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Updates for August 11th

15 Jul - Hack of 251 Law Enforcement Websites Exposes Personal Data of 700,000 Cops

The BlueLeaks archive contains over 16 million rows of data, including emails, descriptions of alleged crimes, and detailed personal information. [NOTE: we've redacted words we do not allow to be reprinted in our publications, regardless of context.]

MORE:

by Micah Lee (*The Intercept*)

After failing to prevent the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the U.S. government realized it had an information-sharing problem. Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies had their own separate surveillance databases that possibly could have prevented the attacks, but they didn't communicate any of this information with each other. So Congress directed the newly formed Department of Homeland Security to form "fusion centers" across the country, collaborations between federal agencies like DHS and the FBI with state and local police departments, to share intelligence and prevent future terrorist attacks.

Yet in 2012 the Senate found that fusion centers have "not produced useful intelligence to support Federal counterterrorism efforts," that the majority of the reports fusion centers produced had no connection to terrorism at all, and that the reports were low quality and often not about illegal activity. Fusion centers have also been criticized for privacy and civil liberties violations such as infiltrating and spying on anti-war activists.

Last month, the transparency collective Distributed Denial of Secrets published 269 gigabytes of law enforcement data on its website and using the peer-to-peer file sharing technology BitTorrent. The data, stolen from 251 different law enforcement websites by the hacktivist collective Anonymous, was mostly taken from fusion center websites (including many of those listed on DHS's website), though some of the hacked websites were for local police departments, police training organizations, members-only associations for cops or retired FBI agents, and law enforcement groups specifically dedicated to investigating organized retail crime, drug trafficking, and working with industry.

After the BlueLeaks data was published, Twitter has permanently suspended the DDoSecrets Twitter account, citing a policy against distributing hacked material. Twitter has also taken the unprecedented step of blocking all links to ddosecrets.com, falsely claiming, to users who click that the website may be malicious. Twitter is implementing these policies arbitrarily; for example, the WikiLeaks Twitter account and links to wikileaks.org are still accessible despite the large amount of hacked material that WikiLeaks has published. Following Twitter's example, Reddit banned the r/blueleaks forum — citing its policy against posting personal information — where users discussed articles based on leaked documents and their own findings from digging through the BlueLeaks data. German authorities have seized a server belonging to DDoSecrets that was hosting BlueLeaks data, leaving BitTorrent as the only way the data is currently being distributed by the organization. (For the record, I'm a member of DDoSecrets' advisory board.)

"I think the bans are simple attempts to slow or stop the spread of the information and news," Emma Best, a co-founder of DDoSecrets, told *The Intercept*. "The fact that the server was seized without a warrant or judicial order and now sits idle while the Germans debate whether or not to let FBI have it simply emphasizes the conclusion that censorship and retaliation, not just investigation, are the driving forces," they added.

All of the hacked websites were hosted and built by the Texas web development firm Netsential on Windows servers located in Houston. They were all running the same custom (and insecure) content management system, developed using Microsoft's ASP.NET framework in the programming language VBScript, using Microsoft Access databases. Because they all run the same software, if a hacker could find a vulnerability in one of the websites that allowed them to download all the data from it, they could use that vulnerability to hack the rest of the websites without much additional effort.

The hacked data includes a massive trove of law enforcement documents, most of which dates from 2007 until June 14, 2020, well into the wave of anti-police brutality protests triggered by the police murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis. The data also includes the source code for Netsential's custom CMS — while analyzing it for this story, I discovered a vulnerability myself — and the content of the databases that these websites used.

"Netsential can confirm its web servers were recently compromised," the company said in a statement on its website, which itself runs this same CMS. "We are working with the appropriate law enforcement authorities regarding the breach, and we are fully cooperating with the ongoing investigation. We have enhanced our systems and will continue to work with law enforcement to mitigate future threats. Netsential will continue to work with clients impacted by the intrusion. Inasmuch as this is an ongoing investigation, and due to the sensitivity of client information, Netsential will provide no further statement while the matter is pending."

"It's a disaster for law enforcement from a PR perspective," Phillip Atiba Goff — CEO and co-founder of Center for Policing Equity, an organization that uses data science to combat racial bias within U.S. police departments — told me in an encrypted phone call. "That there is worse stuff than what we're seeing, that it's not just individual [police] Facebook accounts but it's part of the culture of the department — that doesn't surprise me. That shouldn't surprise anyone."

700,000 Law Enforcement Officers Exposed

The vast majority of people who have logins on these hacked websites are law enforcement officers, and Netsential's CMS stores quite a lot of personal information about each account.

For example, the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center has 29,114 accounts, and each one includes a full name; rank; police department or agency; email address; home address; cellphone number; supervisor's name, rank, and email address; the IP address used to create the account; and a password hash — a cryptographic representation of the user's password (hashed with 1,000 iterations of PBKDF2 and a 24-byte salt, if you're that kind of nerd). If a user's password is weak, hackers with access to its hash could crack it to recover the original password, potentially leading to a giant list of all the weak passwords used by U.S. law enforcement.

This is from a single fusion center. The BlueLeaks data contains similar information for 137 separate websites, though most have fewer accounts and not every website contains all of these pieces of information. Some don't contain password hashes.

The two largest account databases come from the National Guard's counterdrug training program website, with more than 200,000 accounts exposed, and the Los Angeles High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area training program website with nearly 150,000 accounts exposed. In total, the hacked data includes private details for over 711,000 accounts.

“I get that there’s a community concern that there’s not accountability for law enforcement, and there’s a desire among a nontrivial portion of the population for something like not justice but vengeance, and there’s a feeling that the entire population of law enforcement is to blame for what we’ve seen in the streets,” Goff said. “I really pray that no officer is hurt because of this. Even more I pray that no officer’s family is hurt because of this.”

Hacked Websites

Many of the websites belonged to traditional fusion centers, such as Minnesota’s fusion center called ICEFISHX, the Alabama Fusion Center, and even the Mariana Regional Fusion Center based in the Mariana Islands, a U.S. commonwealth in the North Pacific.

