

Guild Notes

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Demanding Justice from Chicago to Palestine

Dear friend,

At our Convention in Chicago, many of us had the honor of meeting Chicago-based Palestinian community leader, Rasmea Odeh. She struck us with her graceful demeanor and courage, especially in light of the harrowing experience she has endured.

Forty-five years ago in Palestine, Israeli forces arrested and imprisoned Rasmea on bombing charges, subjecting her to 45 days of brutal physical and sexual torture that eventually forced a confession. The Israeli military tribunal – which convicts Palestinians at a rate of 99.74% – convicted her on the basis of the coerced confession, and Rasmea spent the next decade in an Israeli prison.

Rasmea first arrived in the US in 1994 and eventually moved to Chicago, establishing herself in the community as a beloved activist and educator, and serving as Associate Director of the Arab American Action Network since 2004. Through her work, she has become a well-respected civil and human rights leader in her community, lending support to hundreds of Arab immigrant women while also advocating for Palestinian rights. In early 2013, she was awarded the “Outstanding Community Leader Award” from the Chicago Cultural Alliance.

Rasmea has now been targeted by the US government for allegedly not providing information on her naturalization application about her unjust imprisonment in Israel.

The US government is using alleged immigration violations as a pretext for persecuting Odeh's Palestine activism. The targeting of Rasmea Odeh is the latest shameful episode in the US government's systematic crackdown on activist Palestinians, Arabs, and Muslims.

Rasmea is being represented by NLG attorneys from Chicago and Detroit, Michael Deutsch, Jim Fennerty, Dennis Cunningham, and William Goodman. NLG members also participate in the Rasmea Defense Committee. After an unfair trial where she was prohibited from testifying about the vicious torture and resulting post-traumatic stress disorder she suffered at the hands of the Israeli military, she was found guilty and was incarcerated.

As attorney Michael Deutsch said: “The judge's rulings barring Ms. Odeh's post-traumatic stress disorder defense and prohibiting the defendant herself from any testimony about her torture or innocence, denied Ms. Odeh any possibility of a fair trial and is consistent with the US complicity with Israel in covering up systematic human rights violations of the Palestinian people.”

The NLG is committed to continuing to vigorously defend



Azadeh Shahshahani and Rasmea Odeh at the 2014 Law for the People Convention.

Rasmea and expose the US and Israeli governments' repressive tactics.

In late November, NLG attorney Barbara Harvey [filed a motion](#) for the NLG to be admitted as amicus curiae in Rasmea's case, to support the request by Rasmea's attorneys that the court reconsider its decision to deny her bond pending sentencing on March 10, 2015. The Court granted the NLG's *amicus* petition, over aggressive opposition. Despite the court having deemed her a “flight risk,” Rasmea wants nothing more than to return to her adopted home of Chicago and continue her important social work.

Despite persistent aggressive prosecutorial opposition, the judge recently ordered Rasmea free on a \$50,000 cash bond. She is now home in Chicago with her friends and family.

While we are busy welcoming Rasmea home, much more work remains to be done on Rasmea's sentencing and the appeal of the court decision. Stay tuned for additional actions you can take to ensure that this icon of Palestinian liberation is set free.

In solidarity,

Azadeh Shahshahani
President

Guild Members Fight for Public Defenders Union

By Benjamin Evans, Northeast Regional Co-RVP

At a time when unions are under attack, and public sector workers' unions have come under particularly heavy fire, Guild members in Massachusetts have taken the lead in organizing a group of state employees who have been, up until now, unorganized and voiceless: public defenders.

Over the years more and more Guild members have become public defenders, and more and more public defenders have joined the Guild. Coming from an organization with a tradition of fighting for workers' rights, we soon saw that we had some organizing to do right where we work every day. And we had a base to build from – public defenders who were also Guild members.

In Massachusetts, employees of the state public defender agency, the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS), take about 25% of cases in which people are eligible for appointed counsel. Almost all other employees of state agencies can collectively bargain, and have the protections of a contract. But the Dept. of Labor Relations has held that employees of CPCS do not have a “defined employer” for purposes of collective bargaining, and so cannot bargain (SCR-2212 1993 and SCR-2121 1979). As a result, Massachusetts public defenders are the lowest paid in the country. And consequently, other CPCS employees are also underpaid. Moreover, the legislature increases caseloads at the expense of our clients.

Through the Guild, we had the beginnings of a network, and we built on that base. We set up a listserv and held conference calls. We met at the Community Church in Boston, and at the Boston Teachers Union hall in Dorchester. We found we had



Guild members and employees of the Mass. Public Defenders agency at a demonstration on the Boston Common demanding “Jobs not Jails” in May 2014.

the same concerns: *How am I going to make my loan payments, and pay the rent? How can we keep caseloads manageable, so that we can zealously represent our clients?*

We invited representatives from several unions to meet with us, and, after much debate, reached a consensus to work with SEIU Local 888. Guild members advocated for a wall-to-wall union, including all CPCS employees, not just lawyers. We continued to meet, from Hyannis to Springfield. Our legislation (HB 2389), which would define our “employer” for collective bargaining, has 14 co-sponsors, was reported favorably out of committee, and was endorsed by the Mass. Bar Association. And more importantly, we continue to talk to co-workers and get more cards signed.

Back in the 1930s, Guild lawyers helped organize the UAW and the CIO. Today, Guild lawyers in Massachusetts are organizing themselves. ■

Save the Date! NLG Northeast Regional Conference • April 17-19, 2015

Students at Western New England University School of Law in Springfield, Massachusetts are hosting a regional National Lawyers Guild conference the weekend of April 17 to 19, 2015. The conference will bring together NLG members and progressive activists from Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island & Vermont.

We are beginning to plan workshops, speakers, and events. Please get in touch if you would like to help do the work, or if you have ideas for interesting panels that address the intersection between activism and the law.

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Panel “Counteracting the New McCarthyism” Draws Packed Crowd at Convention

By Palestine Solidarity Legal Support

Over fifty lawyers, law students and legal workers attended Palestine Solidarity Legal Support’s (PSLS) panel “Counteracting the New McCarthyism: Trends in Repression of Palestinian Rights Activism in the US” at the 2014 NLG Convention in Chicago.

The panel discussed how those supporting justice for Palestinians are being attacked in the US—from the firing of professors critical of Israel’s policies, to the suppression of students’ speech activities, to surveillance, to activists being visited by the FBI, to community activists having immigration paperwork re-examined.

