ALL OF US OR NEWSPAPER

Vol. 6 #8 • Published by Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, Founded in 1978 • prisoners with children.org/newspaper

AUGUST 2025

BLACK AUGUST,

Study, Fast, Train, Fight: Our Movement Marches On

Inside Knowledge: An Insurgent Carceral Journalism Revolution



Participants from CSJG, AOUON, and JFE outside Valley State Prison before the symposium.

On July 9th, 2025, the **Carceral Studies** Journalism Guild (CSJG), Yale University's **Justice** For Everybody **Initiative (JFE)** and All Of Us Or None (AOUON) convened at the inaugural **Inside Knowledge (IK)** Carceral Journalism Symposium at Valley State Prison (VSP) in Chowchilla, CA.

The symposium featured presentations from resident journalists and delivered an immersive interactive workshop experience for participants where they co-produced the CSJG's "My Teachable Moment", a first-of-its-kind narrative series documenting live, in-person testimonials from incarcerated people. Participants were able to share about the person, event, or insight during their incarceration that helped to shape or impact their transformation on camera. That same footage will be made available to the larger population via Inside Knowledge's institutional television channel on the Edovo platform.

Alissa Moore, Journalist for All of Us or None and CSJG Advisory Board Member, and **Ghostwrite Mike**, Founder of CSJG, toured VSP with JFE members the day before the symposium. They convened a CSJG stakeholder roundtable and excerpted comments from participants on pages 4 and 5.



Elizabeth Hinton presents Inside Knowledge programming to the audience of 170 residents at Valley State Prison. Credit: Dennis Marciuska



CSJG journalist Dominick J. Porter describes learning to read & write in confinement during the My Teachable Moment workshop. *Credit: Dennis Marcuiska & Vanessa Díaz*

In Texas, AOUON Members Build Collective Power

by **Robert Bowden**, LSPC In-Custody Coordinator

In July, AOUON's San Antonio chapter hosted a national convening to bring us together as issues of crimmigration, the new presidential administration, and environmental injustice are deeply impacting us across states, borders, and walls. A multi-generational group of folks impacted by the criminal legal system ranging from toddlers to movement elders, we are leaving with a renewed commitment to the fight. Robert Bowden, LSPC's in-custody coordinator, shares his experience below.

7rom July 17th through 20th, 2025, I was honored and blessed to be in space with souljas from all over the country. All of Us or None members came in numbers from New York, Kentucky, Las Vegas, Illinois, New Jersey, Los Angeles, Wisconsin, St. Louis, Atlanta, Orange County, Austin, and San Antonio to attend All of Us or None's National Convening in San Antonio, Texas. The purpose was to gather under the banner of "All Of Us Or None" with formerly incarcerated people who are in our local communities doing advocacy work: we are restoring the human and civil rights of people currently and formerly incarcerated, helping families be reunited by fighting against CPS, fighting for our souljas inside to be released by getting the information and resources inside the prison walls, and educating our people about new bills and laws which can

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What does Freedom Mean?

AOUON Members from across the country reflect on what it means to be a freedom fighter, carrying out the legacy of revolutionary ancestors.

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Restore Our Justice: ACA 6

by **Nedric Miller**, Ronald "Elder" Freeman Policy Fellow

The march continues: as long as slavery remains in the constitution, so does our will and dedication to fight against ideologies that see humans as material for gain.

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Immigration, Citizenship, and the Constitution

by Eric C. Sapp, LSPC Staff Attorney

Eric C. Sapp explores the legality of current executive regulations on citizenship and immigration.

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ALL OF US OR NONE NEWSPAPER

Our All of Us or None newspaper serves to link those of us who have been locked up, those who are locked up, as well as our families and allies in this struggle.

We want to ensure that the voices of our people inside are heard and that inside artists are recognized for their contributions to this movement. Your stories and artworks matter.



Read Online:

prisonerswithchildren.org/newspaper

Questions or Feedback? Contact us! Editor: Uma Nagarajan-Swenson uma@prisonerswithchildren.org

AOUON Newspaper Editor 4400 Market Street Oakland, CA 94608

Are you currently incarcerated and have a child in the Bay Area?

REGISTER FOR THE COMMUNITY GIVEBACK

LSPC & AOUON will be hosting our annual Community Giveback on December 13, 2025. This is an event for children whose parents are incarcerated to receive a new bike or other gift from their incarcerated parent. Mail the form in this paper to "Community Giveback, 4400 Market Street, Oakland, CA 94608" by October 11 to register your child.

BLACK AUGUST

Black August honors our revolutionary ancestors who were imprisoned and killed in the fight for liberation. It originated in San Quentin prison, where freedom fighter George Jackson was assassinated by guards on August 21, 1971: one year after his brother Jonathan Jackson's Marin Courthouse Rebellion and subsequent murder

(August 7, 1970). August also saw the arrival of the first enslaved Africans in what is now the United States (1619); Nat Turner's Rebellion (August 21, 1831); the birth of Fred Hampton (August 30, 1948), and Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech at the March on Washington (August 28, 1963). This month, we recommit to principled struggle for Black liberation and explore what liberation means, from freedom fighters in the 1970s to now.

George Jackson: Freedom means warmth and protection against harsh exposure to the elements. It means food, not garbage. It means truth, harmony, and the social relations that spring from these. It means the best medical attention whenever it is needed. It means employment that is reasonable, that coincides with the individual necessities and feelings. We will have this freedom even at the cost of total war.





Ruchell Cinqué Magee: My fight is to expose the entire system, judicial and prison system, a system of slavery. This will cause benefit not just to myself, but to all those who at this time are being criminally oppressed or enslaved by this system.

YOUR VOICE AND ART MATTERS SUBMIT TO THE PAPER!

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Inside News Articles. Opinion Pieces. Reviews. Features: Creative or exploratory. News Analysis. Poetry. Art. Comics We can't wait to hear from you!



SELF-DETERMINATION PLEDGE

As members of All of Us or None, we pledge to:

Demand the right to speak in our own voices;

Treat each other with respect and not allow differences to divide us;

Accept responsibility for any acts that may have caused harm to our families, our communities or ourselves

Fight all forms of discrimination

Help build the economic stability of formerly-incarcerated people

Claim and take care of our own children and our families

Support community struggles to stop using prisons as the answer to social problems

Play an active role in making our communities safe for everyone.