But a number of the hacked websites belong to organizations in which law enforcement agencies partner with industry, such as:

- Energy Security Council, a nonprofit where law enforcement collaborates with oil companies. Its board of directors includes executives from companies like Chevron and Exxon Mobil.
- Chicagoland Financial Security Group, a “crime watch”-type website that Chicago law enforcement uses to communicate with the financial industry (presumably, white-collar crime isn’t included in their definition of “crime”). Partner organizations include Bank of America, Chase, U.S. Bank, and several other financial institutions.
- Chicago Hospitality Entertainment and Tourism Security Association (Chicago HEAT), a nonprofit where the DHS, FBI, DEA, and Chicago Police collaborate with Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association.
- Law Enforcement and Private Security Los Angeles, which organized annual symposiums between law enforcement and private security companies.
- Organized retail crime alliances (ORCAs), partnerships between law enforcement and local retail industries that investigate organized shoplifting rings. These include Alert Mid-South (Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama), CAL ORCA (California), Central New York ORCA, and many others.

Many of the hacked websites belong to high intensity drug trafficking area programs, or HIDTAs, essentially fusion centers focused solely on the war on drugs. These include Atlanta-Carolinas HIDTA, New Mexico HIDTA, Puerto Rico-U.S. Virgin Islands HIDTA, as well as many others.

Some of the hacked websites belong to local police departments, such as the Jersey Village Police Department in Texas, which prominently displays a link to request a “vacation house watch.” In this case, partners who log in to the website appear to be individuals who live or own property in Jersey Village. Websites belonging to the Lamar University Police Department (also in Texas), the Burlingame Police Briefing Board (in California), and several other local police departments were among those hacked.

Many of the hacked websites belonged to training academies for law enforcement, such as the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, the Amarillo College Panhandle Regional Law Enforcement Academy, and many others. The Los Angeles Police Department Detective Training Unit website, which was taken offline after the data breach, offers courses taught by billionaire Peter Thiel’s private surveillance company Palantir.

Finally, several of the hacked websites belong to members-only associations like the Houston Police Retired Officers Association, the Southeastern Michigan Association Chiefs of Police, and associations for various chapters of the FBI National Academy Associates.

Suspicious Activity Reports

A week after Derek Chauvin, a Minneapolis police officer, knelt on George Floyd's neck for eight minutes while he lay handcuffed in the street until he died, triggering massive nationwide protests, a young political science major in Oregon was contacting lawyers. "I am a long time activist and ally of the Black Lives Matter movement," she wrote to a Bay Area law firm. "Is there anyway[sic] that I could add your firm, or consenting lawyers under your firm, to a list of resources who will represent protesters pro bono if they were/are to be arrested? Thank you very much for your time."

A lawyer who read this message was infuriated and anonymously reported the student to the authorities. "PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED SOLICITATION I RECEIVED FROM AN ANTIFA TERRORIST WANTING MY HELP TO BAIL HER AND HER FRIENDS OUT OF JAIL, IF ARRESTED FOR RIOTING," he typed into an unhinged letter, in all-caps, that he mailed to the Marin County District Attorney's office, just north of San Francisco.

He explained that he was remaining anonymous because he "CANNOT RISK THIS PIECE OF SHIT ANTIFA [...] FILING A BAR COMPLAINT AGAINST ME," and warned that "THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDERS WILL VIGOROUSLY DEFEND THESE TERRORISTS." He ended his letter, "HAPPY HUNTING."

An investigator in the Marin County DA's office considered this useful intelligence. She logged into the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center's CMS and created a new Suspicious Activity Report, or SAR, under the category "Radicalization/Extremism" and typed the student's name as the subject. "The attached letter was received via US Postal Service this morning," she wrote in the summary field. The student "appears to be a member of the Antifa group and is assisting in planning protesting efforts in the Bay Area despite living in Oregon."

She uploaded a scanned PDF of the letter to the fusion center. The return address on the envelope was the address of the San Francisco District Attorney's office. *The Intercept* could not confirm if the attorney who reported this student works with the San Francisco DA or not.

This is one example from over 1,200 community-submitted SARs in the BlueLeaks data, the bulk of which are included in the data of 10 different fusion sites. Here are a few others.

A probation officer posted a SAR to the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center stating, "3 young females with hijabs were videotaping the LJC [juvenile court] building," and adding: "Although it is their constitutional right to video tape it did make me very concerned."

Google reports threatening YouTube comments to the Northern California fusion center in the form of SARs, regardless of where the abusive YouTube user is located. For example, in June, Google reported a series of comments that a user from Michigan posted to different videos. Here is an example of one of his comments:

He was only a n---. Who cares. With the years of unprovoked anti white attacks and contribution to white genocide. I feel nothing for n--- deaths. Or view them as human. Way they act. Trump 2020 and why I still refuse to serve n---s in my diner to the point I have history of pointing my gun at any who still enter despite the sign outside. That includes ones in police uniform who could be fake cops in stolen uniforms. Would be like letting in the Devil.

It's unclear what the fusion center does with this information, if anything. But this SAR reported by Google is the only place in all of the BlueLeaks data where this YouTube user's display name or email address appears.

Scratching the Surface

In all, the BlueLeaks archive contains more than 16 million rows of data from hundreds of thousands of hacked database tables: not just personal information of officers, but the content of bulk emails and newsletters, descriptions of alleged crimes with geolocation coordinates, internal survey results, website logs, and so much more. It also contains hundreds of thousands of PDFs and Microsoft Office documents, thousands of videos, and millions of images.

“I think that law enforcement can be better if [evidence of police crimes and racial bias] can be made more public,” Goff said. “The emails and records that I’ve seen could take down the entire profession.”

29 Jul - Statement from Jaan Laaman Regarding “Running Down the Walls”

So as not to buy the lede, NYC ABC is not organizing a physical Running Down the Walls event, as the below statement from us conveys. Jaan Laaman has written a solidarity statement with RDTW, as he does every year. We are including Jaan’s statement, and others below.

MORE:

A loud revolutionary shout-out, to all the runners, joggers, walkers, and others coming together this September 6th, for Running Down the Walls 2020. In the midst of this deadly COVID pandemic and the even more deadly centuries-long racist pandemic, we need to come together across the country and on both sides of the walls, this year more than ever.

I believe this is the 21st Running Down the Walls. In 1999, we had a real good solidarity run in Leavenworth and lots of political prisoners and prisoners overall, have been running down the walls in prison yards, control units, and other seg cells ever since.