PSLS Director and NLG member Dima Khalidi and Staff Attorney Radhika Sainath provided an overview of these trends and discussed ways that legal advocates can defend the rights of students and grassroots activists. Law student Hoda Mitwally contextualized this repression within the increasing corporatization and militarization of US universities. Based on her experience supporting a divestment referendum at DePaul University, undergraduate Hanna Alshaikh explained how universities are increasingly caving to outside pressure to suppress student activism. Andrew Dalack, an attorney with the Center for Appellate Litigation and co-chair of the NLG Palestine Subcommittee, discussed the increased surveillance, infiltration and criminalization of Palestinian rights activists, focusing on the indictment of Rasmea Odeh, who was unjustly convicted on November 10 on an immigration fraud charge despite the strong community support, and the stellar representation from NLG attorneys Michael Deutsch, Jim Fennerty and Bill Goodman. Community organizer and law

student Leena Odeh delineated the importance of working across movements to protect the right to dissent and support justice in Palestine.

“The growth in activism has been characterized by more events to raise awareness about the issue, protests against US and Israeli policies, and a mushrooming movement for boycott divestment and sanctions,” said Khalidi, who introduced the panel. “But this growth in activism has been met with a fierce response...People who express support for Palestinians, or who dare to criticize Israeli policies, are being subjected to relentless smear campaigns that can have real personal and professional consequences to lawsuits, surveillance and criminal investigations, disciplinary actions by their universities, etc., often as a result of the enormous pressure being exerted by Israel advocacy organizations on universities and other institutions and government agencies to condemn and punish speech activities sympathetic to Palestinians.”

PSLS was launched in January 2013 to defend activists and community members who face repression because they speak out for Palestinian rights. PSLS works closely with the NLG and the Center for Constitutional Rights along with other organizations, to protect the right to advocate for justice in Palestine. Since then, PSLS has received nearly 330 reports of repression and requests for legal assistance – over 200 in 2014 alone – what staff attorney Radhika Sainath called “just the tip of the iceberg.”

If you are interested in legal work to support Palestine activists and want to become involved, email PSLS at info@palestinelegalsupport.org to join our network of attorneys. For more information about PSLS, visit our website at palestinelegalsupport.org. ■



Panelists at the 2014 Law for the People Convention in Chicago, IL. (Photo: Liz Jackson)

NLG, Sugar Law, and Other Progressive Detroit Attorneys File Lawsuit against Water Shut-offs

By John Royal, President, Detroit-Michigan Chapter

The right-wing Republican Governor and state legislature of Michigan have been using their “Emergency Manager” (EM) law to take over all cities and school boards in the state, elected by predominantly African-American populations. In early 2013, Gov. Rick Snyder took over the City of Detroit, removed all political power the Mayor and City Council, and appointed Kevyn Orr, an attorney from Jones Day, to be the EM and exercise complete political power over the City.

Upon his appointment, Orr immediately resigned from Jones Day in an attempt to avoid conflict of interest allegations. Orr began implementing an obviously previously agreed-upon plan to take the City of Detroit into bankruptcy, with his “former” firm, Jones Day, representing the City. It is estimated the firm will receive approximately \$100 million from the Detroit Treasury for its work for a City its attorneys claim is bankrupt. The Michigan/Detroit NLG Chapter, through the firm Goodman/Hurwitz, and Sugar Law Center, together with an AFSCME Local, filed a federal lawsuit to have the EM law struck down on constitutional grounds. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes ordered the lawsuit be held in abeyance for an extended period of time. He finally let it go forward, and now the assigned federal district judge is sitting on it.

During bankruptcy proceedings, Orr has given valuable Detroit assets away to creditors who agree to settle their claims against the City. The Detroit Water Department has historically been a major source of income for the City, supplying clean water and sewage removal to all of southeast Michigan. Orr wanted to make it a more valuable asset, so in early 2014 he implemented an aggressive program of shut-offs of residents who were behind on their water bills, even those only two months behind. He awarded a private, non-union company a multi-million dollar contract to go through Detroit neighborhoods, shutting off water to thousands of homes. Meanwhile, commercial companies, some owing hundreds of thousands of dollars, were left untouched.

Grassroots activists began to plan protests in Spring 2014. A group of progressive lawyers filed a lawsuit against the City to stop the shut-offs as well as a motion for a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO), requesting an emergency injunction to stop the shut-offs while litigation proceeds. The impact of this activism has attracted even local media that had previously ignored the local movement challenging the neoliberal takeover by the Governor and EM, and the resulting attacks

on retired municipal employees, unions, and all residents of Detroit. National Nurses United and others organized a march of thousands through downtown Detroit on July 18, 2014 (see photo).

Since Detroit is in bankruptcy, the water shut-off lawsuit had to be filed in bankruptcy court. The lawsuit, *Lyda, et al. v. City of Detroit*, No. 14-04732-swr (Bank.E.D.Mich.) was filed on July 21, 2014, with constitutional due process and equal protection counts. Plaintiffs are 10 Detroit citizens and four community organizations: Michigan Welfare Rights Organization, Peoples’ Water Board, National Action Network–Michigan Chapter, and Moratorium Now!. Both the National Lawyers Guild and the Detroit/Michigan Chapter of the NLG are cocounsel on the lawsuit.



Demonstrators protest water shut-offs in downtown Detroit, July 18th, 2014. (Photo: Curtis McGuire)

The EM’s attorneys promptly filed a motion to dismiss. Bankruptcy Judge Rhodes initially ordered the parties to mediate their differences; the attorneys purportedly representing the City of Detroit (i.e. the EM and Gov. Snyder) refused to negotiate in good faith. Judge Rhodes then ordered a two-day evidentiary hearing on whether or not to issue the TRO, and on how to rule on the EM’s motion to dismiss. After the hearing, Alice Jennings, one of the leading activist attorneys representing the plaintiffs, issued this statement:

To All: The two day hearing for injunctive relief and argument on Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss was concluded today. We had a very dramatic and sad presentation of six Plaintiffs and putative Plaintiffs. [Our Expert Witness] Roger Colton came in from Boston and did an excellent job of explaining the need for a sustainable water affordability plan and to rebut Defendant’s expert. The Defendants had seven attorneys at counsel’s table

fighting against our clients. We had a good contingent of Plaintiffs and community present for both days.