Brother Rob Lilly, Austin: No government, no system, no political party, no administration can ever hold the keys to what we call freedom. It's transcendent. If freedom is an inalienable right, to incarcerate somebody and to deny them access to the systems who leads us, that's a violation of our natural rights.



Cedric Frison, Chicago: What freedom means to me, liberation. You can have peace, but you can still have injustice with peace. So, I want to be liberated. I want to plant trees that's going to bear fruit and shade. And I already know I won't be there to enjoy it. But, I'm going to set the pace to ignite the leaders that's coming behind me.

Angela Hurks, South Carolina: I am a freedom fighter for formerly incarcerated men, women, children, and their families. I'm also a spiritualist that deep dives into cause and effect and historically how we have been disenfranchised by a system of oppression known as the carceral system. I stand in deep solidarity with brothers and sisters in the effort to fight for our freedom, restoration of our rights, and to be able to open up some doors and cut new pathways for our people to be able to have the essentials equal to other people.



Latecia Hill, Dallas: I was not impacted, and then I was—and my life has been forever changed. It has not been just and it has not been fair and it pisses me off, so, I am now coming back as the Auntie in the Village to give this sprinkling of the wisdom that I do have along with my brothers and sisters who are OGs up in this thing. It's going to take all of us, y'all, or it's going to be none of us. All power to the people.



Naim Muhammad, St. Louis: What freedom looks like to me is basically freedom for all people. If all of us ain't free, none of us is free. So we going to live with that and live on with the memories of Fred Hampton.



A FUTURE WITHOUT MASS INCARCERATION

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help people apply for resentencing, elderly parole, and compassionate release. We're also helping people prepare for their parole hearings, making sure they understand and know their rights. Yes, this is the work we do: this is the work that must be done to free

all our people and our forgotten souljas behind those walls.

After the plane landed and we got to the hotel, I immediately heard a lot of laughter and saw a lot of smiles from these souljas who were coming in. It filled me with joy to be in this space, knowing that it was a true blessing to be there. It was confirmation of why God saved my life. I still remember being inside the cells trying to get through another day.

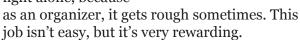
I got on my knees begging God to please let me outta this hell hole:

I know I done asked before and got out and messed up, but this time I promise if you let me out I'll be a light in this dark world. I'll be part of the solution, not the problem.

Today I'm free, and I wake up every day on a mission to keep my promise.

Looking around on that first night at dinner in San Antonio, it actually felt like a big family reunion because that's what we are: family. As I introduced myself to everyone, I explained that my position at headquarters was the In-Custody Coordinator. I let them know I was there to give everyone their flowers for their

hard work and support their efforts for inside members in their own communities. Let me tell you, everyone's appreciation and response brought joy to my heart. It was confirmation that none of us are in this fight alone, because



For the rest of the convening, we attended many workshops and panels. I attended a workshop on Basebuilding given by Brandon from the Mass Liberation Project, whose theme was "you can't free anyone until you can free yourself." I also attended a Data + AI workshop which centered around using Artificial Intelligence as a tool for liberation. This was led by Steve, from our San Antonio Chapter, who introduced us to Forged by Fire, a system

designed to amplify your power, not to replace it. AI is a new tool and we must learn how to utilize it as a library and a database of information. Honestly I'm kinda stuck at how to describe my appreciation for having access to this information. It was mind blowing and life changing.

Before a panel on Crimmigation, we had the honor to hear from Leonard Peltier via zoom, which was organized by AOUON co-founder George Galvis. Leonard Peltier is an Indigenous political prisoner who was recently

commuted after 50 years in prison. He was falsely accused of killing two FBI agents, though he was only standing up and

fighting to defend against the sale of stolen land at the Black Hills near Pine Ridge Reservation, which is one of the poorest communities in the nation. He still isn't free, because they have him on house arrest, so the fight continues. His voice and message was powerful; in closing he said "never stop fighting for our people" which was well received in the ballroom followed by a standing ovation.

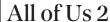
On Saturday, we marched through the streets of San Antonio. Our chanting "Ain't no power like the power of the people because the power of the people don't stop!" filled the hot, humid Texas sky, and as we took those soulja steps through downtown San Antonio, the looks on the faces from the local community on

> the sidewalk was a sea of smiles and admiration for what we was marching for. They saw youth in our crowd, they saw elders, they saw Black and Brown souljas marching to change conditions in their community who wasn't even from their community. We even had a mariachi band playing Latin music with a melody to step to.

This is my life. I'm in the Revolution, helping change laws

Steve Huerta teaching about data and AI that will change conditions inside prisons and in our communities. We are fighting for the hopeless; our job is to bring them hope. My role at AOUON headquarters in Oakland is to engage with our in-custody members, and right now we have over 2,000. One thing I stand on is not selling a dream, but being honest. I feel the appreciation. Many tell me they can't wait to get out and join us in the fight. Dorsey Nunn took a chance with a ex-felon like me, as he has with many, and I refuse to let him down.

This is the revolution I live for. ALL OF US OR



by Joel "Yoel" Davis, Director of Curriculum and Training at Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice (ILARI). Released from incarceration on February 1 2024 after serving 34 years. Yoel read this original spoken word piece at AOUON's goodbye dinner on our last day of the convening.

The heat is different in San Antonio.

This city pulses like a lion's heart.

Y'all got heart.

So y'all go hard.

We all got heart!

And we're off to a good start because our hearts are beating for Justice.

Our hearts are beating for freedom, hope, and all the formerly incarcerated having the right to

I'm talking about "All of Us or None."

We formerly incarcerated,

so when do our wrongs end, and our rights begin? We're more than arrest records and those numbers we were assigned.

Time after time

they tried to break us,

but we're unbreakable.

We have Henrietta Lacks cells, so we survived their

Now we have 10, 20, 30 years of stories to tell.

We've moved "Beyond The Bars"

now we're flowing through the mainstream like mighty water and we seeping through a few cracks and building bridges

that lead back to our communities

We "for community, by community, in community."

They tried to disrupt our unity by building walls to keep us separated,

but here we stand... All of Us.

That's the rallying cry that cuts through the land.

