to form a GSA club to learn about their rights and to seek help when they need it.

The law clearly protects students’ rights to form clubs on campus. The federal Equal Access Act says that secondary schools must give all noncurriculum-related student clubs – clubs that aren’t directly affiliated with a class – equal access to school facilities, regardless of the content of the speech in their meetings.

Federal courts have ruled that all such clubs must also be offered equal benefits, such as space on school bulletin boards, a yearbook picture, and access to school announcements. In addition, clubs have the right not to be subjected to a vote to be able to meet or access the campus.

Still, state laws give schools authority to set up procedures for creating student clubs. Clubs may also be either affiliated with an Associated Student Body, or independent of it. This may affect the governance of those clubs, funding sources, and how much involvement the school administration or school board may have in its activities.

It is advisable for students to check their student handbooks and study the procedures for starting a club, and for affiliating it with the ASB. Students may also need to write a constitution, or to find a faculty advisor or sponsor. By following

these procedures carefully, students can avoid delays or bureaucratic stalling when attempting to form a student club.

It helps also to be diplomatic, even in the face of unfair treatment. “Don’t treat the administration condescendingly,” Schlect said. “Try to be as patient as you can. Try to see things their way. It’s like what they say about wild animals: They are more afraid of you than you are of them.”

If a school refuses to provide equal access and opportunity to a student club, the ACLU is available to provide legal assistance. In most cases, all it takes is a letter or a brief communication, as the ACLU did in 2003 at Puyallup High School and Federal Way High School, and in 1999 at Shelton High School.

Schlect, now a freshman at Washington State University, said the West Valley High School GSA has settled into being another small student club among many. “The GSA became pretty normal at the school. Everybody accepted it because it’s just there,” Schlect said. ■

## Celebrate Freedom

The upcoming holiday season is a great time for gift giving and connecting with friends and family. One great way to do so is sending “Liberty Notes” greeting cards depicting the freedoms bestowed on us by the Bill of Rights.

Below is *The Fourth Amendment*, one of a series of “Liberty Notes” cards designed by Seattle artist Julie Paschkis and sold to benefit the ACLU. The cards are available through Ms. Paschkis’ Web site, [www.juliepaschkis.com](http://www.juliepaschkis.com), at [www.aclu-wa.org](http://www.aclu-wa.org), and at local bookstores.



### For more information on how to start a GSA club, visit:

- ACLU - [www.aclu.org/safeschools](http://www.aclu.org/safeschools)
- Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network - [www.glsen.org](http://www.glsen.org)

If a school is not allowing students to form a GSA club or is denying the club equal access to benefits, contact the ACLU of Washington at 206.624.2184, or visit [www.aclu-wa.org](http://www.aclu-wa.org).

## Need a Speaker?

The ACLU annually sends speakers to dozens of forums, community meetings, and high school and college classes around the state. If it’s an ACLU issue, we’ll find you the speaker.

To set up a speaking engagement for your organization or school, call the ACLU at 206.624.2184, or fill out a Speakers Bureau request form online at [www.aclu-wa.org/resources](http://www.aclu-wa.org/resources).





The ACLU's "An Uncensored Celebration" marking Banned Books Week was held on Oct. 5 at the Kirkland Performance Center. The event featured Book-It Repertory Theatre actors performing works of literature that have been threatened with censorship, followed by a discussion led by Book-It's Annie Lareau and Laura Ferri.

A hearty thanks to volunteers Russell Bates, Geoff Cole, Polly Nelson, Justin Campbell, Thuha Nguyen, Ronda Cobb, Keo Capestany, Seth Furman, and Justin Baird.

Thanks also to businesses that donated refreshments: Top Pot Doughnuts, Diva Espresso, Madison Market, Sunflour Bakery, Tim's Cascade Style Potato Chips.

## Thanks to Our Civil Libertarians in Action

These ACLU-WA volunteer speakers took our message to schools and the community in recent months:

### CIVIL LIBERTIES SINCE 9/11

- Michael Schein** – to the ACLU of Washington San Juan Outreach Group in Friday Harbor
- Sal Mungia** – to an annual forum at the University of Washington - Tacoma
- Pat Gallagher** – to a radio audience over KLAY in Lakewood
- Paul Lawrence** – to high school students attending the Junior Statesman conference in Seattle
- Stan Graves** – to the Lake Forest Park Rotary Club
- Chris Varas** – to the ACLU of Washington Pierce County Chapter in Tacoma
- Steve Quesinberry** – to a class at the University of Washington Business School
- Dan Lerner** – to a class at Timber Ridge Alternative High School in Bellingham