On September 29, Judge Rhodes issued an Opinion from the bench denying injunctive relief, and dismissing the lawsuit. Among other things, he ruled he had no authority to issue an Order directing the City (that is, the EM) how to run the Water Department. Further, he claimed that it does not violate equal protection for the City to treat residential customers differently from commercial ones. He played into inaccurate corporate media stereotypes of the lawsuit, ruling there is no right to “free water.” Attorney Alice Jennings responded that the Plaintiffs never claimed water had to be “free,” the Plaintiffs’ position has been that water must be “affordable,” that is, the City has an obligation to develop a “water affordability plan” that will adjust prices of water to the income of residents who are in poverty or on fixed income.

The plaintiffs have filed a motion for reconsideration, currently pending, in order to perfect the record for the appeal that is to follow.

I am proud to acknowledge that many of the attorneys who

have worked on this case are members of the NLG Michigan/Detroit Chapter and Sugar Law Center. I have watched in awe as our dedicated legal warriors have devoted countless hours to researching and drafting the voluminous legal pleadings filed in this case, and attended lengthy, and at times frustrating, court hearings. They are all unpaid volunteers, going up against silk-stocking attorneys from Jones Day and various corporate law firms, who are being paid between \$500 to \$900 per hour to defend an unconscionable water shut-off policy; all paid out of the Treasury of a City they claim is bankrupt. All of us owe the many attorneys, experts, paralegals, activists, and Detroit residents who volunteered their time to work on this lawsuit our deep appreciation for their devoted service.

As a result of her outstanding organizational leadership, political acumen, and legal skill in this effort, the Board of Directors of the Detroit/Michigan Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild has decided that Attorney Alice Jennings will be honored at the next Annual Dinner of the Michigan/Detroit Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, to be held on February 7, 2014. ■

Convention Addresses Important Intersectionalities

By the NLG Queer Caucus

At this year’s convention, The United People of Color Caucus (TUPOCC) and the Queer Caucus presented two major panels about issues facing queer/trans immigrants in the U.S. and the criminalization of women of color and trans women engaging in sex work. The Queer Caucus is thrilled to see the NLG addressing some of the most pressing civil and human rights issues of this century. Panels and speakers like these further the NLG’s mission of challenging the use of law as a tool of repression. We hope to see more panels like these at future conventions, and we look forward to future collaborations with TUPOCC and other Guild committees.

“Deportation Is Death – Issues and Perspectives Facing Queer/Trans Immigrants” addressed the marginalization of queer/trans immigrants who are ignored by mainstream media coverage of the immigrants’ rights movement, which promotes an image of immigrants as hard-working brown people pursuing the American Dream of a monogamous spouse, two kids, and financial success. This panel showcased the voices of immigrants who don’t fit that mold, and so are often ignored and under-resourced.

John A. Adeyoye, of Courage Nigeria, Ireri Nadia Sol Unzueta, an immigrants’ rights activist, Aneesha Gandhi, staff attorney at the LGBT Immigrant Rights Initiative of the National Immigrant Justice Center, and Nebula Li, Civic Engagement and Voting Rights Fellow at Asian Americans Advancing Justice, highlighted how queer/trans immigrants have been the backbone of the immigrant rights movement and how various forms of law enforcement criminalize and police queer/trans brown bodies in ways that put queer/trans immigrants at risk of deportation, an inherently violent

process that for many can mean death or risk of danger in their countries of origin. Participants delved deep into the criminalization of queer immigrants and the immigration consequences of criminal arrests regardless of if there are charges or a conviction, detention conditions including the implementation of DHS Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) regulations, and the difficulties queer asylum seekers face here in the U.S.

“Sex Work and the Failure of Anti-Trafficking Policies: The Struggle Against the Criminalization of Women and LGBT People of Color,” also co-sponsored by the Anti-Sexism Committee, featured Monica Jones, a Black trans activist and sex worker advocate; Aziza Ahmed, Associate Professor of Law at Northeastern University; Shira Hassan, activist, community organizer, youth empowerment leader and consultant of Middle Eastern Descent and Director of the former Young Women’s Empowerment Project in Chicago; and Andrea J. Ritchie, a Black lesbian police misconduct attorney and organizer, and coordinator of Streetwise and Safe in New York City.

The panel addressed how women of color, including transgender women, are perpetually profiled as sex workers, and disproportionately suffer from laws that criminalize sex work. Transgender women of color are targeted and arrested for sex-related charges with such frequency, even when not engaging in sex work, that the phenomenon has been dubbed “walking while trans.” Participants discussed how patterns of criminalization operate, and explored the content of laws that criminalize sex work in the United States and internationally, including laws pushed by the mainstream anti-human trafficking movement. ■

Building the Guild in Rhode Island

By Benjamin Evans, Northeast Regional Co-RVP

How do we start new Guild chapters in areas where we have had no presence? This was the question we asked in Rhode Island. Our answer is still a work in progress, but we found that we can build strong chapters in areas new to the Guild with the support of an established chapter nearby, local law students who could appeal to their schools to lend financial support, and at least one or two Guild veterans willing to lend a hand. And it all gets easier if you have close ties to local progressive activists. Here in Little Rhody, we were lucky to have all four of these advantages.

Growing up in Rhode Island I had never heard of the National Lawyers Guild. For many years the Guild's Referral Directory listed one member in the state, Amy Tabor. Today we have a small but vibrant chapter of law students, legal workers and lawyers.

We began meeting in my living room in April 2008. Urszula Masny-Latos, executive director of the Massachusetts chapter, and Guild members Barb Dugan and Carlton Williams (who grew up in RI) visited from Boston. Rhode Islanders were inspired hearing about the Guild's work in Massachusetts. But we had no base for moving forward until we connected with the law students at our state's sole law school, Roger Williams University School of Law (RWU).

With continued support from the Mass. chapter, the law students at RWU started a small student chapter – the first NLG chapter in the state. Guild lawyers visited the school to do trainings for legal observers, and for the first time our distinctive green hats appeared at local demonstrations. As RWU refocused on public interest law, the school was willing to lend financial support, and in 2011 the law student chapter hosted a successful regional conference. The conference demonstrated to skeptical lawyers in RI that the Guild was doing important work on key issues.

Over time the law students who started the RWU chapter

graduated and helped to form our state chapter. Many of them had decades-long ties with local community groups such as Direct Action for Rights and Equality, the Providence Youth Student Movement, and the Olneyville Neighborhood Association. These radical, grassroots groups now had a new ally: the National Lawyers Guild.