ALL OF US OR NONE!

ALL OF US OR NONE!

ALL OF US OR NONE!

Can you hear that?

ALL OF US OR NONE.

ALL OF US OR NONE.

ALL OF US OR NONE.

Hundreds of voices

thrumming in the streets.

And what makes this unique

is that we're the architects

of our own salvation.

A clear indication that we've taken our destiny into our own hands.

Now we can use our hands to reach back, and pull our brothers and sisters from the back.

We dance... we sing...

We're the tapestry—threaded with struggle,

resilience, abolition and dreams.

All of us or none.

All of us or none.

All of us or none.

That has to be our theme.

"We'll stay strong for yous as long as we can. But soon, we will have to walk on too, because our time has come. In the meantime, we will stand and speak for you. We have not surrendered, and we will never surrender. We hope you young people will follow in our steps and never surrender until we are totally free" - Leonard Peltier to AOUON members



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Inside Knowledge: An Insurgent Carceral Journalism Revolution

PARTICIPANTS

Dr. Elizabeth Hinton, Class of 1954
Professor of History and Black Studies at Yale
University and Yale Law School and Founding
Director, Justice For Everybody at the Yale
Institute on Incarceration & Public Safety

Dr. Randall Horton, Professor at University of New Haven, Executive Director at Radical Reversal, CSJG Advisor

Dr. Vanessa Díaz, Associate Professor of Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies, Loyola Marymount University

Dr. Tanisha Cannon, Managing Director, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children

Elizabeth Ross, Legal Advocacy Fellow and Operations Manager, Justice For Everybody

Kristine Guillaume, Production Manager and Advisor, CSJG

Mumia Abu-Jamal, Advisor, CSJG

Ghostwrite Mike, Founder, CSJG

Michael Bryant Alexander, 2025 Fellow, CSJG

Dominick J. Porter, Journalist, CSJG

Alissa Moore, Journalist, All of Us or None and Advisor, CSJG

REFLECTIONS

Michael Bryant Alexander: The Inside Knowledge symposium invited us to share the podium, speak directly to our community, and collaborate as colleagues with esteemed scholars and professional journalists in the curation of a most immersive experience that we designed for our community in partnership with Yale's Justice For Everybody team. I've never felt so seen in prison - this was the most transformative and humanizing environment I've ever been in. What made this special was being able to convene these different stakeholders, team-build with professionals, put this symposium in the can, and have folks like ARC's Wajuba McDuffy and LSPC's Dr.

Cannon be in the room to watch us do it. This was a proof-ofconcept moment for us that shows our community and the PIC alike that the CSJG deserves to be able to do this work.

Dominick J. Porter: Working alongside my resident peers and

free world creators to convene my community, center their testimonies, and help deliver real agency to those who are often never afforded counter-narrative creative control, was immensely empowering. Watching young men of color sit in the round and reflect publicly on camera about the teachable moment life lessons they are wrestling with from confinement, was the most inspiring thing I've ever witnessed in prison.

I was part of a team effort that convened a timed podium speaker series, conceived a slide show centering my peers, and produced a multi-camera filmed workshop that doubled as a documentary film production, while working alongside scholars from Yale, Harvard, and Oxford. Nobody from my neighborhood or family would have ever expected that I might have this type of enriching opportunity to learn and create when I was sentenced to life in prison. I've attended TEDx events at other prisons, and personally, I think that what we did here was more organic and profound. This was a history-making moment that set the bar for prisons that don't have sanctioned journalism programs, but should. We demonstrated what is possible.

Ghostwrite Mike: Immersive prison journalism challenges us to critically examine how we might more innovatively deliver the academy's rich trove of brain food into the cell block in pursuit of literacy and desistance, while simultaneously facilitating the constructive export of humanizing portrayals of becoming that transform those who stand for count and are often marginalized as merely the dangerous few, into digital mentorship ambassadors other confined people might imprint upon, provided they can access those arc of change messages across tier, yard, and state lines. Inside Knowledge will be that insurgent two-way digital superhighway of authentic media that delivers what is most scarce behind the wall: agency.

If our objective is to normalize the craft of journalism in prison, we must identify and curate media that serves multiple masters and doesn't compromise our core values. Centering transformation arc narratives accomplishes three things simultaneously: it humanizes the subject; affirms the in-prison programming modalities that enabled the change process we hope to highlight - giving the PIC its credit for availing that opportunity; and if produced properly, that content can be repurposed for impacted people to imprint upon beyond the prison it was captured in - that content can travel far and wide as digital mentorship that touches teens on probation before they fall, young adults in detention centers before they get permanently shelved, and lifers looking for a roadmap to redemption. We are our own best mentors - it's about harnessing our stories of becoming, and pollinating that messaging through the digital ether via tablet device for every human flower in the dark garden to become inspired by.

"When your history is written, either you will write it or the enemies of our movements and the fascists will write it" - Mumia Abu-Jamal

Mumia Abu-Jamal: I'd like to make an invitation. I hope you don't understand it as a challenge, but it is a kind of welcome. Search and think about becoming the historians of the generation of the young today. Think about it now because when your history is written, either you will write it or the enemies of our movements and the fascists will write it. I invite you to join the struggle and the life of the mind to preserve the struggles of today, so that the children who are growing up in the next generations will know what happened.

Alissa Moore: Having served 25 years in California prisons as a silenced writer, I cannot express how profound this partnership's cultivation and expansion are. I'm humbled to have had a seat at the table as this historic partnership between Incarcerated folks

and literary giants + institutions alike has developed. Returning to my childhood, Valley State Prison, was by no means easy, but I know for it was a historic moment in all of our collective journey toward justice and healing. Thank you to everyone who participated for creating a lasting legacy that will forever change the narrative of Mass incarceration.

