



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for September 3rd

20 Aug - Support Delbert Africa of the MOVE 9 Obtain Parole

Delbert Orr Africa of the MOVE 9 has been incarcerated for 41 years.

MORE:

Delbert faces the Parole Board in September—let's Bring Him Home! You can help by writing a support letter for him to the Parole Board.

Below is an outline and suggestions on writing letters to the Pennsylvania Parole Board on behalf of Delbert Africa. Please mail your letters to his attorneys and NOT directly to the parole board. Delbert's legal team will compile the letters and submit them on his behalf. Letters can be typed or handwritten, so long as they are legible. Please send the letters so they are postmarked by August 23, 2019.

The letter must include Delbert's full name and ID number, along with the name of the prison where he is held: Delbert Orr Africa #AM-4985, SCI-Dallas

DATE:

GREETING: Dear Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole (OR) To whom it may concern:

BODY OF LETTER (Your background/personal info):

Briefly describe yourself: who you are, your position in work or your role in the community, and any points that could establish your ability to advise the board about Delbert. If you are not personally acquainted with him, tell the judge why you are interested in his case.

Your relationship with Delbert (if applicable):

If you know Delbert personally, describe your relationship. How long have you known him? Do you write, call or visit with him?

It would be helpful to include descriptions of Delbert's character, compassion, integrity, accomplishments, interests, relationships, education, upbringing, family life, interaction with and treatment of other people, and your personal and/or professional relationship with him. Is he compassionate? Generous? A role model towards others? Trustworthy? Committed to making the world a better place? Explain why you think this way about him.

When writing about Delbert, please give SPECIFICS: Don't just say he is "a good person," instead describe the specific things he has done that show that he is a good person. Has he helped you personally in some way? Provided you with support or mentorship? If there are anecdotes that would help the reader develop a better picture Delbert, we encourage you to share those.

Do not hesitate to write from the heart, and/or emphasize anything you feel is important. One of the goals of your letter is to enable the reader to see Delbert through your eyes.

Post-release support: If you are in a position to be able to support Delbert when he is released, please state that in the letter. Are you able to support him financially? Provide him with housing? Offer him employment? What to avoid: Please DO NOT dispute any of the legal issues in the case. We believe that the MOVE 9 are wrongfully incarcerated, but the parole board is not the venue to challenge their

convictions or to discuss the injustices of the criminal legal system. Since this is not an effort to mislead or create a false impression, be honest and do not exaggerate.

ENDING: Your letter should end with your first and last name printed, and with your signature. You must also include your address and phone number.

Please contact their legal team if you have any questions. Please mail your letters to the address below.

Legal Team Contact Information:

Address:

Brad Thomson People's Law Office
1180 North Milwaukee
Chicago, Illinois 60642

Phone: 773.235.0070 Ext. 123

Email: BradJayThomson@gmail.com

20 Aug - Statement on the 12 Arrests in Tucson Following Noise Demo

Statement on recent repression and arrests in Tucson, Arizona where police have targeted 12 people with felony "riot" charges following a noise demonstration outside a jail.

MORE:

by Anonymous Contributor (*It's Going Down*)

12 people were arrested following a noise demonstration at the Pima County Adult Detention Complex in Tucson, AZ on Wednesday evening, August 14th. All 12 arrestees were held overnight in the facility and subsequently charged with one count of felony "riot" each on Thursday morning. The protest took place on the public sidewalk in front of the jail on Wednesday night. After protesters left the sidewalk without any contact with police or dispersal warnings given, officers from the Pima County Sheriff's Department surrounded and arrested 10 people about a half a mile away from the jail as they walked down the river trail. Police used aerial surveillance to track down two more people on bicycles who were alleged to have been at the demo, arresting them nearly two miles away from the jail.

Noise demonstrations are a common form of protest typically held outside of jails, prisons, or detention centers to show solidarity with incarcerated people. Participants often bring speakers to play music, and make noise with instruments, pots, pans, whistles, and their voices. These demonstrations aim to contest the isolation experienced by prisoners with a display of festive joy and care towards those held captive on the inside.

Noise demonstrations are organized by people who want to protest mass incarceration and detention conditions. They are held to reject the logic of punishment and incarceration. Prison abolitionists believe that punitive measures such as criminal charges and imprisonment do not address the root causes of societal and systemic problems. Prisons are an attempt to cover up problems such as poverty or patriarchal violence allowing them to perpetuate themselves rather than directly address the issues which produce the conditions that cause 'crime'. Prison abolitionists believe that communities should devise solutions and processes to address troubles as they appear rather than the State whom does not have the community's best interests in mind.

"Riot" statutes have been levied against participants in political demonstrations with increasing frequency in recent years. Protestors in the infamous counter-inaugural J20 case, as well as demonstrators at Black

Lives Matter protests across the country, and participants at Standing Rock have faced such charges. The increasing ‘riotization’ of protest can be understood as a means to undermine and repress political activity. This extreme police response in Tucson comes a week after a heavily armed Trump supporter was found parked outside of a migrant resource center in El Paso brandishing a knife and carrying a gun with multiple magazines. He was subsequently released without arrest or charges.

In light of the current climate around immigrant detention centers and ICE we could interpret these charges as a way for the government to set a harsh precedent for any kind of protest activity associated with detention facilities, jails, and prisons. How can we continue to expand resistance in the face of growing repression? What would it mean if felony charges became the norm for even basic noise demos? We recognize that the increasing trend of the over-criminalization of protest is an imposition by the state to deter our movements. We must combat it.