Here in USP McCreary and throughout the federal BOP prisons, we have been on a pandemic lockdown since March. Hard to say if yards will be open by September. If they are, I along with other conscious-minded convicts will be joining everyone else- outside and in, on September 6th. If I am still locked down, I will join you all in my cell, throwing hard, high and fast kicks for 45 minutes straight! Well, haha, probably with a few breaths in between, but I will be with you all, in strong spirit and focused activity.

OK, let’s kick it off- get to running. Let me finish by telling you about this button I used to always wear when I was a student in 1968- “Less talk, More action, SMASH RACISM.”

August 8th - NYC ABC statement on Running Down the Walls 2020

===DONATE AT PAYPAL.ME/NYCABC===

Since 2008, NYC ABC has been organizing annual events in solidarity with Running Down the Walls (RDTW), started by ABCF-Los Angeles in 1999. Over the years, our RDTW events have become more than fundraisers for the ABCF Warchest and local organizations: they’ve become hubs where folks from overlapping radical and revolutionary communities—multigender, multiracial, and multigenerational—come together and socialize after an enthusiastic five kilometers of running, walking, biking, skating, and rolling. Many of the folks who anticipate each year’s event do so knowing they will see folks they might not see more than once a year. So, with all that said, we regret to announce that for 2020 we will not be organizing a physical Running Down the Wall event. The stakes are too high and we have too many close comrades who are elders or otherwise at higher risk if exposed to Covid-19.

While recognizing the importance of the local event to various communities, it is ultimately the way by which we help build the warchest and directly support out political prisoners and prisoners of war (PP/POWs). Therefore we are calling on those communities to help us reach a goal of \$3,000. Unless

otherwise noted by the donor, all donations to [paypal.me/ncabc](https://www.paypal.com/ncabc) through September 6th will go directly to the warchest.

Just as we support those facing repression in the fallout of recent uprisings, we must also support the PP/POWs who have been imprisoned for years, even decades. Please help us spread the word and direct your friends, loved ones, and comrades to [paypal.me/ncabc](https://www.paypal.com/ncabc)

August 10th - Oso Blanco's Statement on Running Down the Walls

Well I must say things are more crazy. More dangerous. More Sad. More lockdown than ever. In my 20 straight years for my radical actions to get funds for supplies to send SE Mexico – 2020 is the worse yet.

But I am the SACRED PIPE holder here for all the Natives. So, I can't fail or get sick. I have a lot of prayer requests. As you all know why. My people are highly affected by Covid 19. So, Run Down These Walls. It must be done. I love you all and I truly mean that. You are powerful. So, don't give up! And Black Lives Matter! So, Let's all Rock This!

29 Jul - Omaha prayer session held for family of Ed Poindexter and victims of racism

Omaha, Nebraska was for one brief hour at the very center of healing and recovery from America's race warfare.

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In an unique, ecumenical gathering of prayer at the Clair Memorial United Methodist Church in Omaha, ten pastors offered ten prayers for unity, mercy and healing. Men and women of peace came together and collectively asked for divine guidance in the work of bringing together a fractured people, wounded by racial division.

Facilitated by Pastor Portia Cavitt, the prayer vigil was the idea of Preston Love, Jr., director of Black Votes Matter following his appearance in June at the Nebraska Board of Pardons. Love sought the release of Edward Poindexter, former leader of a Black Panther affiliate chapter in Omaha. Poindexter is serving a life without parole sentence for the 1970 bombing murder of an Omaha police officer, Larry Minard. Poindexter denies his guilt and says he was wrongfully convicted.

Governor Pete Rickett, chairman of the Pardon Board, suggested to Love that he reach out to the family of Patrolman Minard. Thus was born the idea for the prayer vigil in an effort to bring closure and reconciliation to a scarred city, wounded by events a half-century ago..

The soulful strains of "Sometimes I feel like a Motherless Child" set a somber and pensive tone. Each pastor took up a different theme. The first prayer was a prayer for forgiveness. Then a prayer for unity as a people, followed by a prayer for mercy.

A prayer for reform of ourselves was followed by a prayer for all families touched by senseless deaths. The senseless death of fourteen year-old Vivian Strong, shot in the back of the head in 1969 by an Omaha police officer, was the subject of another group prayer. Although Patrolman James Loder lost his job he was acquitted of manslaughter by an Omaha jury.

A special prayer was made for the Larry Minard family. Officer Minard, killed in the line of duty in 1970 responding to a 911 call about a screaming woman, left behind a widow and five young children. Buried on his thirtieth birthday, the martyred policeman was betrayed by some of his own command officers and

agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation when the search for his killers was called off to convict two Black Panther leaders.

A prayer was offered for the James Scurlock family. The twenty year-old man was shot to death May 20th in the Old Market area of Omaha during a scuffle with an armed tavern owner. The occasion was a George Floyd protest and the barman fired two warning shots to scare away an increasingly unruly crowd. Scurlock grappled with the armed man and was shot for his effort. Douglas County Attorney Don Kleine pronounced it a case of self-defense and no charges were filed.

A prayer was dedicated to the family of Edward Poindexter serving a life without parole sentence for the murder of Larry Minard. In poor health, Poindexter has suffered a living death of both the loss of his freedom and his reputation. Poindexter's controversial 1971 trial was marred by conflicting police testimony, a withheld report by the FBI Laboratory, and apparently tampered dynamite evidence.

Poindexter, and co-defendant David Rice, later Wopashitwe Mondo Eyen we Langa, were targets of an illegal and clandestine FBI counterintelligence operation code-named COINTELPRO. Nebraska courts have been reluctant to admit COINTELPRO tampering with the trial and many feel justice remains undone with Poindexter paying a debt he does not owe.

The final prayer of the vigil was one for healing. Three different deaths, Vivian Strong, Larry Minard, and James Scurlock share one thing in common, they all tore Omaha apart. Yesterday, at the Clair Memorial Church, there was a glimpse of a new way, a new day.

The next meeting of the Nebraska Board of Pardons will be August 19th, two days after the fiftieth anniversary of Larry Minard's murder. The burden on the Board will be to see that Minard did not die in vain and that justice can come to Poindexter who former Governor Morrison said the courts have failed.

29 Jul - For Black & Pink Organizers, Decarceration Must Grapple With Constant Violence Against LGBTQ+ People

For many people dissenting from the carceral state, namely the policing and prison systems, the act of existing outside of these modes is about the value they place on their life and the lives around them.

MORE:

by Adam Mahoney (*Shadowproof*)

They say the state fails to give said value and care to much of the country's population from urban communities of color to poor, white rural pockets of the midwest. And if you're queer or transgender, it's tenfold.