Dr. Randall Horton: I've been visiting populations on the inside around the country for years, and what I witnessed at Valley State in that 'My Teachable Moment' circle was one of the most transformational, humanistic, and inspiring spaces filled with grace and sharing I have ever been a part of. The alchemy of outside-in collaboration and authentic resident testimony on display was something unique to behold, and speaks to the attention to craft with which Ghost and Dom orchestrated a quality production while operating in a space usually fraught with chaos and custody intrusion. The CSJG community really demonstrated what its members are capable of when given some autonomy, and I salute VSP's Warden Bailey and his team for facilitating such an anomalous

Dr. Vanessa Díaz: Joining the residents of Valley State Prison for a day of collaboration, listening, learning, and being in community was transformational for all of us. The residents got to work with us to let their talents shine in writing, speaking, creative arts, and media production. More than anything, we got to hear each other, and process together--be human together. As the daughter of someone who was incarcerated and who was the victim of murder, it was complicated yet healing for me to hear about the experiences of incarcerated individuals. We had deeply empathetic exchanges that demonstrated the power of communal action, communal writing, communal expression, and communal healing. This is the key for societal transformation and I am so grateful to have been able to contribute in any way to documenting this moment and collaborating with residents to produce this revolutionary content for the Inside Knowledge channel for Edovo.

Kristine Guillaume: The most important thing for anyone to understand is that for the symposium's planning and programming, our team followed the resident journalists' lead. The footage will reflect the power of storytelling and their vital and urgent vision of what carceral journalism is and what it can do. At the CSJG and Inside Knowledge, we view our work as joining a long lineage of journalistic work produced by residents of the carceral state. Print culture from prisons comprises a rich and urgent archive that documents life in prisons and the rise of the American carceral state. We are developing a guidebook for residents offering an overview of carceral journalism, its history, and the basic principles of effective journalistic writing. The book is designed as an accessible toolkit for journalistic writing, including a series of writing exercises that residents can work on individually or in collaboration with each other — an aspect that is particularly important to me. What I've learned as a journalist and what was so clear at the July 9 workshop is that journalism is a necessarily collaborative and social enterprise; it's reliant on conversation, curiosity, accountability, and interest in the world and people around us. It was amazing to see that in practice as residents directed

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and partook in the 'My Teachable Moment' workshop, assisted our crew with filming, and conducted interviews with their fellow residents about the day's events.

Elizabeth Ross: During our visit to VSP, Elizabeth Hinton and I had the opportunity to tour the law library and to speak with the resident law clerks and staff librarians. We discussed California's Racial Justice Act, a law that helps people fight against racial bias in the criminal legal system. We heard directly from them about the difficulties in accessing the research and data needed to successfully utilize this law. That conversation planted the seed for a new project that Yale's Challenging Discrimination in the Law Project is currently developing: the Racial Justice Act Toolkit. This experience highlights the power of talking directly with those most impacted and listening to them when they tell us what they need.

Dr. Tanisha Cannon: One of the most powerful things about the Inside Knowledge Carceral Journalism Symposium at Valley State Prison was how many of the residents said today felt normal. That word held weight. It meant they felt human again. It reminded them what being seen and treated with dignity feels like. Storytelling creates that. It reminds people that their lives matter; that their voices can shift perception, policy, and hearts. I'm deeply grateful to have been there, to witness that kind of presence and truth-telling. I want to uplift everyone who poured into making it happen. The care, intention, and love that went into creating this space was felt in every moment. My biggest takeaway, my teachable moment, was being able to speak on the importance of lifting up our people's narratives. Because, as one of the brothas reminded us, all it takes is 26 letters to liberate a people. That's the power of narrative. That's the movement we're part of, building platforms where our folks inside can author their own humanity, in their own words, across every medium.

Dr. Elizabeth Hinton: We came to Valley State to pioneer a revolutionary approach to constructive media-making behind prison walls—one that empowers residents as creators, affirms their role as historians, recognizes them as colleagues, honors them as subject matter experts, and models for authorities how mutual interests can be advanced when storytelling becomes a form of community empowerment in service of public safety.

Our Inside Knowledge channel on Edovo will showcase our Witness article archive alongside the All of Us or None Newspaper, share lectures from the academy, and offer books, podcasts, films, and homegrown zines created in collaboration with incarcerated creators across the country. At its center will be our flagship publication, Inside Knowledge Quarterly. In California, where peer mentorship is a foundational pillar of the rehabilitative model, the same social influence that pulls a disaffected youth into gang life can also spark a nonreader's curiosity or inspire an introvert to sit in circle and speak their truth. But mentorship can't be confined to the rooms we physically occupy—if it is, the message dies there. With audio and video tools, we can design content intentionally for widespread circulation across the carceral system, freely accessible via tablet. On Edovo, Inside Knowledge will be available to over one million incarcerated people free and on demand. For communities of color especially, access to culturally relevant intellectual nourishment is the antidote to the malnourishment and structural disconnection that prisons produce.

"This is the revolution. And as we've just shown at Valley State, contrary to the old adage: it will be televised." - Dr. Elizabeth Hinton



Scenes from lunch (feat. Dr. Cannon!). Credit: Dennis Marciuska



Vanessa Díaz closes the "My Teachable Moment" workshop. *Credit: Dennis Marciuska*

"I've never felt so seen in prison - this was the most transformative and humanizing environment I've ever been in." - Michael Bryant Alexander, 2025 CSJG Fellow

"Inside Knowledge will be that **insurgent two-way digital superhighway of authentic media** that delivers what is most scarce behind the wall: agency." - Ghostwrite Mike, *CSJG Founder*



Justice for Everybody team members serve BBQ lunch to residents at Valley State Prison. *Credit: Dennis Marciuska*



Scenes from the "My Teachable Moment" workshop. *Credit: Vanessa Díaz and Dennis Marcuiska*

life in prisons and the rise of the American carceral state." - Kristine Guillaume, *CSJG Advisor*

"Print culture from

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"That 'My Teachable
Moment' circle was
one of the most
transformational,
humanistic, and
inspiring spaces filled
with grace and sharing I
have ever been a part of."
- Dr. Randall Horton



Collaborators: Poet Randall Horton and Dr, Elizabeth Hinton plan future studio partnerships inside. *Credit: Vanessa Díaz and Dennis Marciuska*



(left to right) JFE's Kristine Guillaume, Elizabeth Hinton, and Elizabeth Ross walk the yard at Valley State Prison. *Credit: Dennis Marciuska*

Watching young men of color... reflect publicly about the teachable moment life lessons they are wrestling with from confinement was the most inspiring thing I've witnessed in prison." - Dominick J Porter, CSJG Journalist

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Immigration, Citizenship, and the Constitution (Jurisprudence for Jailhouse Lawyers, Part VI)

by Eric Sapp, LSPC Staff Attorney

Few provisions of the U.S. Constitution are clearer than the Fourteenth Amendment's opening clause: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are *citizens* of the United States and of the State wherein they reside." U.S. Const. Amend. 14, Sec. 1 (emphasis added). Unambiguously, the clause says all persons born in the United States are entitled to citizenship; it allows for no exceptions based on facts about parentage or the history of why someone was located where they were at birth. The unconstitutionality of the President's January 20, 2025 Executive Order entitled "Protecting the Meaning and Value of American Citizenship" (EO 14160, 90 FR 8449) presents an easy case on the merits, if ever there was one.2 The order is blatantly unconstitutional, hence legally invalid.

