

A Timely Victory to Protect Voters' Rights



ACLU of NH attorneys, with advocates from the ACLU National Voting Rights Project and volunteers from the law firm of Ropes and Gray, protected Granite Staters' rights.

As voters prepare to cast ballots in the 2026 midterms, the ACLU of NH and our colleagues across the country are fighting for free, fair, and representative elections.

At the ACLU, our fight to defend the right to vote doesn't start or end in November.

In 2023, lawmakers across the country enacted more than 350 anti-voter bills, including one in New Hampshire which became one of the nation's most onerous voter-registration requirements when it became law the next year.

ACLU of NH, with national and regional partners, sued on behalf of a coalition of voting rights groups, and won.

Now we are ensuring all Granite State voters know how to exercise their right to access the polls. We are recruiting poll observers, advertising voting rights information, and monitoring the training of local polling officials to make sure they uphold the law.

These efforts mirror similar work being done by the ACLU across the country.

Last month, in an ACLU case, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the U.S. Postal Service's attempt to restrict mail voting and disenfranchise the millions of voters who rely on mail ballots.

The ACLU nationwide have been preparing for this critical moment in our nation's

democracy since 2024, planning for over two dozen potential scenarios, drafting legal filings and organizing communities to defend this most basic right.

On Election Day, ACLU-ers will be monitoring the polls, staffing election protection hotlines, and taking action to protect our most fundamental democratic right.

The Trump administration wouldn't be working so hard to block our votes if they weren't afraid of our collective power.

Visit aclu-nh.org/know-your-voting-rights and see our pocket card inside for more voting details.



American Civil
Liberties Union
of New Hampshire

FALL 2026

Standing Firm for Birthright Citizenship

From New Hampshire to the Supreme Court, we stood up for birthright citizenship—and we won.

On June 30, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the citizenship of our clients' children—babies born in New Hampshire to immigrant parents—just as the 14th Amendment promised 158 years ago.

We were proud to bring our case on behalf of members from New Hampshire's Indonesian community, whom we have grown to know through the past eight years of work by our Immigrants Rights Project, directed by Attorney SangYeob Kim.

In August, the Trump administration again attacked the citizenship of a narrower category of babies. Our defense

of their rights is unrelenting, and we've already asked a federal court to make it unquestionably clear that the 14th Amendment protects the citizenship of babies of immigrants, despite the new executive order.

With its roots in the post-Civil War Reconstruction era, the 14th Amendment guarantees the citizenship of all children born in the United States regardless of race, color, or ancestry, with the extremely narrow exception of children of foreign diplomats.

President Trump's cruel agenda to redefine who gets to be an American is at the center of his effort to eliminate birthright citizenship. **But the Constitution defines who is a citizen in the United States—not President Trump.**



The Immigrants' Rights Project at ACLU of NH has represented **6 New Hampshire residents who were protected from deportation** to their countries of origin because of credible threats of torture and violence.

In ALL of these cases, we also stopped the Trump Administration's attempt to deport them to "third-party" counties where they have no connection.

Building Pride Everywhere

Pride is about joy. Pride is about resilience. And Pride embodies the idea that we all deserve to live without fear.

In 2025, ACLU of NH organized the first-ever Pride celebration in Plymouth, and the immediate impact of a new safe space was palpable—and more than 200 people joined us to celebrate!

To launch this first-ever event, we worked with members of the Plymouth community who had always wanted to hold an official Pride event but had not yet before had the capacity or resources to do so.

This year for the 2026 Plymouth Pride, local residents led the planning, with the ACLU of NH providing technical, logistical, and administrative support.

This year, we also hosted the first-ever Pride festival in Londonderry!

Trans youth in New Hampshire are being targeted by harmful legislation that tries to erase their identities and silence their voices. Queer Granite Staters in our rural communities deserve to live in joy and love. Pride is a promise that the ACLU will never back down from that fight.



Protecting Privacy for All

Everyone deserves privacy in their own home. That's why we joined with allies in September to file the first lawsuit challenging a public housing authority for installing surveillance devices in its apartments.

In the fall of 2024, the Concord Housing and Redevelopment Authority began installing Minut Monitor devices inside people's apartments across the properties it manages. These are surveillance devices that look like a smoke detector, but are so much more. They are capable of providing the Housing Authority (*i.e., government employees*) with real-time, remote access to granular data about activity within tenants' homes.

These devices can collect data such as the decibel level of detected noise, readings of physical movement of people, smoke and humidity levels; and scans for iOS signals, which can estimate how many people are nearby.

We sued because this violates the New Hampshire Constitution, including Article 2-b—a unique constitutional provision that solidifies our right to privacy from government surveillance in the digital age. (*The ACLU of NH was instrumental in passing this amendment in 2018!*)

This case is important because it straddles two very important civil liberties: right to privacy and economic justice.