In the past year, we have held an event in support of Lynne Stewart featuring her husband Ralph Poynter and former political prisoners Kazi Toure and Ashanti Alston Omowali; celebrated International Women's Day by honoring local progressive women lawyers, Amy Tabor, Miriam Weizenbaum and Barbara Hurst; and hosted a forum on labor law with local labor lawyers and representatives from local progressive unions like IUPAT Local 195 and Teamsters Local 251, and the only workers center in our state, Fuerza Laboral. We continue to provide legal observers for local actions and host monthly events. We are growing, slowly but surely. Build the Guild! ■



Legal observer Jennifer Stewart at the RI State House in 2013 supporting activists calling for affordable housing. (Photo: Benjamin Evans)

The Latin Path to Sensible and Rational Climate Talks

By Jordan Winquist, Environmental Human Rights Committee Chair

A transcendental gathering in Venezuela from November 4th-7th, 2014 called Social Pre-COP (Conference of the Parties) brought international civil society leaders to lend guidance to UN climate change discussions, and led to a final document hoping to influence negotiators at UN climate summits in Peru and Paris. However, A series of language gaps among conference-goers and between them and Venezuelan government ministers threatens the spirit of any movement that may coalesce.

“Capitalism”

The word “capitalism” in the drafted-overnight Preamble became a major debate on the first and essentially only day of deliberation among civil society. English-speaking NGOs of the Global North or

its colonies first questioned then struck, through lack of consensus, the reference from the document. The majority of Latino/a activists in attendance seemed confused by this hesitation, as was Venezuelan Minister of Ecosocialism Ricardo Molina. “If it looks like a pig, acts like a pig..” he said, why not denounce it at this most historic opportunity? Instead, the debate showed we are not ready, at least in the collective global North, to take on the proactive work of stigmatizing “capitalism,” due to fear of how we are perceived.

Another crucial language differential between North-South similar to how we sometimes shy away from using “isms” like imperialism, neoliberalism, socialism, and even capitalism, is that we do not yet have the language of “buen vivir” (“living well,” e.g., harmony with Mother Nature, respect for life, biodiversity). Latin American leaders in the environmental movement see the *right* to buen vivir as a substitute system to the consumption model of so-

called “development,” sponsored by the North.

80% of fossil fuels must remain in the ground

Civil society groups were quick to realize that this particular figure was left out. Here perhaps the Venezuelan government were the ones flinching, and the language was effectively removed again based on consensus. This shows the ambiguity of developing countries requiring unspecified “time and resources” to achieve “sustainable development” versus well-intentioned activists pursuing purist standards with a narrow sense of “eco-fundamentalism.” Unfortunately, reaching consensus in this short timeframe led to crucial statement-messages being lost.

Adaptation/Mitigation, Just Transition, Global Emissions, & Historic Responsibility

The final language battle was about “safe & appropriate” technology

transfer (Guild-fought-for language!) again from North to South for adaptation and mitigation of climate change effects due to the moral and increasingly legally-binding responsibilities of the North. These talks criticized “false solutions,” either technological quick-fixes or market-based, and even suggested we do away with intellectual property barriers.

At the NLG National Convention in September, we tackled these issues in a CLE on Environmental Human Rights. With regard to the Social Pre-COP, it is unclear whether the agreed-upon language will have its intended effect, whether ministers listen, or whether the meeting alone represents a success in itself. “We” must listen and sharpen the language of our new paradigms. ■

For a final version of the draft document, visit precopsocial.org. Learn more about the NLG Environmental Human Rights Committee at nlginternational.org.

NIP-Los Angeles Holds Unique CLE on Immigration Law

By Laura Weinstock

According to the Obama Administration, the influx of unaccompanied children from Central America is a national crisis – not for the thousands fleeing unspeakable violence, but for the United States.

Because we, at the revitalized Los Angeles NLG National Immigration Project, are awash in this “crisis” -- we offered a practical solution: *Fearless, Zealous Lawyering: Representation of Children in Removal Proceedings*. A CLE held on October 18 – sponsored by the NLG, Esperanza Immigrants’ Rights Project and the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.

These children, who have experienced and witnessed extreme brutality, yet somehow manage to arrive here safely, are then inhumanely treated by the United States government. They are thrown into freezer-rooms to force confessions and are compelled to face the government in immigration court, alone and unrepresented. Though it is not openly acknowledged, immigration judges seem to have received instructions to deport unaccompanied children as quickly as possible. Our purpose, in offering this CLE, is to assist those representing the minors, to ensure that they receive the due process they deserve.

Lindsay Toczylowski, Directing Attorney, Esperanza Immigration Rights Project, stated that in 2011, 7000 Central American minors entered the United States seeking refuge. In 2014, that number has sky-rocketed to about 90,000. Public Counsel, Carecen, Esperanza and numerous private attorneys try to meet the need, while the government adds more dockets, prioritizing deportations to the perilous places these children were so desperate to escape. The need is overwhelming – and vital. These kids are nine times less likely to win without an attorney.

To remedy this, Public Counsel, the ACLU and others have filed a class action lawsuit challenging the federal government’s failure to provide children with attorneys during deportation proceedings. Judy London, Directing Attorney at Public Counsel, stated that, if they win, every kid will receive a lawyer at the



CLE participants learn about zealous immigration lawyering. (Photo: Daliah Setareh)

government’s expense. In the meantime, there is an enormous outpouring of offers to help. AILA (American Immigration Lawyers Association), the NLG and the Bar Associations need mentors with immigration experience.

Seasoned practitioners from the trenches offered immediate tools: Carlos Holguin, General Counsel, Center for Human Rights & Constitutional Law, exhorted us to make a record of all abuses and systemic dysfunction, think ahead and consider class actions. Vera Weisz, Weisz Immigration Law Group, urged us to slow the process down, deny every allegation on the charging documents, contest improper service and push back in court. Move to terminate if unaccompanied minors are not properly served via guardians. Rosemary Esparza urged us to make the government meet its burden of proving alienage and to discredit I-213s.

The National Immigration Project meets monthly in Los Angeles. In addition to offering speakers and CLEs, we have created an Immigration Court Watch Program to observe due process violations. Please volunteer. All welcome.

We hope that participants left determined to zealously advocate for the children who have already suffered enough. If not now, when? ■

ARAC and TUPOCC Present Major Panel on Intersectionality and Animal Rights at Convention

By Elena L. Cohen, NLG-NYC Chapter President

At this year's convention, the Guild's Animal Rights Activism Committee (ARAC) and The United People of Color Caucus (TUPOCC) presented an inspiring and stimulating panel which asked if an intersectional analysis of oppression should include exploitation of non-human animals, and if so, what would this understanding of oppression be? In doing so, this panel addressed critical legal theory as it pertains to race, racism, patriarchy, and white privilege and investigated how these concepts intersect with animal liberation movements. Featuring a round-table dialogue among a diverse group of advocates and academics, Bina Ahmad, Angela P. Harris and Wayne Hsuing discussed whether the interests of non-human animals should matter to progressive lawyers and how animal liberation fits within a broader anti-oppression framework, while speaking to their own experiences as people of color within the radical legal community.