What *isn't* clear in the Constitution, on the other hand, is whether there is any basis for the federal government to regulate immigration. True, the very clause just quoted envisions a regulation of naturalization – granting citizenship to persons not previously citizens but it says nothing about the power of government to restrict movement across borders or to deport. Nowhere in the text of the Constitution is such a power provided for. Notwithstanding the doctrine of "enumerated powers" whereby, supposedly, the federal government's authority is limited, in the immigration context an expansive view of government reigns. Vague invocations of the "necessary and proper" and "Commerce" clauses (U.S. Const., Art I., Sec. 8) are relied

on for the power of the government to detain and expel undocumented persons through force, massive curtailments of liberty. There being no textual basis, a judge-made doctrine of constitutional structure fills the void. As Justice Field put in, in what is traditionally known as the Chinese Exclusion Case, "The power of exclusion of foreigners being an incident of sovereignty belonging to the government [...] as a part of those sovereign powers delegated by the Constitution, the right to its exercise at any time when, in the judgment of the government, the interests of the country require it, cannot be granted away or restrained on behalf of anyone." Chae Chan Ping v. United States, 130 U.S. 581, 609 (1889). The ideology of immigration enforcement rests on judicial invention.

That undeniable historical truth renders it highly ironic that proponents of an executive prerogative-to-exclude decry an overreaching judiciary. But this inconsistency is readily explained when one realizes that the function of the assertion of presidential power today is to create an aura of legitimacy even where legality is absent. It further functions to coax the judiciary to self-abdicate whatever remains of their originally designed role of protecting rights of individuals and minorities by ensuring the rule of law. *See generally* The Federalist, no. 78 (Hamilton, May 28, 1788).

Classical jurisprudence tends to focus inordinately on the merits of controversies, framing the problem of legal interpretation as concerning the relative scope of easy and hard cases, that is, between questions of legal application where rules and precedents

determine unique outcomes and those where multiple outcomes seem more or less equally possible. Critical legal theory posits the transformation of one type into another: boundaries between determinate and indeterminate are not determinate, while the very freedom which this logical situation seemingly opens up is constrained by habits of the judiciary and the broader legal culture. Kennedy, A Left Phenomenological Alternative to the Hart/Kelsen Theory of Legal Interpretation, Legal Reasoning 167-177 (2008); Llewellyn, The Case Law System in America, 88 Columb. L.R. 989, 1005, 1009-1010 (1988). To this picture must be added that there abound in modern law procedural methods of avoiding ever reaching the merits of a controversy, such that a putatively "easy" decision may be exceedingly hard to reach. When virtues of judicial restraint are perverted into a denial of legal protection of basic rights – this I call judicial devoidance.

More than a hint of this phenomenon was displayed by *Trump v. CASA*, *Inc.*, 606 U.S. ___ (June 27, 2025). Ostensibly, the only issue before the court was whether the preliminary injunction, extending nationwide, was within the district court's equitable powers when no nationwide class was posed. Id. slip op. at 14. The majority said no. The symbolic effect, however, is more diffuse. The merits untouched, to be litigated in lower courts, the Supreme Court lent the executive's position an apparent plausibility. The President was given a procedural victory when his lawyers should have been laughed out of court.

1 The phrase "birthright citizenship" conflates two distinct categories of citizenship based on birth. Jus soli is the right to citizenship based on being born within a given territory, whereas jus sanguinis citizenship derives from at least one parent's citizenship status. For persons born in the U.S., jus soli citizenship is automatically and irrevocably conferred pursuant to the Constitution. In contrast, jus sanguinis rights are regulated by statute, the Immigration and Naturalization Act.

2 Section 1 of that Order reads in part: "Among the categories of individuals born in the United States and not subject to the jurisdiction thereof, the privilege of United States citizenship does not automatically extend to persons born in the United States: (1) when that person's mother was unlawfully present in the United States and the father was not a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident at the time of said person's birth, or (2) when that person's mother's presence in the United States at the time of said person's birth was lawful but temporary [...] and the father was not a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident at the time of said person's birth." Were Trump's reading of "subject to the jurisdiction thereof" to be made coherent, he would have to admit that a person whose mother was undocumented or had a temporary visa, and whose father was neither a citizen nor a permanent resident, would be immune from any liability for lawbreaking. In particular, the feds would have no jurisdiction over persons in those categories; so ICE enforcement actions would be unlawful.

Restore Our Justice: The March for ACA 6 Continues

by **Nedric Miller**, LSPC Ronald "Elder" Freeman Policy Fellow

The march continues: as long as slavery remains in the constitution, so does our will and dedication to fight against ideologies that see humans as material for gain. ACA 6 is a reinforced tool crafted by LSPC and All of Us or None to battle against California's tarnished legacy of slavery that remains encoded within its constitution, enslaving a people for profit. History dictates that capitalism has never swung in the favor of those who have never colonized; its mere presence has always been weaponized to eradicate the truth and strength of those who fought for survival by any means despite the little that was given. Involuntary servitude has never been about justice, only greed and manipulation. It's coming from frail hearts who recognize the threat of true collective power in their presence.

The removal of involuntary servitude from the state constitution will mark the beginning of a new era. It's an end to the historical stigmas and the system that has not taken accountability for the wrongs it created. Although the 13th Amendment abolished chattel slavery nationally, many Californians are unaware that the language allowing involuntary servitude "as punishment for crime" is just a play on words to ease society's conscience about slavery still existing. It has kept its grip on the incarcerated and marginalized since America's colonization.