"When you're Black or trans and formerly or currently incarcerated, our culture says you're disposable," said Dominique Morgan (they/them). "We're comfortable engaging in throwing them away because we've made it seem like 'Oh, they chose to not be amongst us. So this is their consequence.' It's a false narrative we've been sold to dispose of us."

Morgan is a queer organizer and executive director of Black & Pink, an open family of LGBTQ+ prisoners and free world allies who support each other. They're a national abolitionist organization dedicated to dismantling the carceral system and the harms caused to LGBTQ+ people and people living with HIV/AIDS. They are building a world without dependence on prisons and policing.

For a national organization with 13 chapters and more than 20,000 members, Morgan's rise to leadership was far from the norm in the non-profit industrial complex. A decade before Morgan's ascension, they spent a year and a half in solitary confinement at the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution.

Solitary confinement, isolation within an institution already existing to isolate, is often used as retribution for the most minuscule of things—a tool used to break down incarcerated people.

According to the last data released by the Bureau of Justice Statistics in 2011-12, there are more than 80,000 people in solitary confinement in prisons, jails, and detention centers across the United States.

In 2015, Black & Pink conducted a survey taken by 1,118 incarcerated LGBTQ+ people across the country. They found that 85 percent of respondents had been in solitary confinement at some point during their sentence totaling more than 5,110 years combined.

Beyond the harmful psychological effects of long-term solitary confinement, solitary confinement poses an insidious public safety and community health threat once folks are released.

Much like the hundreds of thousands of formerly incarcerated people re-entering “society” annually, those subjected to the atrocities of solitary confinement are not given the tools to succeed once they're released. And even when traditional success is afforded to them, there are lingering effects around respectability.

“I've been out for 11 years,” added Morgan. “But it took me doing all the right structural things, going to Georgetown and becoming a director, for the world to say ‘okay, you have value again.’ That's not how this world is supposed to work.”

“It's about loving each other”

As a result, under Morgan Black & Pink works to center those who have been what they call “system impacted,” and to create an environment where they're given the value their lives deserve.

System impacted people are those seemingly shoveled into a prison system that inherently perpetuates queer violence by a policing system that disproportionately ends queer lives. This is especially true for Black and Brown LGBTQ+ people, according to Morgan.

“When we see folks who are system impacted, especially young folks, who are looking for safe housing or in need of direct aid, these babies are drowning in all of their needs,” declared Morgan.

“They're suffocating from the amount of trauma and struggles they're holding.”

Their 2015 report found that only 52 percent of the survey respondents were living in a home of their own before being incarcerated. In the same vein, their unemployment rate was seven times higher than the national average, nearly two-thirds of respondents' first arrest occurred before their 18th birthday and less than one-third of respondents completed high school outside of prison.

Following their 2015 national survey, the organization created a report meant to be a tool for organizers, both inside and outside of prisons, to build national and grassroots level campaigns to alleviate the immediate suffering of incarcerated folks and abolish the carceral system while centering the needs of LGBTQ+ prisoners. The tool packet has helped to inform their own work as well.

Black & Pink has various working groups on everything from immigration to decriminalizing sex work. Their Transitions program works to facilitate safe housing for people who are system impacted. The organization also runs a Youth Leadership Institute, not to mention the three programs they are most known for REAP, their pen pal letter-writing group, and Black & Pink News.

REAP stands for “Restore, Embolden, Amplify, Power, and focuses on addressing issues that queer and transgender formerly incarcerated people face when they reenter the community, including increasing access to mental health services, job training, and housing.

The letter-writing group is a life-affirming practice between incarcerated people and folks existing outside of the prison walls. It “reminds people of their inherent value” in a system that can be especially dehumanizing. It also serves as harm reduction inside prisons because it shows that there are people paying attention to an incarcerated person’s wellbeing and reaffirms their feelings of being accepted regardless of their gender and sexuality.

Black & Pink News, which is sent to thousands of incarcerated folks for free, is the only source of outside news for roughly half of the people who receive it inside of prisons. As of lately, they’ve been gathering self-care tips to send to the incarcerated readers through the newspaper.

“It’s about loving each other in spite of all the harm that has been inflicted upon us,” suggested Morgan. “We have to see each other and respect and appreciate the diversity amongst us. Because otherwise, we’re not going to get collective liberation.”

“Abolition and the world-building outside of the carceral system is the only answer”

With the globally catalyzing murders of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and Tony McDade underscoring thousands of other murders at the hands of U.S. police officers per year, abolition has entered the mainstream consciousness. However, those who have been personally addressing harm in their communities without police and fighting for a world where police aren’t needed, have made it clear to separate the historical call for abolitionist world-making from current calls to defund police.

“Black communities don’t often call the police,” said Morgan. “Those are the remnants of abolition that Black people have always had. That’s something that has been ours and should be our legacy. Even as it has been co-opted, making it harder for us to navigate our communities and communities around us.”

It’s no surprise that communities that exist outside the confinements of respectability and what is acceptable, like Black Queer and/or transgender communities alike, are forced to work outside of policing for their safety.

Not only does carcerality function as a gendering apparatus, meaning it dictates and enforces sexual and gender conformity under the gender binary, it also creates the conditions where sexual and gender violence thrives. Nearly 50 percent of LGBTQ+ victims of violence report police misconduct and one-in-two Black trans people have been to prison, often as punishment for crimes of survival.

To alleviate LGBTQ+ people’s interactions with police, Black & Pink recommends goals on the short-term, intermediate, and long-term levels. In the short-term, they suggest ending “Quality of Life” policing practices, in which LGBTQ+ people who are disproportionately unhoused, involved in sex trading, and live with mental illness, are criminalized for doing what they need to do to survive.

This means redistributing the billions of dollars spent in local municipalities on policing and prisons, including a hundred billion in funding from the federal government, into safe housing, food sovereignty, and access to green spaces among a plethora of other life-affirming practices, according to Morgan.

To help in this process of mutual aid and wealth redistribution, Black & Pink organizes aid funds and donation zaps like their “Give Out Day.” The money is directly injected into Black and Brown trans communities.

Intermediately they suggest creating addiction treatment - on - demand programs, as well as public physical and mental health treatment programs in non - carceral settings. They understand that the acts of policing and isolation exist outside of traditional carceral modes and that many mental health facilities, public health workers, and social workers use carceral techniques as well.

