

A Message From Ben



Dear Friends –

We are in a defining moment for our democracy. Across the country — and here in Ohio — we are facing a coordinated assault on our freedoms and the rule of law. Right now, the ACLU of Ohio's mission is more urgent and resonant than ever.

Will you support us by making an impactful year-end gift before December 31? Thank you!

Ben

J. Bennett Guess
Executive Director

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2025: Year in Review



Releasing Data on Statehouse to Prison Pipeline

On March 27, the ACLU of Ohio released its fifth Statehouse to Prison Pipeline Report, analyzing 10 years' worth of legislative data.

On April 4, the ACLU of Ohio filed an amicus brief to Ohio's 8th District Court of Appeals in a case addressing the improper hiding of police reliance on facial recognition technology when applying for a search warrant.

Raising Concerns about Facial Recognition Technology



Lobbying Ohio's Congressional Delegation in D.C.

The first week of May, our Executive Director Ben Guess, Chief Policy and Advocacy Officer Jocelyn Rosnick, and Senior Policy Counsel Patrick Higgins met with members of Ohio's Congressional Delegation on Capitol Hill for the ACLU's Safety Week.

On May 7, we sent a letter to the presidents of Ohio's public colleges and universities urging them to avoid unintentional complicity in President Trump's inhumane and unlawful immigration policies.

Urging Public Colleges and Universities to Reject Partnerships with ICE



Suing Counties over Refusal to Abide by Public Records Law and Provide ICE Contracts

On May 20 and August 12, the ACLU filed two separate legal actions before the Ohio Supreme Court, asking that the sheriff's offices in Geauga and Seneca counties comply with Ohio's public records laws and provide ICE contracts.

On May 29, the ACLU of Ohio hosted a drag show in Columbus showcasing performances, storytelling, and community with special co-hosts Nina West and Virginia West.

Celebrating Drag, Dissent, and Democracy ahead of Pride Season



Expanding Access to Medication Abortions

On July 8, the ACLU of Ohio received a victorious ruling from the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, allowing advanced practice clinicians (including Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, and Certified Nurse Midwives) to provide medication abortions.



Prioritizing Community Care in Columbus

On July 13, we hosted a canvas to collect signatures for the Columbus Safety Collective Campaign – working to place an alternative police emergency response system on the May 2026 municipal ballot to meet the mental health and safety needs of Columbus residents.

On August 20, Governor DeWine sent 150 Ohio National Guard members to Washington D.C. as part of the administration's federal takeover of our nation's capital. The ACLU of Ohio calls on the Governor to bring troops home and cease support of this fake emergency.

Denouncing Governor DeWine's Deployment of National Guard Troops to D.C.



Advocating for Student speech in Public Schools

On August 28, we sent a letter to Dublin City Schools regarding its unlawful constraint of student expression during the 2024-2025 school year.

On September 3, the ACLU of Ohio kicked-off its seven-city townhall tour in Youngstown to unveil our new Strategic Plan. Other cities on the list include Athens, Akron, Yellow Springs, Delaware, Toledo and Cleveland.

Showcasing our New Strategic Plan: Fighting Back, Fighting Forward



Suing to Protect Free Speech at the Ohio State University

On September 17, the ACLU of Ohio filed a federal lawsuit challenging the University's expulsion of a student for engaging in First Amendment protected speech.

NO PERSON shall be
deprived of **life, liberty,
or property**, without
DUE PROCESS
OF LAW.

ACLU
Ohio