Professor Harris, who teaches critical race theory at UC Davis School of Law and writes about how law at times reinforces and others, challenges subordination on the basis of race, gender, sexuality, class, and other dimensions of power and identity, discussed the need to recognize a joint human and non-human animal interest in getting rid of capitalism as we know it. In doing so, Harris argued that we must abandon social contract Enlightenment thinking and, instead, explore alternatives, such as indigenous social philosophies that treat life on the planet as interdependent and built from complex subjectivities rather than along the binary line of "us versus not-us." From this vantage point, the animal rights struggle is not a substitute for or updated version of anti-racist struggle. The struggles are one and

the same.

Bina Ahmad, a human and animal rights attorney, active member of the NLG's Muslim Defense Project, founding member of ARAC and the New York TUPOCC Chapter, and a NLG National Vice President, spoke about how recent terrorism prosecutions of animal activists compare to the terrorism prosecutions of other communities, such as the Muslim community. She further developed why it is important to look at these terrorism prosecutions together and not separately.

Wayne Hsiung, an attorney, founding organizer of Direct Action Everywhere (DxE), and coordinator for Animal Liberationists of Color, spoke to how science and critical theory come together to enhance our understanding of the similarities between various forms of oppression. Hsiung argued that similar psychological mechanisms are present in racism and speciesism, and that there are latent forms of domination in popular conceptions of animals. Hsiung further discussed the DxE approach, which seeks to empower underrepresented voices within the animal rights movement.

The panel was moderated by Elena L. Cohen, an attorney, doctoral candidate, animal rights activist, and the current president of the NLG's New York City Chapter. A video of the entire panel can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C9ryG0NKgNc>. For those interested in this topic, a panel examining intersections between animal liberation and other issues of justice, including feminism, racism, disability, and labor issues will be held in New York City on March 2, 2015. Updated information will be available here: facebook.com/nlgarcommittee. More information on Direct Action Everywhere can be found here: directactioneverywhere.com ■

NLG-NYC Mass Incarceration Committee Launches Parole Preparation Project

By Michelle Lewin

The Parole Preparation Project, started by members of the NYC Mass Incarceration Committee in 2013, has grown tremendously over the last six months. The Project is an all-volunteer collaboration with people in New York State prisons who are seeking parole. This year, we've trained almost 70 volunteers to work alongside and advocate for the release of over 20 incarcerated applicants, all of whom have spent decades in prison and have been repeatedly denied

parole, despite their eligibility. We also hosted our first fundraiser in November 2014 at CUNY Law, and many of our friends and family turned out to support our work and to express solidarity with people inside in their struggle for release! The Project will be hosting more trainings for new volunteers next year, but in the meantime, you can visit us at nycmic.org or email us as nlgnycppp@gmail.com. We're also actively searching for interns for the Spring and Summer of 2015. Write to us if you're interested! Contact: Michelle Lewin, mlewin12@gmail.com, 404.247.6930

NLG Delegation Finds Vibrant Democracy in Bolivia

By Thane W. Tienison

Coca leaves and tea helped us cope with the altitude as our small gathering of 12 NLG members arrived in Bolivia to begin our work as official observers for the October 12 presidential election.

We started in Cochabamba, a hub of political activism and home to coca-growing “cocaleros,” where President Evo Morales arose as a leader against the U.S.-friendly policies of former administrations. The delegation observed an election worker training to learn about the Bolivian voting process, which is aimed at encouraging full citizen participation. In Bolivian elections, voting is mandatory; elections are held on a Sunday; there is a ban on campaigning prior to the election; citizens outside the country are allowed to vote; equal representation of women is required; and there is nearly universal voter registration. Morales, an Aymara Indian, was running for a controversial third term in the election.

As head of the Coca Growers Union, he protests against privatization of the country’s water supply in 2000. Success in the “water war” led to a demand for nationalization of hydrocarbon resources and greater civic participation of indigenous communities. “Evo” was elected President in 2005.

Often characterized in the U.S. media as a disciple of Hugo Chávez, Morales, in fact, has proved to be a charismatic, immensely popular, and successful president in his own right. With substantially increased proceeds from the country’s natural gas contracts, Morales built schools, housing, hospitals, and infrastructure and helped Bolivia’s poor begin their slow climb out of extreme poverty.

Nevertheless, Evo’s efforts to broaden his political base to include former opponents and ensure a third term were aided by political compromises, providing a fertile ground for critics, a number of whom we met with during our stay. One common grievance is the government’s focus on the extractive economy – principally natural gas and mining – as well as industrial-scale soybean production. While providing a short-term windfall for the government, those resources may not be sustainable. Another recurring criticism was that he had failed to groom a new generation of political leaders and fears of an “Evo” personality cult giving rise to the prospect of yet a fourth term for the popular leader.

The NLG’s observers fanned out to three cities on election day and visited a total of nine voting centers, three in La Paz, two in El Alto, and four in La Paz. We were all struck by the obvious efforts to ensure that the election was open, fair, and transparent. Observer presence was welcome. The election was not without its glitches, primarily due to a late posting of polling locations. But in a developing country where voting is mandatory and motorized transport is



Voters line up in La Paz. (Photo: Christina Kaufmann)



Celebrating Evo’s re-election victory. (Photo: Judy Somberg)

banned on election day to prevent voter fraud, requiring many to walk miles to the polls, we were impressed as each ballot was opened, displayed to the public. In total, we observed polling centers with 238 voting tables, serving 54,623 voters.

Morales was overwhelmingly re-elected to a third term, and a joyous, jam-packed, public celebration took place later that evening outside the presidential palace. As a first-time observer and traveler to Bolivia, I came away with a warm regard for the Bolivian people and a renewed respect for democracy, the importance of full citizen participation, and an appreciation of the challenges faced by any national leader, no matter how popular, to govern. ■

Pancakes, Laptops, and Encryption: NLG Takes on Digital Security

By Abi Hassen, Mass Defense Coordinator

This autumn, the NLG NYC along with the Babycastles event space hosted a Cryptoparty and bake-off featuring treats and trainings. The treats included PGP (Pretty Good Pancakes), cracked “password” cookies, and November Forget-Me-Nots. The trainings covered GPG email encryption, OTR (Off the Record) messaging, and encrypted password databases. The event also included a discussion on the use of encryption in the professional context.