### OTHER ISSUES

- Roger Leishman** – Lesbian and Gay Rights in Public Schools to an assembly at Juanita High School in Kirkland
- Chris Gamache & Judy Fleissner** – Marriage Equality at a forum in Tacoma
- Jordan Gross** – Rights with the Police in a panel discussion at Seattle Central Community College
- Marc Levy** – Free Speech as part of a lecture series sponsored by the Grays Harbor Institute
- Trilby Robinson-Dorn** – Student Rights to a class at Blanchet High School in Seattle
- Robert Wilhite** – Voting Rights to a homeless advocacy group in Olympia
- Amit Ranade** – Marriage Equality at a conference for Indian American gays and lesbians in San Francisco

**Outreach Team** volunteers worked at many different events in recent months, including the Town Hall Forum on Spying, University District Fair, Fremont Fair, Pride Festival, Hispanic Seafair Festival, Capitol Hill Block Party, Hempfest, and our annual Uncensored Celebration. Our thanks go to the following volunteers:

Robert Wilhite, Russell Bates, Josh Adlin, Catherine Clemens, Geoff Cole, Percy Hilo, Andy Mayo, Sylvia Odom, Heather Villanueva, Mina Barahimi, Vonda McIntyre, Nels Peterson, Larra Morris, Katie Sheehy, Sasha Abramsky, Cassandra Boyd, Bryce Felt, Bradly Nakagawa, Alexis Wheeler, Matt Wexler, Kristine Villager, Ronda Cobb, Justin Baird, Chris Mayhall, Scott Willoughby, Christopher Quarles, Felicita Montebianco, Tracy Connelly, Dana Elkun, Libby Parham, Keo Capestany, Susan Arthur, Bonnie Bizzell, Justin Campbell, Catherine Hinchliff, Mike Graham, Craig Danz, LeAnne Laux-Bachand, Joanie Dorsey, John Lambert, Alex Hudson, Israel Donahue, Thuha Nguyen, Genea Paras, Seth Furman, and Polly Nelson.



Devon Alisa Abdallah of the Arab American Community Coalition speaks about civil liberties since Sept. 11 at the ACLU's annual workshop for educators on "Teaching about the Bill of Rights."

# Immigration Policy: Why the ACLU Cares

Immigrants all too often serve as political scapegoats for anxieties about security or the economy. Advocating fair treatment for immigrants has been part of the ACLU's work since its founding in 1920, when it opposed the summary arrest and deportation of hundreds of Eastern European immigrants during the Palmer Raids.

Since then, the ACLU has been at the forefront of every major legal struggle to defend the constitutional rights of immigrants. In 1996, anti-immigrant sentiment led to punitive and discriminatory legislation affecting newcomers and longtime legal residents alike. September 11, 2001 brought a new wave of proposals targeting noncitizens, moving immigration policy to the forefront of public debate.

The Constitution grants the federal government the power to maintain the borders and to determine immigration policy. The same Constitution also guarantees basic rights and freedoms to all people in the United States.

Actions and proposals that violate these basic principles lead to the ACLU getting involved in immigration issues. Freedom of speech and assembly, freedom of religion, and the guarantees of due process and equal protection under the law apply to all persons in the U.S., regardless of immigration status.

Civil liberties are violated by immigration policies that discriminate, lack adequate due process, or erode basic protections for freedom and privacy. Noncitizens must not be treated differently because of ancestry, color, nationality, sex, religion, or race. People seeking to enter the country must not be denied because of their ideas. Refugees should be granted asylum for humanitarian reasons, not political ones.

The ACLU objects when noncitizens are

summarily arrested, indefinitely detained or deported without the opportunity to hear the charges against them and to present a defense. Due process includes the right to a hearing, notice of charges, opportunity to examine evidence, and competent interpretation for non-English speakers.

Although immigration policy is a federal matter, some local jurisdictions have decided to enforce immigration laws, which is rife with problems. For example, when a local law prohibits persons from renting housing to undocumented immigrants, some landlords will refuse to rent to anyone whom they think looks like an immigrant – discrimination based on national ancestry. Further, a landlord is not likely to have the training to verify proper papers, which can result in unfair treatment.

Enforcement of immigration laws should be handled by trained federal agents – people familiar with the intricacies of the law. Many police chiefs across the nation, including Seattle's Chief Gil Kerlikowske, share our opposition to the use of police officers to enforce federal immigration law by checking the immigration status of individuals. Police are concerned that such actions deter immigrants from reporting crimes or seeking help, out of fears that they may be deported.