“People aren’t randomly positioned to be impacted by the carceral state and these carceral systems,” stated Morgan. “There were years of harm positioning them to experience the carceral violence that was enacted against them. And that’s why abolition and the world-building outside of the carceral system is the only answer because otherwise, we’re always going to be chasing our tails.”

“We’re talking about a system and world that wasn’t created for them.”

By eradicating interactions with police, the traumas of prisons and detention centers would cease to exist as well. However, organizations are needed on both ends of the carceral system to ensure a freer world for LGBTQ+ people, according to Morgan. One organization working on the detention side of the system is the LGBTQ+ Freedom Fund.

Those organizing for LGBTQ+ liberation understand the daunting hold carcerality has on LGBTQ+ bodies and acting outside of carcerality is a key way for them to live with the love and freedom they deserve. LGBTQ+ people are some of the most ‘system impacted’ in the country, so it’s vitally important that the struggle is against the carceral disposition of LGBTQ+ bodies, according to Tremaine Jones, the project director for the LGBTQ+ Freedom Fund.

“It’s very important that we look at ways of making sure that we’re getting LGBTQ+ folks out of jail and immigration detention centers,” declared Jones. “But we must always constantly make sure that we’re building a critical mass insurrection against the incarceration of LGBTQ+ folks.”

The fund is working to build the insurrection, or revolution, against LGBTQ+ incarceration. The fund pays bails to free LGBTQ+ folks from jails and detention centers while raising awareness of the “twin epidemics” LGBTQ+ people are facing, carcerality, and HIV/AIDS.

In Black & Pink’s survey, they found nearly three-quarters of respondents were held in jail before their conviction, more than half of those were detained for a year or more before being convicted of any crime.

Pretrial detainees have a suicide attempt rate that is about 7.5 times higher than the general population. While those with the financial means are released from confinement, those in poverty face only maleficent choices: accept deportation or a guilty plea to get out of jail—often to crimes they didn’t commit.

“The bail system is not a system that is set up for equity,” stated Jones. “It’s a system that perpetuates poverty and without it people are taking horrible routes just to get out of prison and jail conditions.”

In addition to bailing detainees, they connect people to legal, social, and medical support systems as well as doing on-site HIV rapid testing and counseling, pre-exposure prophylaxis linkage, and condom distribution.

Freedom Fund staffer Gabby Mahabeer (they/them) believes on-site connections are the best part of the job, it's about creating a world where LGBTQ+ are affirmed rather than punished, especially where the organization is based in Florida. Of the more than 75 reported murders of transgender or gender non-conforming people since 2018, about one in seven were in Florida.

"When we're talking about LGBTQ+ people, especially LGBTQ+ folks of color, we're talking about a system and world that wasn't created for them," contended Mahabeer. "It's a world that is set up to have them fail and cycle through a system of terror."

As Mahabeer described, the Freedom Fund builds a "path towards recently incarcerated lives being valued" through their different programs, but most importantly by building relationships. And at its core, that is what abolition is; It's about building a new, free world for everyone just as much as it's about ridding the world of carceral violence.

"So many people just don't get the support they need. All they want is relief," concluded Jones. "There's a level of violence that the state enforces against people and just by doing something as simple as building relationships we're combatting that."

1 Aug - Prison Break: Come Together, Right Now

As this is being written, unidentified Federal agents are disappearing protesters off the streets of Portland, Oregon, police nationwide are doubling-down on their commitment to escalating violence, and the president threatens to increase the militancy.

MORE:

by Certain Days (*It's Going Down*)

Important commentaries on the escalating state violence in Portland can be found at:

wagingnonviolence.org/2020/07/inside-battle-for-portland-with-independent-journalists

crimethinc.com/2020/07/17/solidarity-with-the-people-in-the-streets-of-portland-against-the-federal-occupation-and-the-police

COVID-19 continues to ravage those inside prisons and jails, with over 500 people testing positive for the virus at a medical prison in Texas. One of those that tested positive was Reality Winner, the NSA whistleblower who was recently denied compassionate release.

As you flip your "Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners" calendar to August, we hope you appreciate the vibrant portrait of former political prisoner Marilyn Buck. Buck (who died August 3, 2010) dedicated her life to the cause of the Black Liberation Movement, and we felt her portrait fitting for Black August. The painting was done by Garen Zakarian, an Armenian imprisoned in the U.S. since the 1990s, and a longtime supporter of political prisoners. The essay for the month, 'Intersectionality = Revolutionary Love,' is written by political prisoner Jaan Laaman. Laaman has been imprisoned since the mid-80s for his involvement in the United Freedom Front. If you haven't picked up a calendar yet they still are only \$5 at Burning Books!

Ongoing

We continue to see an influx of people willing to utilize direct action to express their frustration with a government that grows more authoritarian each day. In early July three Chico students pleaded guilty to setting fire to a campus patrol car in California. Another person has been charged with setting fire to

Seattle's East Police Precinct during the CHAZ occupation of Capitol Hill. Nick Tilsen, an Oglala Lakota activist, was arrested with 19 others in a Mount Rushmore protest on July 3, with Tilsen and others facing multiple charges in their defense of the Black Hills. Also, the People's Law Office is representing two Federal Grand Jury Resisters in Madison, Wisconsin.

Fundraising

New York City lawyers Urooj Rahman <fundrazr.com/71fsC0> and Colinford Mattis <fundrazr.com/supportcolinford> have both returned home on bail where they now face the threat of spending the rest of their lives in prison. Margaret Channon <gofundme.com/f/bail-lawyer-commissary> has been released on bail from federal custody in Seattle, where she faces similar charges. In Philadelphia, Lore-Elisabeth Blumenthal <gofundme.com/f/help-lore-elisabeth> remains in federal custody, facing arson charges from protests at the end of May. Be sure to write to her and offer support if you can. Follow us on social media for up-to-date bail funds and support networks as they arise.

While we are currently seeing an influx of political prisoners, we cannot forget those who are already imprisoned and fighting charges, longtime prisoners fighting for freedom, and those recently released.