If we’ve learned anything in the last year, it is that our communications are not outside the reach of prying eyes. The massive NSA dragnet as well as other government and corporate spying operations show little respect for our privacy or the privileged nature of our conversations. Massive online service providers such as Facebook and Google are multi-billion dollar operations whose business model is based on extracting and analyzing as much of our personal information as possible—they take this information in exchange for their “free” services.

The NLG NYC NextGen Committee has taken it upon itself to help NLG members and others to maintain sovereignty over their digital footprints using a variety of tools that can and should be incorporated into your daily life, your law practice, and your activism. The training included tutorials on the following:

- **Password Safes**—these are a technology that let you store all your passwords in one place with one master password that unlocks the others. With this kind of system, you no longer have to remember all the different passwords you use so you can use different, secure passwords for every site. These tools will also generate complex, random passwords for you.
- **Encrypted Chat**—kind of like email, but without the persistence. Encrypted chat lets you communicate over the Internet with friends or colleagues without leaving as much of a trail. The messages are encrypted end-to-end so nobody can snoop on your message before it gets delivered. You can also set up your chat so that there are no logs on your computer of

your messages to be recovered (use this for communications



Partygoers shared home-baked crypto-cookies. (Photos: Rose Regina Lawrence)

that you might not want coming back to haunt you).

- **GPG Email**—Gnu Privacy Guard (GPG) is the free software implementation of familiar Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) standard. This is a high security means of transmitting email messages and ensuring the identity of the recipient. Participants learned how to set up GPG on their machines, create their own “keys,” and verify the keys of others.

The NLG-NYC NextGen Cryptoparty was a great success, but it is only a start. These tools and technologies can be difficult and using them correctly requires forming new communication habits. You cannot change all your habits in a day. A couple of key lessons to be learned in digital security are patience and persistence. If you try to do it all at once, you’ll probably give up. To this end, the NLG-NYC NextGen Committee is planning a follow-up for the winter. ■

NLG-Chicago Looks Ahead after Convention

By Ryann Moran, Treasurer-Elect

After a successful Convention, the NLG Chicago Chapter gathered for an all chapter meeting on Friday, November 7, 2014 to decide: What’s next?

Approximately 50 attendees were welcomed by recently elected Midwest Regional co-Vice Presidents Molly Armour and Len Cavise, both Chicago Guild attorneys. Each of Chicago’s substantive committees gave a short presentation on recent work and encouraged members to join. The crowd then broke into small groups to meet with the committees to schedule a separate meeting and begin discussing priorities for the chapter.

In addition to beginning to plan Chicago’s next steps, the meeting also provided time for local members to vote for new Executive Board members. The board has five open seats, not including the student representative seat which is chosen by Chicago’s law student members. Outgoing board member Amanda Graham introduced the many qualified candidates.

The meeting was followed by a Happy Hour event at a local bar featuring special guest Jesus “Chuy” Garcia. He was also a special guest at the Chicago Chapter Reception during the Convention. Chuy thanked the crowd for welcoming him and said he’s always admired the NLG since his days as a paralegal. Presently a Cook County Commissioner, he recently announced that he will run against Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel in the 2015 election. ■

Supporting Resistance to Police Violence in Ferguson

By Kris Hermes, Legal Worker VP

With only days left before a Missouri grand jury is expected to announce whether they will indict Darren Wilson – the Ferguson police officer who shot and killed Michael Brown this summer – the National Lawyers Guild is ramping up its support effort in St. Louis.

Since mass protests began in early August, directly after Ferguson teenager Michael Brown was shot and killed by police officer Darren Wilson, the National Lawyers Guild has been on the ground monitoring the police and tracking arrests. But that's not all the Guild has done to support the youth of color-led movement in Ferguson.

The local Guild chapter, which was revitalized after the Occupy Wall Street protests in 2011, has continued to grow in response to ongoing demonstrations in Ferguson and across St. Louis. With the help of local and national Guild board members from around the country, the St. Louis chapter worked with the ACLU of Missouri to train nearly 100 Legal Observers and conducted numerous Know Your Rights (KYR) trainings to prepare for the Ferguson October mobilization last month.

During that weekend of October 11, thousands of people took to the streets of St. Louis for a range of protests from a large march through downtown to clergy-led civil disobedience in front of the Ferguson police station, and from multiple Walmart demonstrations in solidarity with John Crawford to a banner drop at the St. Louis Rams game during Monday Night Football. More than 100 people were arrested that weekend.

The Guild has also worked closely with Missourians Organizing for Reform and Empowerment (MORE), which understood the importance of legal support early on in the protests and established a 24-hour hotline and raised more than \$100,000 for bail and legal representation. One of the most promising developments undertaken by the two groups was to organize a standing legal collective to conduct KYR trainings, ensure Guild Legal Observer coverage on the streets, track arrestees through the detention period, bond out protesters, and coordinate legal representation.

More than 350 political arrests have occurred since the demonstrations began, the vast majority of which were based on municipal statutes. Approximately 40 people have been charged with felonies, mainly burglary, destruction of property, assault on a police officer, use of a deadly or dangerous weapon, and resisting arrest. At least seven Guild Legal Observers have been arrested while monitoring police behavior during the past three months.

Local legal aid organization ArchCity Defenders, with modest funding from MORE, has agreed to defend all of the municipal

cases and is looking forward to taking some of them to trial. A Guild fellow also worked hard to find attorneys for all of the felony arrestees who contacted the legal hotline, approximately half of those charged.

The protests and the energy generated by them have helped to establish a new, vibrant, more collaborative legal community in



NLG Legal Observers look on as Mike Brown is memorialized in a papier-mâché effigy during a "Ferguson October" demonstration. (Photo: Curtis McGuire)

St. Louis. The Guild has joined in the efforts of WeCopwatch to equip residents of Canfield Green Apartments (the site of Michael Brown's murder), and others in Ferguson with body cameras to record police activity. And, in anticipation of a mass uprising if the grand jury decides not to indict Wilson, the Guild has helped form the Ferguson Legal Defense Committee (FLDC) to bring together leaders from St. Louis University Law School, Washington University Law School, Mound City Bar Association, ArchCity Defenders, and the ACLU in order to prepare for the inevitable legal fallout.