The 14th Amendment guarantees all persons the equal protection of the law. We are a nation whose greatness has been built largely by immigrants. All persons within our borders deserve fair treatment under the law.

For a more information, visit [www.aclu.org/immigrants](http://www.aclu.org/immigrants). ■

## Give to the Annual Fund Campaign

Today we are faced with unprecedented challenges to core American values. From our headquarters in New York and Washington, D.C. to staffed offices in every state, the ACLU is at work to demand that government live up to our cherished principles of freedom, fairness and equality.

Thanks to the continuing commitment of our members, the ACLU of Washington is one of the largest and most active affiliates in the nation. Our current and future successes are a direct result of financial contributions from supporters like you. To make a tax-deductible gift to the ACLU of Washington Foundation, please send in the form below or contact Theda Jackson Mau at 206.624.2184, ext. 261 or [jacksonmau@aclu-wa.org](mailto:jacksonmau@aclu-wa.org). Thank you for helping to make our voice heard and our actions strong!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my gift of:

☐ \$1,000   ☐ \$500   ☐ \$250   ☐ \$100   ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_


VISA/Mastercard # \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Expiration (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you! Please mail to:  
ACLU-WA, 705 2nd Avenue, 3rd Fl., Seattle, WA 98104

- ☐ I'll seek a match from my employer.
- ☐ Please send me information about making gifts of stock.



# ACLU-WA Chapters and Clubs Stand Up for Freedom

## Chapters in Action

ACLU of Washington chapters have been busy educating people around the state about civil liberties issues.

**Grays Harbor and Jefferson County Chapter** members hosted ACLU tables at their county fairs. In July, the Jefferson chapter sponsored a performance of GAP Theatre's *PATRIOT Acts* that drew nearly 50 people.

**Spokane County Chapter** leaders countered anti-civil liberties letters to the editor in *The Spokesman-Review* with letters of their own in that paper.

The **Kitsap County Chapter** tabled at its local Pride event, sharing information about our work on marriage equality and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. The group is working

with school districts in the county to regulate the activities of in-house police officers in schools, such as preventing the interrogation of students without their parents.

Volunteers with the **Pierce County Chapter** brought the ACLU message to the Pride celebration, Ethnic Fest and a neighborhood arts festival. The group also hosted ACLU-WA Privacy Project Director Doug Klunder at their September meeting, for a speech about government surveillance since Sept. 11. The chapter organized a Banned Books Week celebration with the Tacoma bookstore King's Books.

ACLU activists in **San Juan Island** staffed a booth at the county fair in Friday Harbor. A crowd of 85 people attended their forum on civil liberties and the war on terror, featuring U.S. Attorney for the Western

District of Washington John McKay and ACLU speaker Michael Schein.

**Thurston County Chapter** members participated in this year's Lakefair Parade in downtown Olympia.

## Student Clubs in Action

The **Garfield High School** club defended free speech rights when an administrator told students they had to stand during the flag salute. The school administration backed off after students circulated ACLU materials that outlined students' rights to not participate or stand during the exercise.

The ACLU club at **Seattle University School of Law** co-sponsored an Oct. 10 campus debate on wiretapping, featuring Doug Klunder and Todd Gaziano of the Heritage Foundation.

## Get Involved

To get involved in the ACLU-WA's grassroots work, contact Field Director Genevieve Aguilar at [aguilar@aclu-wa.org](mailto:aguilar@aclu-wa.org) or your local chapter.

**Clark County Chapter**  
Craig Dewey  
[geowrite@comcast.net](mailto:geowrite@comcast.net)

**Grays Harbor Chapter**  
Gary Murrell  
360.533.8039

**Jefferson County Chapter**  
[jefferson@local.aclu-wa.org](mailto:jefferson@local.aclu-wa.org)

**Kitsap County Chapter**  
206.624.2184

**Pierce County Chapter**  
[pierce@local.aclu-wa.org](mailto:pierce@local.aclu-wa.org)

**Spokane Chapter**  
Dick Steele  
[rsteale@mail.ewu.edu](mailto:rsteale@mail.ewu.edu)

**Thurston County Chapter**  
360.252.6047

**Yakima Chapter**  
Yalisha Case  
[huntcasefamily@earthlink.net](mailto:huntcasefamily@earthlink.net)

**Whatcom County Chapter**  
[whatcom@local.aclu-wa.org](mailto:whatcom@local.aclu-wa.org)

## "Speaking of Freedom"

Civil Liberties on Television  
Host: Doug Honig, Communications Director

Seattle – SCAN Channel 29/77  
Third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Rebroadcast on:  
Clark County – FVTV Channel 11  
Visit [www.fvtv.org](http://www.fvtv.org) for schedule information  
Cowlitz County – KLTW Channel 11/44  
Saturdays, 8 p.m.  
Snohomish County – Channel 29/77  
Fourth Monday of the month at 5 p.m.  
Thurston County – TCTV Channel 22  
Resuming in January

