



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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Now!



DEFENDING OUR VOTE: The ACLU of Ohio is co-leading a coordinated, nationwide election safeguarding effort ahead of the 2026 midterms. We are laser-focused on mobilizing Ohioans to get-out-the-vote, curbing election interference, protecting the will of the voters, and ensuring all ballots are counted. Our team is hard at work to educate and restore public confidence in every stage of the electoral process to ensure the results are respected and upheld. **Learn more about our election resources and how to get involved at [ACLUOhio.org/VOTE](https://acluohio.org/VOTE)**

2026: Rewind



**Toured Across Ohio
with *Banned Books Bingo***

In June, we concluded our groundbreaking *Banned Books Bingo* series! We hosted a total of **14 events** across the state and were joined by **800+ participants** to celebrate the freedom to read.

In July, the ACLU of Ohio sent a letter to OSU President Ravi V. Bellamkonda urging his administration to rescind the 2026 ban on chalking messages on campus, on the grounds that it violates the First Amendment.

**Called out Ohio State
University’s Unconstitutional
“Chalking Ban”**



**Built Power at a
Campus Action Team
Retreat in Columbus**

In August, student leaders from five of the ACLU of Ohio’s Campus Action Teams joined our staff for a two-day skills-building retreat to prepare for the fall semester and engage their peers in get-out-the-vote work.

The outrage over Flock cameras, and other surveillance technologies, exploded over the summer. While the ACLU has been working to protect privacy rights and combat warrantless government spying for decades, the apprehension around these invasive tools reached a heightened level of societal consciousness. Our new toolkit, *Eyes on You: The Rise of Mass Surveillance in Ohio*, reminds activists that Big Brother is watching, and we the people are pushing back.

**Released New Toolkit –
*Eyes on You: The Rise of
Mass Surveillance in Ohio***

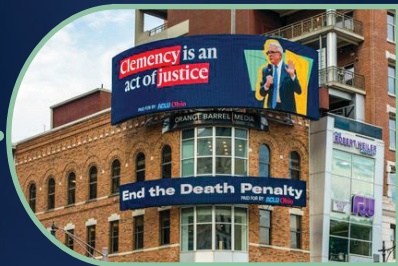


**Found *Power and Purpose*
with Activists in Cleveland,
Mason, and Toledo**

In September, the ACLU of Ohio launched a high-impact training series in Cleveland, Mason, and Toledo, to provide activists with the tools to organize, mobilize, and lead in this critical moment.

Before he leaves office, Governor DeWine can and must use his executive authority to issue commutations to death row inmates who have exhausted all their appeals in the courts. This fall, the ACLU of Ohio launched a high-profile advertising campaign to remind the governor that clemency is an act of justice.

**Urged Governor DeWine
to Issue Commutations to
Death Row Inmates**



**Sued ICE Officers
in Springfield**

In September, we filed a lawsuit against ICE officers for harassing and intimidating Sean Moorman, a peaceful observer in Springfield who has been exercising his First Amendment right to record law enforcement in public. Shortly after our case was filed, a federal judge granted a temporary restraining order to stop the retaliation campaign while the case is ongoing. Our client must be free to continue lawfully observing the treatment of his Haitian neighbors without government interference.

This fall, our team created a new trivia event to educate and entertain supporters called *Every Vote Counts*. In four cities — Medina, Lakewood, Dayton, and Columbus — the ACLU of Ohio quizzed supporters on tough questions about our democracy to prepare voters for the upcoming midterm elections.

**Empowered Ohioans
at Election-Themed
Trivia Nights**



Our democracy is
worth fighting for.



ACLU

Ohio