Sundiata Acoli (fighting an appeal on a recent parole denial): sfbayview.com/2020/05/fundraiser-to-free-political-prisoner-sundiata-acoli-83-from-47-years-in-prison

Eric King (fighting additional charges carrying 20 more years): fundrazr.com/e1cKo1

Chuck Africa (recently released): gofundme.com/f/help-chuck-africa-rebuild

Eddie Africa (recently released): fundrazr.com/eddie-africa

2 Aug - Black Rose Anarchist Federation NYC Statement on the Current Revolt

The explosive revolt following the murders of George Floyd, Raynard Brooks, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Loreal Tsingine and Chantel Moore laid bare the collective anger that's been simmering just below the surface in a U.S. society founded on white supremacy and a capitalist system designed to enrich a very few haves at the expense of everyone else.

MORE:

The uprising was a revolt of the Black and Brown people and the have-nots sickened by seeing the video of a Black man being slowly lynched, and tired of living day-to-day with a dim future of precarious jobs, health and housing, unstable food, debt, a degrading climate, and a pandemic-induced depression. The system has failed the have-nots. It's time to uproot it & replace it with a cooperative & democratic society.

The uprising has shifted the public conversation drastically. For example, three months ago the slogan 'Defund the Police' was something that had little circulation beyond anarchist and other radical circles. Today it's mainstream and painted on streets with the permission of local authorities. Corporate politicians like Andrew Cuomo, hardly a 'progressive', suddenly began speaking of 'systemic racism' in the police, health, housing and jobs.

The murders of Mr. Floyd and the others also set off an eruption of potentially revolutionary energy—and liberal overdrive. The revolt put a big dent in the legitimacy of the police, and to a lesser extent, in the state and capitalism, in cities and towns as cops attacked marches of peaceful protesters. Masses of people took over streets, confronted and fought cops, destroyed police property, and pulled down white supremacist and colonialist statues. Aside from turning loose the cops, however, the authorities and their corporate allies spent more energy working overtime to divert the militant anger into channels that wouldn't collapse the system. These efforts took three forms. First was the attempt to drive a wedge in the marchers by differentiating the 'peaceful' ones from the 'thugs' and 'looters'. However, the authorities couldn't quite

get together exactly who these ‘thugs’ were: radical left ‘antifa’ or white supremacist boogaloo boys? (These same powers naturally ignored that the entire country was founded on looting of land from those who already lived here and the mass kidnapping of people from Africa, not to mention the wholesale looting of wealth over the past twelve years by an assortment of banks, hedge funds, private equity and other unaccountable institutions).

Second, the liberals and their friends have tried to narrow the issues to the police, ignoring jobs, health, housing, education, and crushing levels of debt. Even ‘Defund the Police’ got watered down, becoming instead proposals to ‘reimagine the police’, whatever that’s supposed to mean, or transfer some functions over to other state bureaucracies. ‘Abolish the Police’ turned into vague propositions to reorganize the departments or replace one police force with another. The aforementioned Cuomo is a case in point. Walking back his fine words about systemic racism, he has since told demonstrators after signing a weak ‘police reform’ bill that ‘you don’t need to protest’ anymore because ‘you’ve won’.

Third, the liberal ruling class is working feverishly to take advantage of the fact that, after marching for weeks, protesters are looking for next steps. The liberals are happy to provide in the form of moving from ‘protest’ to ‘politics’; that is, electoral politics, and the Democratic Party in particular. Fortunately, polls show large distrust in politicians and electoral politics in general. However, whether this sentiment can be cohered into blocs of militant activists will depend on the orientation and actions of revolutionary anarchists and others who see the need for non-electoral direct action.

Black Rose/Rosa Negra of the New York Metropolitan Area also sees the need for protesters to discuss next steps. we are calling for anarchists, anti-authoritarians, and revolutionaries to support the formation of Neighborhood Peoples’ Assemblies, independent from all political parties and candidates, across the city to discuss, coordinate and map out strategies to eliminate police terrorism, dismantle jails, raise wages, and create housing and quality education and healthcare that masses of people can afford.

Towards the revolutionary necessity for abolishing the police along with capitalism.

- *Defund, Disarm, Disband the NYPD – We are fighting for a world without police. The oppressor classes require police. They are enemies of the masses of people, including Black, indigenous, and all others who are oppressed because of who their relationship to capitalism, white supremacy and settler colonialism. All police should be disbanded in a social revolution. That said, as immediate steps toward that goal, we demand to drastically slash the budget and the number of cops in the NYPD. Remove them from schools and hospitals. Disarm the department of military-grade weapons and vehicles, including chemical agents and rubber bullets. Abolish the bloated PR and media relations section. Disband the department without replacement by private security, metropolitan area forces, or a vast expansion of state social work bureaucracy. Redirect police funds toward restorative justice initiatives and social programs controlled by democratic and cooperative community organizations. Strong communities make the police obsolete.*
- *Eject ICE from the Metro Area – ICE should never have been established. We demand to remove this intrinsically oppressive agency from the metro area. Their overt cruelty has no place in our communities, and no place in our world. They cannot be given a safe haven to kidnap and disappear entire families into concentration camps. Open all borders.*
- *Dismantle All Prisons & Concentration Camps – We demand total abolition. Immediately release all non-violent prisoners. Immediately close the concentration camps detaining immigrant children and their families. Invest in community-controlled systems of restorative justice to deal with prisoners accused of violent crimes. Prisons do not prevent or solve violence. They cause, displace, and perpetuate it. The U.S. legal system is wholly inadequate for dispensing justice. It instead deals injustice. We demand closure of Rikers Island and all jails in the metro area under the direct guidance of democratic and cooperative community organizations. We need robust accountability structures in our communities, not human cages.*
- *Decommodify The Means to Survive – The freedom to work or starve is no freedom at all. Human survival cannot be a market commodity. We are in the most resource abundant civilization in any stage of human*

history, and in one of the wealthiest places on Earth. Food, water, health and shelter are basic human rights. Yet access to them is restricted to those who can pay. COVID19 has exposed the failure of a profit-driven healthcare system in causing the needless deaths of thousands. We demand universal, comprehensive and accessible healthcare. Rental housing leaves people precarious when they can't work. End predatory real estate development, speculation, and further privatization of our housing stock. All sites where people live should be cooperative in nature, and people should be free to live where they wish. Access to money should not be a barrier to people's basic needs.