# ACLU Defends Freedom to Choose Faith Symbols

The ACLU filed a lawsuit in September to protect the right of veterans and their families to choose religious symbols to engrave on headstones in federal cemeteries. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of two churches and three individuals to compel the government to approve the long-pending application for use of a Wiccan symbol on the headstones of service members.

"The government has no business picking and choosing which personal religious beliefs may be expressed. All veterans, regardless of their religion, deserve to have their faith recognized on an equal basis," said ACLU-WA Staff Attorney Aaron Caplan, who is representing the petitioners along with Daniel Mach, senior staff attorney with the national ACLU's Program on Freedom of Religion and Belief.

The lawsuit was sparked by the failure of the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to take action on several applications to approve the pentacle of the Wiccan faith as an emblem of belief. The agency provides headstones free of charge to mark the graves of eligible veterans, upon applications by a veteran or the next of kin of a deceased veteran. An emblem of belief is included on the headstone only if it is on the list of symbols approved by

the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

The NCA has approved 38 emblems of belief for veterans, encompassing a wide variety of religions. Headstones have been engraved with different forms of the Christian cross, the six-pointed Jewish star, the Muslim crescent, the nine-pointed Baha'i star, and symbols for atheists and secular humanists, among others.

Yet the agency has refused since the mid-1990s to act on requests by Wiccan families and clergy to approve use of the pentacle. In the meantime, the agency approved additional emblems of numerous other religions and belief systems as a matter of course, usually in a few months.

In addition to the constitutional guarantees of religious liberty, expression and equality, federal agencies are required to abide by the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which provides that the government may "substantially burden" a person's exercise of religion only if it demonstrates "a compelling government interest." No such compelling reason or other lawful basis exists for the NCA to refuse Wiccan veterans the ability to display their chosen emblem of belief.

The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims in Washington, DC. ■

# Lobby Day

You can make a difference in the outcome of this year's legislative session as a citizen-lobbyist for civil liberties. Participate in ACLU Lobby Day on Feb. 13, including a workshop to provide you with the knowledge and tools to become a more effective activist.

This year's workshop will take place from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Columbia Room of the Legislative Building in Olympia. Participants will meet and lobby legislators

from 12-3p.m. ACLU staff will provide tips on how to approach legislators, and valuable information on key issues.

Travel scholarships will be available for individuals traveling across the state. For more information, contact [field@aclu-wa.org](mailto:field@aclu-wa.org) or visit [www.aclu-wa.org](http://www.aclu-wa.org). ■

## Join the ACLU-WA E-mail Activist Network

Receive Legislative Alerts so you can take action on key civil liberties issues when it matters most.

Sign up at [www.aclu-wa.org](http://www.aclu-wa.org)

Make a difference on important issues!



# Party Down

Recognizing that defending freedom starts at home, our members have invited friends and acquaintances over for ACLU house parties. We provide a speaker, DVD/video, or book to stimulate discussion and offer ways to take action on pressing issues such as the following:

- civil liberties in the era of homeland security
- the war on drugs
- reproductive rights

If you'd like to host an event, or for more information, call the ACLU office at 206.624.2184, or send an e-mail to [communications@aclu-wa.org](mailto:communications@aclu-wa.org).



## Bill of Rights Dinner

*Continued from page 1*

reproductive freedom law.

The Civil Libertarian Award honors people who have made recent outstanding contributions to civil liberties in Washington. Working pro bono, honorees Don Scaramastra of Garvey Schubert Barer and David Taylor of Perkins Coie LLP showed exemplary commitment and skill in gaining a notable victory for effective legal representation regardless of wealth.

In a landmark settlement in November 2005, Grant County agreed to overhaul its deficient system of public defense to ensure that indigent people accused of felonies have access to a constitutionally adequate defense. The county also agreed to submit to comprehensive monitoring – a first for a county public defense system in Washington and an outcome that has gained national attention.