Today within California's prison walls, forced labor remains legal, not by moral consensus, but by constitutional technicality. Incarcerated people (disproportionately people of color) are forced to work under threat of punishment with no stake of sanity or atonement. California's prison system echoes the very machinery of slavery, rebranded and refined through legal loopholes and policy indifference. The carceral state thrives on this silent servitude, shielding exploitation behind the veil of justice while profiting off bodies whose freedom was never truly restored. Capitalism has undeniably driven innovation and economic growth, but at a high cost: it's deeply intertwined with systemic injustices that persist across societies and communities. Many treading this nation refuse to see its horrors. Help us restore justice to its meaning and restore our humanity.



Are you currently incarcerated and have a child in the Bay Area?

REGISTER FOR THE COMMUNITY GIVEBACK

LSPC & AOUON will be hosting our annual Community Giveback on December 13, 2025. This is an event for children whose parents are incarcerated to receive a new bike or other gift from their incarcerated parent. Mail the form in this paper to "Community Giveback, 4400 Market Street, Oakland, CA 94608" by October 11 to register your child.

Know Your Rights for Immigrants in Prisons and Jails

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

Have your own attorney present at the interview
 Receive copies of ICE requests

You have the right to...
• Remain silent

from Immigrant Legal Resource Center





WILL ICE TRY TO ARREST ME AND IF SO, HOW?

- How does ICE find out I am an immigrant? Jails give ICE every person's fingerprints upon booking. Sometimes they use the information you provided, such as place of birth, ICE agents may come into the jail to ask you questions (you have a right to say **no** to this interview!).
- $\bullet \quad \textbf{Hold/Detainer Request:} \ \text{In California, law enforcement agencies should} \ \textit{not} \ \text{hold you beyond your release date,} \\$ only for ICE to pick you up. If they do, report it to your attorney as this could be a violation of your rights under state law or the Constitution.
- Notification/Transfer Request: ICE may send law enforcement a request for the date of your release from jail/ prison so that ICE can arrest you at your release (this is common).

HOW WILL I KNOW IF ICE SENT A REQUEST (HOLD/NOTIFICATION/TRANSFER) TO TRY TO ARREST ME?

- The facility holding you $\underline{\text{must}}$ give you a copy of ICE requests. If you get one, tell you criminal defense attorney!
- Before your release or parole date, ICE officers may come to the jail/prison to interview you Note: The California TRUTH Act requires the jail/prison to <u>notify you</u> in writing before ICE comes to interview you, and give you a form asking if you agree to the interview or not.
- · This form must be translated into different languages like Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, and more
- · You may mark the form to (1) refuse the interview, (2) agree but ask for your

WHAT IF THE SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE SET BAIL IN MY CRIMINAL CASE?

- Talk to your criminal attorney before paying bail! ICE may arrest you when your bail is posted. Your criminal defender
- Some bail bonds companies will not post bail for people with ICE detainers.
- If you are in ICE detention while out on bail in your criminal case, tell your criminal defense attorney as soon as possible that you are in ICE detention so they can try to avoid you losing your bail and related arrest warrants

WHAT HAPPENS THE DAY I'M RELEASED FROM JAIL/PRISON?

- If you're in California State Prison, CDCR may make plans to release you to ICE up to 5 business days before your release date, or, do paperwork that delays your release until ICE arrives
- » On your release date, ICE might arrest you inside the prison/jail, or await you outside
- Even if the jail/prison does not notify ICE, ICE can wait for you when you are released
- · Your loved ones should document the arrest and call the local rapid response hotline ASAP
- » If you are not arrested at jail/prison, ICE might try to arrest you at home. ICE may <u>not</u> enter your home without a valid judicial warrant, which they rarely have (an ICE warrant is not enough). If ICE does not have a judicial warrant (you can ask ICE to slide it under the door), you should keep your door closed and remain silent.

CAN MY LOVED ONES HELP ME?

- » You should update your loved ones about your release date and time.
- » It is important that your loved ones arrive before you are expected to be released.
- » Memorize phone numbers for your friends, family, and lawyer(s), for use in your immigration case.
- » If you have a trusted friend or family member, give them copies of criminal or other important documents. You may need these in your immigration case

WHAT HAPPENS IF ICE ARRESTS ME WHEN I AM RELEASED?

- » You should be transported to the negrest ICE processing cente
- » At the ICE processing center, you will be interviewed and asked to sign papers
- You should be permitted to place one (1) free phone call.

WARNING: some people who have prior deportations or certain criminal convictions may be processed for automatic deportation without seeing the judge

CAN I ASK ICE TO RELEASE ME ON BAIL?

- » You can ask ICE:
 - · To be released on your own recognizance (your promise to appear and comply)
- To be released on bail/bond (financial guarantee to appear and comply)
- · To be detained in a local facility as close as possible to your loved ones (if
- » If ICE denies you bail/bond, you may still be able to ask the Immigration Judge to

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

- You have the right to...

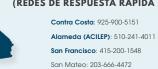
 You have the right to remain silent (refuse to answer questions)
- You have the right not to sign papers
- (refuse to sign)
 If you want to **fight** to stay in the United
- Do not sign any papers giving
- tion Judge, and

 Tell the officers if you are **afraid** you will be in danger in the country where you would be deported
- set bail/bond for you

WHO CAN I CALL FOR LEGAL HELP IF ICE ARRESTS ME?