- *Direct Democracy & Self Governance Now* – We demand freedom. Truly emancipatory freedom that can never be offered by any government or state agency. We have the ability to govern ourselves. We do not need politicians to do things for us. As such, we seek to establish a directly democratic libertarian socialist society. Let's democratize all aspects of our lives, from the work that we do to places we live. We also recognize that U.S. capitalism was built on land stolen from indigenous people. Indigenous people have a right to their territory, their sacred sites and to self-determination. But a free and decolonial future will require organizing and struggle. We must organize at work and in our neighborhoods. We achieve our demands through the formation of popular assemblies in our own neighborhoods where we decide the fate of our communities together: actual democracy. All power to the people!
- *Revolution: Destroy Capitalism & The Settler Colonialist State* – All of the demands above require the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism, white supremacy, heteropatriarchy, and the settler colonialist state. By the latter, we are referring to the colonialist tactics of displacement, erasure and extermination. By putting as many settlers as possible onto lands occupied by indigenous peoples and laying claim to those lands, colonizers set out to erase indigenous histories and exterminate their existence through killings, sterilization, blood quantum laws and cultural obliteration. In solidarity with indigenous communities, we call for decolonization of the settler colonial state through the abolition of whiteness, and removing eurocentrist systems, ideas and practices from indigenous lands. The settler colonial state is the fabric of life as we know it in the U.S. and nothing short of revolution can ensure its undoing. The police are the enforcers of capitalist property laws and social relations. As long as private property, the state, and all other hierarchies intrinsic to capitalism remain intact, the police will be necessary to maintain those relationships. At the same time, we cannot simply pull out the rug from underneath our feet. Eliminating capitalism from our world will require a cooperative effort like we have never seen before. It is up to us to build the consciousness, institutions, networks, and alternative economic models that we need in order to rid ourselves of the tyranny of capitalist social relationships once and for all.

2 Aug - Birthday messages for Eric King

Our friend and comrade, Eric King, turned 34 on Sunday, August 2nd and we are saddened that we were unable to write Eric and send him piles of birthday cards this year.

MORE:

Eric has been on "restricted general correspondence" since May 20th and is only able to receive letters from his partner and wife. This is the third birthday in the row in solitary confinement for Eric and that is just unacceptable.

Eric is facing up to 20 more years in prison based on allegations he assaulted a Lieutenant at FCI Florence in the Bureau of Prisons. He has experienced tremendous harassment from the BOP & has received numerous incident reports that carry a loss of mail, phone and email. In fact, Eric has no access to the phone at all. He has no access to email at all. He can only write mail to his lawyers and to his partner & mother. This is a situation that we find unacceptable. We love Eric and have his back fully and we wish he could receive mail from us, letting him know we care and wishing him a happy birthday.

So, join us by sending belated birthday wishes to erickingsupportcrew@riseup.net

Please send your birthday wishes and words of solidarity. We hope to get these to him when the restrictions are no longer in place. Thanks for all your support for Eric through the last 6 years. Please continue to watch supportericking.org and here for updates!

3 Aug - The 50th Anniversary of the August 7th Marin County Courthouse Rebellion

On August 7, 1970 – 50 years ago – Jonathan Peter Jackson the 17-year old brother of George Jackson, brought 3 guns into the Marin County Hall of Justice, where Judge Haley was presiding over the trial of San Quentin prisoner James McClain.

MORE:

He drew weapons from his satchel, and with the assistance of McClain and 2 prisoners who were witnesses for McClain, Ruchell Magee and William A. Christmas, took Judge Haley, Deputy District Attorney Gary Thomas and 3 female jurors hostage. Upon exiting the courthouse, Jackson and the other kidnappers attempted to flee with the hostages in tow. Police and prison guards opened fire on the van Jackson was driving. At the end of the shootout, Jackson, Haley, McClain and Christmas were dead and McGee and Thomas were seriously injured. The kidnapping was meant as a tool to negotiate the freedom of the Soledad Brothers, 3 Black prisoners (George Jackson, Fleeta Drumgo, and John Clutchette) who were charged with the murder of a prison guard at Soledad Prison in California.

This moment, like so many others, represents one of the influential Black Liberation Movement events and asks us to further study historic strugglers – Angela Davis, George and Jonathan Jackson, The Soledad Brothers, The San Quentin Six, Ruchell Magee, and organizations like the Black Panther Party. Our lessons must include prison resistance, political prisoners, state violence, and insurgency.

Freedom Archives compiled audio, video, and paper documents from a diversity of primary resources (most taken from the Freedom Archives but also from other online sources) illuminating the historical context and lasting significance of extrajudicial struggle: freedomarchives.org/projects/the-50th-anniversary-of-the-august-7th-marin-county-courthouse-rebellion

3 Aug - Kevin Sharp, on the Case of Leonard Peltier

On June 26, 1975, FBI agents Jack Coler and Ron Williams died in a shootout on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. The man who has spent the last 44 years in prison for aiding and abetting their murders is now 75-year-old Leonard Peltier, a member of the American Indian Movement, AIM, which seeks to address systemic racism and police brutality towards Native Americans. Former U.S. District Judge Kevin Sharp, who now represents Peltier, says that not only is Peltier innocent, he's the longest serving political prisoner in American history.

FULL INTERVIEW:

crimestory.com/2020/08/03/interview-kevin-sharp-on-the-case-of-leonard-peltier

August 6th - "My Medical Problems are Not Getting Any Better. I am Seriously Hurting."

by Levi Rickert (*Native News Online*)

Citing health issues, Leonard Peltier (Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians) has taken his name off the Party for Socialism and Liberation. Even though he has been incarcerated for the past 44 years, Peltier, 75, was on the party's presidential ticket as the vice-presidential candidate.

His withdrawal from the ticket was announced by Gloria La Riva, who is running for president of the PSL, and who received a statement from Peltier:

"I know this is a huge disappointment to you as it is mine, that I have to drop out of the campaign with Gloria La Riva. My medical problems are not getting any better. I need to try to get home or at least closer," Peltier said in the

statement. "If so, it would be easier to get out. So please, forgive me if I have disappointed any of you. I did not intend to. Nor was I dropping out because I did not believe in it. I'm seriously hurting. Just know I love you young people who support me. You're awesome. Thank you for your support and love. Doksha, Leonard Peltier."

Peltier did not specifically name the medical condition that is causing him to be "seriously hurting."

Peltier's health has long been a concern for those seeking his release from prison for his conviction of killing two FBI agents at Oglala on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in 1975.

Over the past two months, two national American Indian organizations have called for Peltier's release.