This new level of coordination between legal institutions and a vibrant collective of legal workers is what will be needed to support this new movement of resistance to police violence in communities of color. ■

EDITOR'S NOTE: While this issue was in production, it was announced that the grand jury decided not to indict Wilson. Protests escalated in Ferguson, sparking solidarity demonstrations in more than 170 US cities. As part of the FLDC, the NLG issued an emergency call to action for volunteer attorneys, law students, and legal workers to work with arrestees and local groups on the ground. NLG Legal Observers are providing ongoing support at demonstrations in Ferguson and cities across the country.

NLG Delegation to Colombia Finds Poor Working Conditions & Environmental Hazards Brought by Multinationals

By Camilo Romero, Co-National Vice President

"The world has not forgotten us, because it has never really known us. We hope the NLG will help introduce our crisis here in Chocó – the frontier of Colombia – to the world."

In August 2014, the NLG organized its first delegation to the Pacific region of Colombia. From August 9-16, nine NLG advocates travelled to the department of Chocó to witness the condition of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities.

To most, Chocó is simply a lawless jungle. To multinational corporations, Chocó is the lucrative center of under-regulated gold and platinum mining. To the governments of Colombia and the US, Chocó is the strategic launch point for the global drug trade and Pacific Rim investment.

The NLG delegation was hosted in Chocó by the National Agrarian Coordinator (CNA), a national organization composed of campesino farmers, many of whom participated in recent agrarian strikes. From the departmental capital of Quibdó, the NLG delegation travelled by bus to Istmina. Then, for over three hours in a cozy "panga" canoe, the delegation navigated down the San Juan and Sipi Rivers until reaching the hamlet of Loma del Chupey.

Despite rainstorms and a brief blackout, the delegation was warmly welcomed by the several dozen families that populate the lush area. Regional leaders then began to provide accounts of recent developments. Primary among the residents' concerns was the fumigation of their crops with the chemical glyphosate, a pesticide manufactured by the US company Monsanto. Residents told the delegation how the fumigation has poisoned harvests and made the soil barren, prompted rashes on the skin of the young, and caused mothers to struggle in bring pregnancies to term.

Residents explained that the government sanctions these fumigations under the pretext of coca eradication, a key component of Plan Colombia, which was approved over a decade ago to bolster the supposed "war on drugs." The truth, residents reveal, is that the fumigation is not so much to control coca, as production is rather low, but is actually a tactic to displace inhabitants and make way for foreign investment.

"U.S. and European companies have discovered the riches we have known for generations," says one villager. "But they are bigger than us...and impunity is on their side."

Residents made clear that they are not against foreign investment, much less development, as long as it is sustainable and respectful of the environment and its caretakers.

The message was identical when the NLG delegation visited El 21, a community of indigenous Embera located along the trans-Andean highway. The NLG delegation listened to accounts of unkept government promises and incessant threats from armed groups, namely the paramilitaries and the guerrilla. As the "guardia indígena" guarded the meeting site residents communicated their experiences to the NLG delegation in their

dialect of Embera, which was then translated to Spanish by indigenous council leaders.

Residents of El 21 asked the NLG delegation to share their stories with the world – with international agencies, leaders of governments, popular press, and youth organizations. An open invitation awaits those who wish to visit.

The NLG delegation departed Chocó to the capital of Bogotá, where it was hosted by several leading justice organizations and civil society representatives, including:

- SINALTRAINAL (National Union of Food & Beverage Workers) recounted the decades-long struggle of organized labor and highlighted the importance of organizing and legal solidarity.
- CACTUS, a women's flower worker cooperative, was created to advocate for the rights of the predominantly female workforce whose working conditions involve forced pregnancy tests and sexual harassment by male supervisors.
- Ministry of the Environment, with whom we shared our accounts from our time in Chocó.
- Congreso de los Pueblos, with whom we discussed popular movement-based organizing and proposals for a more just and inclusive Latin America.
- Movimiento de Víctimas del Estado (Movicve), where the significant yet under-told role of the state in the historic rates of disappearances and political assassinations was given a harrowing overview.
- Congressional Representative Alirio Uribe and Senator Ivan Cepeda, arguably the two most vilified men in congress, each provided insight as to why speaking the truth about the connections between paramilitaries, corporations, and elected officials has provoked such infamy.
- Former presidential candidate Camilo Ernesto Romero shared a resonating message on the necessity to not just reform politics but to abolish them as we know it by electing young, non-partisan leaders of civic conscience.
- Jorge Alvear Restrepo Lawyers' Collective (CCAJAR), which has long been the thorn in the side of military generals and sitting presidents who attempt to usurp the law for their personal or political gains.
- Committee in Solidarity with Political Prisoners (CSPP), which is the legal voice of grassroots movements representing those who otherwise cannot afford representation.

After seven days of travel in various languages and temperate climates, the NLG delegation was a resounding success. As requested by residents and community leaders in Colombia, delegates have returned to their localities to organize, to introduce the situation of Chocó to the world.

For more information on this and future visits please contact nvp1@nlg.org or +1 510 717 4227 ■

Haywood Burns Fellow Equips Grassroots Activists with Legal Training

By Amanda Schemkes

During this past summer, I did an internship with the Civil Liberties Defense Center through the support of the NLG's Haywood Burns Fellowship. I decided to attend law school because of a background in animal rights activism, which led me to want to work to provide grassroots animal rights and earth defense activists with more of the legal support that they need. The experience that I had as a fellow gave me the chance to do this.

My summer began with developing a legal training specifically for animal rights and environmental activists that included information about "know your rights," security culture, and being effective in the face of State repression. I then prepared to present the training to activist communities throughout the U.S. to empower them in their work to protect animals and the earth...and then I hit the road.

Through a collaboration with The Bunny Alliance, Resistance Ecology, and the *Earth First! Journal*, I traveled to over 20 cities all over the country to present the legal training to activist communities that those groups organized events with during the summer. At first, I was nervous about presenting the training because doing so was my introduction to presenting legal information to people and I was worried about whether people would be interested, what kinds of questions they would have, if they would trust me to be giving them such important information. But the activists melted my worries away. They were engaged, asked relevant and important questions, and they were excited to have someone visit their community to share information.

And what meant the most to me was hearing from people

that learning legal information would make a difference in their activism. So many people are afraid to attend a protest because they don't know their rights when interacting with a police officer, or are afraid to get involved in social justice

"When an activist puts their freedom on the line in the fight for liberation, they should have the legal support they need."

movements because they hear stories about State repression and don't know how to resist. But after presenting legal trainings, I often had people approach me to say that now they weren't so afraid. Now they felt like they could assert their rights, and feel comfortable getting out in the streets to speak out for animals and the earth.