- If possible, consult with an immigration attorney who specializes in criminal issues in advance
- » If you have an immigration attorney, call them when you are arrested and tell the ICE officers to call them
- If you do not have an immigration attorney on the day ICE arrests you, you or your loved ones can call the local Rapid Response Network for help (it is important to try to call that very same day)
- Rapid Response Networks try to offer emergency assistance to people on the day that ICE arrests them, led by volunteers and community-based organizations
 - You or your loved one should call the Rapid Response Network located nearest to where ICE arrests you Your loved one can find a list of all of the Rapid Response Networks in California at
 - https://ccijustice.org/services/california-rapid-response-networks/ (also listed below)

CALIFORNIA RAPID RESPONSE HOTLINES (REDES DE RESPUESTA RÁPIDA LÍNEAS DE EMERGENCIA) Contra Costa: 925-900-5151



Humboldt: 707-282-5226 North Bay: 707- 800-4544

Marin: 415-991-4545 West Marin: 415-320-4826

San Francisco: 415-200-1548 San Mateo: 203-666-4472 Santa Clara: 408-290-1144

Monterey: 831-643-5225 Valley Watch: 559-206-0151

(Condados de Fresno, San Joaquin

Southern Central Coast: (805) 870-8855

San Luis Obispo)

Condado de Los Angeles: 888-624-4752 Boyle Heights: (323) 922-5644

Long Beach: 562-269-1083 Inland Coalition: 909-361-4588

Orange County: 657-210-0157

San Diego: 619-536-0823

Todas las personas en los Estados Unidos, independientemente de su estatus migratorio, tienen ciertos derechos y protecciones bajo la Constitución de los Estados Unidos. Las tarjetas rojas del ILRC dan ejemplos de cómo las personas pueden ejercer estos derechos. Sin embargo, no dan consejo legal individualizado. Les avisamos a los miembros de la comunidad que consulten con un proveedor de servicios legales de confianza si tienen preguntas sobre su situación.

Red Cards from ILRC: All people in the United States, regardless of immigration status, have certain rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution. The ILRC's red cards give examples of how people can exercise these rights. However, they do not provide individualized legal advice. Community members are encouraged to check in with a trusted legal service provider for questions about their situation.

You have constitutional rights:

- DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.
- DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.
- DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.
- If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.
- GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.
- Ông Bà có quyền lợi theo Hiến Pháp Hoa Kỳ:
- Không mở cửa khi nhân viên di trú gõ cưả.
- Không trả lời câu hỏi nào của nhân viên di trú nếu họ muổn nói chuyện với Ông Bà. Ông Bà có quyền giữ im lặng.
- Không ký một tờ giấy nào trước khi bàn với luật sư. Ông
- Bà có quyền nói chuyện với luật sư. Nếu Ông Bà đang đứng ngoài nhà mình, hỏi nhân viên di trú xem mình có quyền rời chỗ đó không, và nếu có, hãy
- Dưa thẻ này cho nhân viên di trú. Nếu đang ở trong nhà, đưa cho họ coi qua cửa kiếng hoặc đẩy thẻ dưới cửa ra vào.

- I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.
- I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.
- I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.
- I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.
- These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.
- I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.
- I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.
- I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.
- I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.
- These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.

- 你有以下憲法賦與的權利:
- 如移民局人員敲門, 不要開門。
- 如移民局人員想和你交談, 不要回答任何問題。你有
- 未和律師諮詢之前,不要簽署任何文件。你有權和一
- ·如你在家外面,問移民局人員你是否可以離開,如他們答可以,請鎮靜地離開。
- 出示此卡給移民局人員看。如你在家裡。可在窗口或 門下面遞出去給他們看。

- · NO ABRA LA PUERTA si un agente de inmigración está tocando
- NO CONTESTE NINGUNA PREGUNTA de un agente de inmigración si trata de hablar con usted. Usted tiene el derecho a guardar silencio.
- NO FIRME NADA sin antes hablar con un abogado. Usted tiene el derecho de hablar con un abogado.
- Si usted está fuera de su casa, pregúntele al agente si tiene la libertad de irse y si le dice que sí, váyase con tranquilidad.

Usted tiene derechos constitucionales:

- ENTRÉGUELE ESTA TARJETA EL AGENTE. Si usted está dentro de su casa, muestre la tarjeta por la ventana o pásela debajo de la puerta.

- I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.
- I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.
- I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.
- I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.
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I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.

I choose to exercise my constitutional rights. These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.

Honoring Those Who Died in CDCR Custody • July 2025

Though we do not know their identities, we mourn every life taken in a carceral facility. The below data is from CDCR and represents the individuals who died in custody in California prisons.

Date	Age	Gender	Race	Facility	Cause
07/02/2025	73	М	Black	CHCF	Cerebrovascular Disease
07/02/2025	67	М	White	CHCF	Pending
07/02/2025	70	М	Hispanic	CEN	Pending
07/02/2025	58	М	Black	CMC	Unknown
07/02/2025	78	М	White	CMF	Pulmonary
07/04/2025	22	М	Hispanic	KVSP	Homicide
07/05/2025	45	М	Hispanic	CMC	Infectious Disease
07/06/2025	75	М	White	CMF	Pending
07/07/2025	35	М	White	CIM	Pending
07/07/2025	63	М	Mexican	CMF	Pending
07/07/2025	45	М	Mexican	SVSP	Pending
07/07/2025	41	М	Black	KVSP	Drug Overdose
07/09/2025	63	М	Black	RJD	Cancer

Date	Age	Gender	Race	Facility	Cause
07/10/2025	54	M	White	SATF	Pending
07/10/2025	34	M	Hispanic	SVSP	Pending
07/10/2025	28	M	Black	HDSP	Pending
07/12/2025	51	M	Black	HDSP	Pending
07/13/2025	63	M	Hispanic	CMF	Pending
07/13/2025	52	M	White	CTF	Pending
07/13/2025	73	М	White	CMF	Neurological Disease
07/16/2025	47	M	Black	CHCF	Pending
07/17/2025	78	M	Black	CMF	Pending
07/18/2025	76	M	White	VSP	Pending
07/18/2025	34	M	Hispanic	FSP	Pending
07/19/2025	87	М	American Indian	CMF	Pending
07/19/2025	75	M	Black	CMF	Pending
07/19/2025	75	M	White	CHCF	Pending
07/19/2025	23	M	White	SAC	Pending
07/19/2025	37	M	Black	COR	Pending
07/21/2025	29	M	Hispanic	SVSP	Pending

Date	Age	Gender	Race	Facility	Cause
07/21/2025	74	M	Hispanic	SATF	Pending
07/22/2025	38	М	Mexican	CIM	Pending
07/23/2025	31	М	Hispanic	CMF	Pending
07/23/2025	49	М	White	CRC	Pending
07/23/2025	49	М	Black	KVSP	Pending
07/24/2025	46	M	Mexican	CMF	Pending
07/26/2025	48	M	White	HDSP	Pending
07/26/2025	43	М	Hispanic	WSP	Pending
07/27/2025	66	М	Black	CMF	Pending
07/28/2025	35	М	Hispanic	RJD	Pending