Copies of letters from the two organizations were sent to Native News Online last week.

In a letter to President Donald Trump, dated June 12, 2020, the National Congress of American Indians asks the president "to use his pardon power in a compassionate way to right a wrong, to restore justice where justice has been denied, and to grant clemency to Leonard Peltier."

NCAI further requested Peltier's release because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"As of the date of this letter, the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) has confirmed positive cases for 1,622 federal inmates and 196 BOP staff. We further note that Mr. Peltier's age places him in the 65 years or older category of individuals the Center for Disease Control has determined are 'at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19,'" the letter continued.

In the second letter, the International Indian Treaty Council asks Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), who is a tribal citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and co-chairman of the Congressional Native American Caucus, to initiate congressional action to gain release of Peltier.

Peltier suffers from heart problems and diabetes. He is incarcerated at the Coleman Federal Correctional Complex in Florida.

Supporters believe that Peltier, an Indigenous activist, was wrongfully convicted in 1977 for a crime he did not commit. Imprisoned for more than 45 years, Peltier has the support of Amnesty International, and other human rights organizations. Over the years, some 50 members of Congress and others — including Judge Gerald Heaney (8th Circuit Court of Appeals) who sat as a member of the court in two of Peltier's appeals — have called for his immediate release.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, Peltier applied for a compassionate release and was denied on May 1 with "not at this time" as the only explanation given.

The two letters come on the heels of a letter, dated April 24, 2020, from U.S. Representatives Deb Haaland (D- NM, 1st District) and Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ, 3rd District) who also asked for Peltier's release.

4 Aug - Jalil Muntaqim Update: De Novo Parole Hearing to Be Held in September

Oral arguments were held August 4th regarding Jalil Muntaqim's Article 78 appeal of last year's parole hearing in Sullivan County Supreme Court with Judge Schick presiding.

MORE:

Judge Schick previously made a decision favorable to Jalil when he ordered him temporarily released under DOCCS supervision due to the high probability Jalil would contract Covid.

While Attorney General Letitia James' appeal was pending, Jalil did contract the virus, and was hospitalized at Albany Medical Center. Unfortunately, the Appellate Division Third Department overturned Judge Schick's excellent decision.

Thanks to excellent advocacy by attorney Kathy Manley, the de novo hearing will be held on the date of Jalil's regularly scheduled parole hearing in September.

If the outcome of the de novo hearing is negative, the scheduled parole hearing will be held in November 2020.

One of the many noteworthy quotes from Judge Schick:
"I believe this court and the parole board must follow the law of the land."

Please check jerichony.org for actions you can take for Jalil regarding his Commutation of Sentence Campaign to Gov. Cuomo.

Please also sign the petition: campaigns.organizefor.org/petitions/support-medical-parole-and-commutation-for-jalil-muntaqim

7 Aug - Utah BLM protesters could get life in prison for splashing paint

Some Black Lives Matter protesters in Salt Lake City could face up to life in prison if they are convicted of splashing red paint and smashing windows during a protest.

MORE:

The Guardian

The potential punishment stands out among demonstrators arrested around the country and critics say it does not fit the alleged crime.

The felony criminal mischief charges are more serious because they carry a gang enhancement. Prosecutors said on Wednesday that was justified because the protesters worked together to cause thousands of dollars in damage, but watchdogs called the use of the 1990s-era law troubling, especially in the context of criminal justice reform and minority communities.

"This is so far beyond just the enforcement of the law, it feels retaliatory," said Madalena McNeil, who is facing a potential life sentence over felony criminal mischief and riot charges.

Charging documents say she bought red paint at a Home Depot before the 9 July demonstration sparked by a fatal police shooting ruling. She later yelled at and shifted her weight as if to slam into police during the demonstration, charges state.

"It's really frustrating and scary...I just feel so concern for what this means for the right to protest in."

The charges have Democratic leaders at odds in Salt Lake City, the liberal-leaning capital of conservative UT, with the county prosecutor arguing vandalism crossed a line & the mayor calling the charges extreme.

The potential life sentence stands out as harsh punishment even among other people facing felony charges stemming from protests around the country. In Portland, Oregon, for instance, a 32-year-old man is facing up to 20 years on an arson charge alleging he broke into a building that houses the police headquarters and set an office on fire.

The Utah demonstrators are unlikely to serve prison time, said the Salt Lake county district attorney, Sim Gill. Though they would get at least five years if convicted as charged, criminal cases often end with a plea to lesser counts.

“I don’t think anyone is going to be going to prison on this,” he said. Gill is a generally reform-minded Democrat who said he had participated in Black Lives Matter protests himself and declined to charge dozens of protesters accused of curfew violations.

Still, he argued “there’s some people who want to engage in protest, but they want to be absolved of any behavior,” he said. “This is not about protest, this is about people who are engaging in criminal conduct.”

But for the American Civil Liberties Union of Utah, invoking a law aimed at street gangs in troubling, especially against demonstrators of color. “You are calling participants in a protest gang members,” said attorney Jason Groth.

And there are other side-effects to criminal charges, he said. McNeil tweeted on Thursday that she was asked resign from her non-profit job and all the defendants have to post \$50,000 bail to get out of jail.

“This is the highest-degree felony. This is usually reserved for murders and rapists,” said attorney Brent Huff, who represents co-defendant Madison Alleman.

Another defense attorney, Jesse Nix, who represents protester Viviane Turman, questioned whether Gill should have filed charges involving his own office.

Gill countered that short staffing during the coronavirus pandemic necessitated that but others will handle the case.

“No one should get life in prison for putting paint on a building,” Nix added.

More than 30 people have been charged with various crimes in Salt Lake county since the national wave of protests over George Floyd’s death began in late May. Similar first-degree felony counts have also been filed against people accused of flipping and burning a police car on 30 May.

“We have to have some agreement of what constitutes protected first amendment speech,” Gill said. “When you cross that threshold, should you be held accountable or not?”

16 Aug - Anarchists Care About Books: “Another Country” by James Baldwin

WHAT: Book club

WHEN: 4:00pm, Sunday, August 16th

WHERE: YOUR HOME

MORE:

Join us to discuss “Another Country” by James Baldwin.

Zoom info TBA. Join our listserv to stay in the loop: gaggle.email/join/acabooks@gaggle.email

MACC events are open to all anarchists, antifascists, anti-authoritarians and those interested in anarchist ideas and organizing.