I will always be grateful for the people who tell me that having legal support—whether that's through legal trainings, having a legal observer at an action, representation, or some other form—makes them feel like they can do more activism. Those people are my inspiration to keep working to become a strong activist lawyer and to provide grassroots activist communities with the authentic, tangible solidarity that they need from legal support. And those people should be a reminder to all of us that we need to do more to provide legal support to grassroots activists. When an activist puts their freedom on the line in the fight for liberation, they should have the legal support they need. Too many activists don't, and we urgently need to change that. ■

NLG Haywood Burns Memorial Fellowships 2015

The application for the NLG's Haywood Burns Memorial Fellowship for Social and Economic Justice for Summer 2015 is now available! The Burns Fellowship is open to students and legal workers working on projects that find creative ways to use the law to advance justice. The application for the fellowship can be downloaded on the NLG website.

Students and legal workers actively involved in NLG activities are given preference for the Fellowships, so please apply! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email or call student organizer Traci Yoder at traci@nlg.org.

Completed applications are due by Monday January 12, 2015!

W. Haywood Burns was an activist, attorney, and mentor who inspired people to help underserved communities. A former president of the NLG, Burns founded the National Conference of Black Lawyers in 1968 and later served as dean of the City University of New York (CUNY) School of Law. After his untimely passing in 1996, the Guild renamed its student fellowship program in his honor.



Standing Room Only for Chicago-Kent's Panel on Ferguson & Police Militarization

By Kayla Higgins & Militza Pagán

On Tuesday, October 21, the Chicago-Kent College of Law NLG chapter hosted a panel on “Ferguson & Police Militarization.” Speakers on the panel included Sheila Bedi, a professor at the Northwestern School of Law with a research focus on mass imprisonment; David Warnock, a Chicago-Kent student who spoke about police militarization from a veteran’s perspective; Max Suchan, DePaul student who was arrested in Ferguson while volunteering as a Legal Observer; and Page May, a representative speaker from the grassroots organization We Charge Genocide. The event was co-sponsored by Chicago-Kent’s Black Law Students Association (BLSA), Hispanic Latino Law Student Association (HLLSA), and American Constitution Society (ACS).

Panelists were asked questions like: What went wrong in Ferguson? What role do you think the media played in reacting to the events in Ferguson, and how do you think the media may have affected perception of the events and their meaning? What can lawyers do to help repair relationships between police and protestors? How do you think the national conversation about race about police brutality is evolving? And what can Chicago learn from what happened in Ferguson?

The panelists stressed that the events in Ferguson were not unique to Ferguson. In other cities, including Chicago, police are given military grade weapons that are used against

protestors and to police communities of color. They believed that due to the national media attention on the killing of Michael Brown, it is a unique moment to focus the nation’s attention on the killing of people of color by police and make some headway into holding police accountable for their actions. The panelists also encouraged the audience to not buy into the “politics of respectability”—the media’s portrayal as some victims of police violence as more tragic than others based on

All black and brown lives matter, and we should be working to find justice for every person killed by police.

whether the victim was a “good student” or looked particularly “respectable” in pictures. They emphasized, rather, that all black and brown lives matter and that we should be working to find justice for every person killed



Panelists, left to right (seated): Sheila Bedi, David Warnock, Max Suchan, and Page May. (Photo: Emily Barney)

by police.

The event drew a huge crowd, over 100 students sitting, and some standing, listening to the panel with rapt attention. We’re excited that this event brought so much awareness to the student body about NLG and the issues surrounding police militarization in this country. ■



Northeastern University School of Law students and alumni represent! Hannah Adams, center, received the 2014 Law Student Award. (Photo: Carl Williams)



NLG Student National VP Nicholas Klaus documents National Guard activity during Ferguson October demonstrations. (Photo: Curtis McGuire)



Members of the Temple University NLG Chapter celebrate Halloween as Rosie the Riveter. (Photo: [Temple Law Facebook Page](#))

LAW FOR THE PEOPLE 2014 • CHICAGO, IL

Election Results: Meet your new officers!



President-Elect
Natasha Lycia Ora Bannan



Executive VP
Marcus Kryshka



Executive VP
Gaby Lopez



Legal Worker VP
Kris Hermes



Treasurer-Elect
Ryann Moran



National VP
Sharlyn Grace



Student National VP
Nicholas Klaus

Resolutions & Amendments

As a democratic organization, the work and focus of the Guild is decided by our members. Each year at the convention, we hold plenaries in which members discuss and vote on programmatic priorities, often in the form of resolutions. The following resolutions were passed in 2014. To read these resolutions in full as well as past resolutions and the NLG Constitution and Bylaws, visit nlg.org/member/bylaws-resolutions.

- International Labor Justice Working Group Resolution
- Bylaw Amendment Section 8.4 (a-2): Obligating Another NLG Entity via Resolution Requires Consultation
- Bylaw Amendment Section 8.4 (a-3): Changing the Governance, Duties and Rights of NLG Entities Requires Consultation
- Cuban Five Resolution
- Membership Committee Resolution
- Puerto Rico Subcommittee Resolution
- Resolution Condemning US Funding to Destabilize Progressive Governments in Latin America and Throughout the World
- Emergency Resolution: NLG Urges US to Comply with Recommendations of Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

SAVE THE DATE! • LAW FOR THE PEOPLE CONVENTION 2015 • OCTOBER 21-25 • OAKLAND, CA



Welcome back, Lynne! Lynne Stewart is receives a standing ovation Friday night. (Photo: Shubra Ohri)



Chicago Teachers' Union President Karen Lewis delivers the Keynote address. (Photo: Shubra Ohri)



Guild members pay tribute at the Haymarket Martyrs' Monument. (Photo: Carl Williams)

national lawyers guild foundation

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Regional Conferences 2015

- Mideast Regional: March 20-22, 2015
Wayne State Law School, Detroit MI
- Southern Regional: March 2015 (TBD)
New Orleans, LA
- Northeast Regional: April 17-19, 2015
Western New England University School of Law, Springfield, MA
- Mid-Atlantic Regional: April 18, 2015
University of Maryland, Baltimore MD
- Northwest Regional: April 18, 2015
University of Oregon School of Law, Eugene OR

NOTE: Midwest, Texoma, and Far West Regionals are TBD.

Law for the People Convention

October 21-25, 2015
Oakland, CA (more info coming soon!)

Find more NLG events near you!
nlg.org/calendar