Scaramastra and Taylor, along with a team of attorneys handling the suit for the ACLU-WA and Columbia Legal Services, put in hundreds upon hundreds of hours of work on a complex case. The victory in this ground-breaking case creates a model for defense reform statewide.

The Youth Activist Award is presented to young people whose activism exemplifies

work to defend and extend liberty and justice for all. Award recipients Claire Lueneburg and Sara Eccleston, co-editors of *The Kodak* newspaper at Everett High School, made a determined stand for their First Amendment rights as student journalists. Lueneburg and Eccleston have inspired their fellow students, teachers, and the journalism community with their unwillingness to back down in defense of the right to a free press.

When their school set a new policy making the paper subject to review before publication, they resisted, citing a longstanding tradition of student editors making all content decisions. The school was unresponsive and barred Lueneburg and Eccleston's paper from going to press without review. Rather than giving up, the two filed a lawsuit in 2005 against their school district. At the ACLU-WA Student Conference on Civil Liberties and elsewhere, they have delivered passionate accounts of their efforts – and of the need to respect the free speech rights of young people.

Our thanks go to the Bill of Rights Award Committee chaired by Trilby Robinson-Dorn and including Laura Buckland, Michael Fong, and Parker Lindner.

To make a reservation for the dinner, visit [www.aclu-wa.org](http://www.aclu-wa.org) or call the ACLU office at 206.624.2184. ■



Claire Lueneburg



Sara Eccleston

## New Legal Head Arrives

The ACLU of Washington has hired Sarah Dunne as its new Legal Director. Previously with the law firm of Hillis Clark Martin & Peterson, Dunne began work with the ACLU in October. Dunne has more than a dozen years of public interest litigation and policy experience that includes litigating race and sex discrimination cases in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Dunne was recently honored by the Washington State Bar Association with its Professionalism Award for substantial volunteer legal work at her law firm, where she served as pro bono coordinator.

As Legal Director, she supervises the ACLU-WA's large

and active docket. The 40-plus cases include free speech, racial justice, religious freedom, due process, privacy, reproductive and women's rights, immigrant rights, gay rights, and voting rights issues, among others. Dunne directs a seven-person legal team that includes senior staff attorneys Aaron Caplan and Nancy Talner and Skadden Arps Fellow Rose Spidell. Attorneys Andy Ko, Alison Holcomb, and Doug Klunder, who direct special projects, will work with Dunne on litigation arising from their projects. The legal department also relies on the work of scores of pro bono attorneys, and help from numerous interns and volunteers.

"The ACLU is very fortunate to have Sarah to lead our legal program," said Kathleen Taylor, ACLU-WA executive director. "She brings valuable experience,

vibrant enthusiasm, and a strong devotion to basic rights for everyone."

Dunne comes to the ACLU with an English degree from Stanford University and a law degree from the University of Chicago, where she was president of the Chicago Law Foundation. As a trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. for

several years during the Clinton Administration, Dunne litigated cases involving school desegregation, gender equity in athletics, special education, sexual and racial harassment, and retaliation.

"There have been moments in our history when civil liberties have been tested, and today is

one such time. That makes our work more important than ever," Dunne said. "My goal is to make sure the ACLU remains the pre-eminent civil liberties/civil rights organization in the state."

Dunne grew up in south King County, and came back to the state in 2003. At Hillis Clark Martin & Peterson, she did extensive pro bono work on sex discrimination, voting rights, and Title IX cases. She has also consulted on the ACLU-WA's education equity work. Dunne has been on the Legal Committee of the Northwest Women's Law Center, and has been an active volunteer with Passages Northwest, Seattle Works, and the Voter Protection Project.

"I started my law career in public interest law, and my goal has always been to come back to it," Dunne said. "In many ways, this feels like coming home." ■



Sarah Dunne

2006  
**Bill of Rights  
Celebration Dinner**

**Saturday, November 18**

**Red Lion Hotel  
Fifth Avenue between Pike and Union  
Downtown Seattle**

**6 p.m. Reception  
7 p.m. Dinner  
8 p.m. Program**

### Featuring

**Lt. Cmdr. Charles D. Swift**  
Attorney, *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*

### Honoring

**Marcy Bloom**  
William O. Douglas Award winner

**Don Scaramastra and David Taylor**  
Civil Libertarian Award winners

**Claire Lueneburg and Sara Eccleston**  
Youth Activist Award winners

\$60 per person/\$600 per table of 10  
Registration deadline: Monday, Nov. 13  
To register, visit [www.aclu-wa.org](http://www.aclu-wa.org) or call  
206.624.2184