People living in public housing deserve the same respect, autonomy, and freedom from unnecessary surveillance as anyone else.

Housing authorities can address legitimate concerns about safety, maintenance, or nuisance complaints without creating systems of constant monitoring. The most effective housing policies are the ones that invest in resident services, maintenance, community engagement, and responsive management—not more surveillance.

Stay in touch with the latest: Follow us on social media



Accountability for Immigration Enforcement

In late August, we filed a public records lawsuit against the NH State Police, seeking documents concerning how the state police is enforcing immigration law.

Through their partnership with ICE, the state police have contributed to as many as 26 immigration detentions after motor vehicle stops. Yet, to date, they have not made any information about those 26 instances available to the public.

So we sued, because the State Police have to comply with our New Hampshire Right-to-Know laws. They have to share information with the public, information like:

- Do any of these stops implicate possible racial profiling? *We do not know.*
- Do the state police regularly ask for identification from passengers who were not driving? *We do not know.*

We've also submitted records requests with each of the 29 local law enforcement agencies that have signed up to participate in immigration enforcement in New Hampshire.

If our local police agencies can devote the time to enforce federal immigration law, then they can devote the time to ensure the public is informed in a timely way about the nature of this enforcement.

Comings and Goings



April Landry joined the ACLU of NH in May of 2026 as a development associate, supporting and growing the capacity of our fundraising team. Prior to the ACLU, April worked in operations leadership at health and human services technology companies for over 10 years. April has her bachelor's degree in Communication & Media Studies from Fitchburg State University, where she was Music Director for the student radio station. April is also a practicing artist and organizer: She founded a local zine festival that takes place annually and runs workshops and roundtables for her community.



Hunter Kirschner joined the ACLU of NH in September 2026 as a trans justice fellow. Hunter was most recently the interim executive director of the Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention, prior to which he had been an advocate for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. His background also includes serving as coordinator of LGBTQ+ student support at Keene State College and organizing community events for queer and trans people. *For this role, Hunter is taking a one-year leave of absence from the ACLU of NH Board, on which he has served since February 2024.*

A Legacy that Lives On

The ACLU of New Hampshire mourns the loss of Dr. Bill Sirotty, friend and civil liberties advocate. As an ACLU of NH board member for 20 years, Bill unfailingly and generously provided leadership and support to our organization. We remember Bill with deep gratitude for the wisdom, generosity, and leadership he shared as a member of the Development Committee. We are also grateful for the lasting difference he chose to make through a bequest in his estate. Through his advocacy, kindness, and determination, Bill created an enormous impact on our staff, board members, and countless community members in the Granite State and beyond.

By including the ACLU in your estate plans, you make a powerful statement about the future you want to protect—a future where civil liberties are safeguarded, justice prevails, and equality endures. To learn more about leaving a bequest to the ACLU, visit aclu.org/legacy





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A Letter from the Executive Director



Devon Chaffee

I've been thinking a lot lately about the 1920s, and the founding of the ACLU. We were built to fight back against an authoritarian administration that was denaturalizing citizens, deporting people with no due process to countries they had no connections to, and targeting people because of their political beliefs and their speech.

And I often try to imagine what it must have been like during that time, how heart wrenching and discouraging and hopeless it must have felt. But we didn't give up. As an organization and as a nation, we fought our way through to become the country that passed the Civil Rights Act.

For nearly two years, the second Trump Administration has sown an agenda of chaos and cruelty. From DOGE and defunding of our schools, to attacks on the basic constitutional question of who gets to be an American citizen, to ICE's continued abuses in their system of mass detention and deportation.

The American people are deeply disturbed by President Trump and his continued grasps for power.

That's why at the ACLU, we're still standing up for the right of babies born in the US to be citizens of the US.

We're fighting to hold our local officials accountable for their role in immigration detention and deportation without due process.

And, perhaps most crucially, we've ensured that eligible Granite Staters registering to vote in November are able to do so—even if they don't have the money or time to get a passport or find their birth certificate.

This election, there is much at stake: every single year, your elected representatives decide on bills that could either protect your rights and liberties, or erode them.

Tuesday, November 3 is Election Day, and Granite Staters will be voting for both their federal and state representatives: from U.S. Senate and House, to Governor, to the state-level Senate and House—and more.

As the Trump Administration attempts to cling to power and continue their work to dismantle fundamental elements of American society, it's essential that our representatives fight for our constitutional rights, not pass bills to attack them.

From immigrants' rights, to abortion access, to your right to privacy: Vote like your rights depend on it. Because they do.