If you would like to recognize an AOUON member who has joined the ancestors, please send their obituary or a piece honoring them to: **AOUON** Newspaper

> 44000 Market St Oakland, CA, 94608

or uma@prisonerswithchildren.org for publication in an upcoming newspaper. **8 | AOUON NEWSPAPER** August 2025



ALL OF US OR NONE

Slave, who is it that shall free you? Those in deepest darkness lying. Comrade, only these can see you Only they can hear you crying. Comrade, only slaves can free you. Everything or nothing. All of us or none. One alone our lot can't better. Either gun or fetter. Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

You who hunger, who shall feed you? If it's bread you would be carving, Come to us, we too are starving. Come to us and let us lead you. Only hungry ones can feed you. Everything or nothing. All of us or none. One alone her lot can't better. Either gun or fetter. Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

Beaten one, who shall avenge you? You, on whom the blows are falling, Hear your wounded comrades calling. Weakness gives us strength to lend you. Come to us, we shall avenge you. Everything or nothing. All of us or none. One alone his lot can't better. Either gun or fetter. Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

Who, oh wretched one, shall dare it? We who can no longer bear it. Counts the blows that arm our spirit. Taught the time by need and sorrow, Strikes today and not tomorrow. Everything or nothing. All of us or none One alone our lot can't better. Either gun or fetter. Everything or nothing. All of us or none.

Bertolt Brecht (1898–1956)

Survey for CA residents: In order to support advocacy for AB 1279, please fill out this survey if you have been impacted by juvenile adjudications and "strikes." The form, once filled out, should be mailed to Assemblymember Sharp-Collins.

Juvenile Data Collection Survey
Thank you for participating in this confidential survey. This information is rarely collected and difficult to find, but it's essential to understanding how juvenile strikes continue to impact people. Your responses will help us better advocate for AB 1279 (Sharp-Collins), a bill aimed at ending the practice of using juvenile adjudications as "strikes" and petitioning for resentencing. By submitting this form, you consent to the use of your responses for advocacy, social media, and policy work. All questions are optional . Please return the form to the legislative office listed below.
First and Last Name:
Contact Information:
Age:
Were you ever arrested or detained as a juvenile (under 18)?
Were you ever charged with a felony as a juvenile?
Did you receive a 'strike' under California's Three Strikes Law for a juvenile offense?
Was your juvenile strike ever alleged against you in your adult case?
Was your juvenile strike later used to enhance a sentence as an adult?
What was the final sentence you received after enhancement with the juvenile strike?
We invite you to share your story. How it happened, how it has shaped your life, and what you want others (including lawmakers and the public) to know and understand about your experience:
Would you like to remain anonymous?
Assemblymember Sharp-Collins 1021 O Street, Suite 4130 Sacramento, CA 95814

ALL OF US OR NONE CHAPTER CONTACTS

National AOUON Headquarters Oakland, California

c/o Legal Services for Prisoners with Children 4400 Market St., Oakland, CA 94608 Outreach Organizer: John Cannon (415) 625-7045 john@prisonerswithchildren.org

Bakersfield, California Ucedrah Osby: AOUONBakersfield@gmail.

Los Angeles/Long Beach, California c/o Å New Way of Life Reentry PO Box 875288, Los Angeles, CA, 90087 Phone: (323) 563-3575 Fax: (323) 563-3445 Dawn Davidsón: ddavidson@ anewwayoflife.org

> Orange County, California Stephanie Jeffcoat:

stephaniejeffcoatocaouon@gmail.com Manny Galindo: mgalindo@fir4e.org

Riverside, California Fidel Chagolla: (909) 870 7306 fidel@startingovérinc.org Richard Giles: (951) 898 0862 Richard@startingoverinc.org www.facebook.com/RivAOUON 6355 Riverside Ave. Ste. 100, Riverside CA 92506

Sacramento, California c/o California State University, Sacramento 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819 info@prisonerswithchildren.org

San Diego, California Yusef Miller: allofusornonesandiego@ gmail.com

Las Vegas, Nevada MariaAgnes Jones

mariaagnesjones87@gmail.com Idaho

Mary Failing: maryfailing@my.cwi.edu

Chicago, IllinoisRichard Wallace: Chicago.IL.AOUON@gmail.

Louisville, KentuckySavvy Shabazz: AOUONLouisville@gmail. com

> Hopkinsville, Kentucky Cinnamon Watts cinnamonwatts40@gmail.com

St. Louis, Missouri Patty Berger: AOUÓN.StL@gmail.com

> **Durham, North Carolina** Andrea "Muffin" Hudson: AOUONNC@amail.com

Eastern North Carolina Corey Purdie: AOUONENC@gmail.com

Charlotte, North Carolina

Kristie Puckett Williams: AllOfUsOrNoneNC@gmail.com

Greater Cincinnati, Ohio Zaria Davis: CincyAOUON@gmail.com San Antonio, Texas

Steve Huerta: AllOfUsOrNoneTexas@gmail.

New YorkIvelisse Gilestra: AOUON.NewYork@gmail. com

Northern New Jersey P.O. Box 9812, Newark, NJ 07104 Tia Ryans: AOUON.NJ@gmail.com

South Jersey Ronald Pierce (732) 608-4752 rpierce@njisj.org

Eastern WashingtonMegan Pirie: EasternWAAOUON@gmail.

com **Madison, Wisconsin**Caliph Muab-el: WIAOUON@gmail.com

Georgia, Atlanta Waleisah Wilson (404) 860-2837

Greenville, South Carolina Angela Hurks

(864) 991-1388 (m) (854) 236-1393 (f) stenbystenhopenroject@charter.ne www.stepbystephopeproject@charter.net

All of Us or None Membership Form	Yes, I want to become a member of ALL OF US OR NONE!
Name & Number:	

Institution: Country of Origin: ____ Do you have children? YES / NO. Do you need support with family issues? YES / NO Earliest Parole/Release Date: _____ County of Parole/Probation:__

- o I can organize & facilitate group meeting
- o I can help with membership outreach
- o I can distribute materials & resources
- o I can address & pass along feedback

Mail this form & any questions to: **AOUON** 4400 Market Street Oakland, CA 94608

