



CL -  
FYE

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF OHIO FOUNDATION  
1223 West Sixth Street • Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1353 • 216/781-6276 • 216/781-6278

**PRESS RELEASE**

August 6, 1991

For further information, contact:

**Loretta Mikolaj, Director, Gay/Lesbian Rights Project, American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio -- 216/781-1078 or 216/781-6278**

or

**David Goldberger, General Counsel, American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio -- 614/292-6821.**

The ACLU of Ohio has petitioned for certiorari in the United States Supreme Court in the case of Stonewall Union v. City of Columbus. In this case, the City of Columbus insists that Stonewall Union, a Columbus gay/lesbian organization, pay heavy permit fees for its annual Gay Pride Parade, including the cost of police assigned to the parade. Police services are ordinarily provided free to all members of the community. The costs for police are very high, and could result in the inability of Stonewall and other organizations to hold parades.

The lower court has upheld the permit ordinance, although the Court of Appeals has raised questions about the equal enforcement of the ordinance.

ACLU of Ohio Executive Director Christine Link said that, "The City's policy has the effect of preventing unpopular groups from freely expressing their ideas. The ACLU finds such regulations on speech to be unacceptable."

The case is being handled by David Goldberger, General Counsel for the ACLU of Ohio.

After receiving the ACLU's petition for certiorari, the Court will decide whether or not to hear this case. The Court could take several weeks or months before making that decision.