Other recent protests have also targeted the Pima County Detention Complex. In August of last year, protesters blockaded the facility calling for the removal of Immigration and Customs Enforcement from the jail. Pima County Sheriff Mark Napier maintains a desk for ICE at the facility and actively collaborates with Border Patrol to detain and deport undocumented residents who come into contact with the Pima County Sheriff’s Department. Further details about this action are available [here](#).

Arrestees had various personal items confiscated and are facing legal battles ahead. You can donate to their legal fund [here](#). Any leftover money after these cases are resolved will be donated to other future legal funds and anti-repression efforts. If you can’t donate, that’s okay, it’s important that we all be aware of what’s happening in the era we’re in. Please spread the word about this case and its implications to people where you’re at.

Fundraiser link: gofundme.com/f/fundraiser-for-tucson-arrestees

20 Aug - Why federal prisons like the one where Epstein was held aren’t held accountable

Conditions at MCC are notoriously bad.

MORE:

by Aviva Stahl (*Columbia Journalism Review*)

When I awoke last Saturday morning to the news of Jeffrey Epstein’s death, I realized that the moment had come: the Metropolitan Correctional Center (MCC), the federal prison where he died, was about to get its fifteen minutes of fame. As a freelance investigative reporter who frequently covers the prison system, I’d spent years trying to pitch stories about that facility, often without success. Last summer, I managed to publish an investigation into conditions at the MCC on the website *Gothamist*. The story documented that MCC was overcrowded and understaffed, plagued by vermin and overflowing toilets, dogged by allegations of corruption and abuse, and beset by an almost total lack of medical care. None of that got much attention at the time. But as soon as news of Epstein’s death started circulating, so did my piece.

Of course, editorial interest ebbs and flows with the news cycle, and in the post-Obama era, perhaps more than ever, investigative reporting about (seemingly) non-Trump-related federal problems is a tough sell. But the almost total dearth of interest in MCC can be traced back decades; it isn’t just a reflection of journalistic myopia that’s plagued the American media landscape under the current president. It’s also a reflection of the flawed metrics that newsrooms use to determine when jail and prison stories are “newsworthy.”

A few factors contributed to the almost total lack of MCC coverage until Epstein's death. First, MCC poses unique reporting challenges not seen on the local and state level. Everyone held on 10 South, the unit where El Chapo was incarcerated, is subject to Special Administrative Measures (SAMs) that prohibit them from communicating with almost anyone in the outside world except immediate family members and attorneys. The few individuals these prisoners are permitted to contact are prohibited by law from repeating anything they've heard, including to members of the media. That means it's impossible to do any real-time reporting on conditions on the unit, except by drawing on descriptions included in legal filings. My *Gothamist* story included rare accounts from people who had spent time on the unit and had since been transferred elsewhere, but many editors wouldn't have included these narratives, since they want to know what's happening at the facility, not what happened there years prior.

Given that people on 10 South are held in some of the most extreme conditions of isolated confinement in the country—before being convicted of a criminal offense—it seems shocking that 10 South hasn't been more closely scrutinized. Rather than challenging SAMs as an infringement on press freedom, however, many outlets have seemingly acquiesced to the government's conditions, by keeping the unit out of the limelight except when it comes to the most high-profile cases.

The lack of attention arises in part from the fact that newsrooms want to make political impact and influence powerful people. The story that categorically changed the national conversation when it came to Rikers, New York City's infamously violent main jail, was a 2014 investigation by Jennifer Gonnerman for *The New Yorker*, which helped prompt a reporting renaissance on incarceration—on conditions at Rikers and at the state prisons north of the city. Rising media interest in prison conditions gave advocacy groups an opportunity to step in, attract more coverage, and push for change. Elected officials in New York's City Council and state legislature took notice. The responses of elected officials led to more activist work, which led to more media coverage, and so on. The productive interplay among reporters, activists, and elected officials helped bring local jails and state prisons to the forefront of the national media landscape—an outcome totally absent from the discourse around prisons at the federal level.

There are no advocacy groups focused on improving conditions at federal prisons, in large part because there aren't really any elected officials responsible for safeguarding these institutions. Congress is technically charged with overseeing the Bureau of Prisons, but Congress is busy. And because federal institutions hold individuals from across the country, federal prisoners don't form a natural constituency, or represent a single newspaper readership.

Finally, federal jails are mostly filled with people accused of committing serious crimes, while the criminal justice reporting that's secured the widest readership has focused on those prisoners the public broadly views as sympathetic. Gonnerman's story, for instance, was about a teenage boy wrongly accused of stealing a backpack, a petty crime of which he maintained his innocence. The stories of the men and women locked up at MCC, meanwhile, don't easily pull at the public's heartstrings. Some of them are charged with committing dangerous or even evil deeds—plotting a terrorist attack, running an international crime syndicate, trafficking young women for sex. Readers don't immediately identify with these individuals, and that makes the stories risky for journalists to write and for editors to run—I know, because I report on the conditions faced by terrorism suspects in federal prison and have been heckled for doing so, even in liberal publications like *The Nation*. The problem isn't that young men like Browder get written about, but that the success of “good kid” stories depend on and contribute to a moral economy that sorts incarcerated people into two categories: those who deserve humane conditions and coverage, and those who don't.

Writing about “bad guys” isn't easy. In June, I published a story about the force-feeding of convicted terrorists at another federal facility, the supermax prison in Florence, Colorado. My primary source for the

piece was Mohammad Salameh, who was found guilty of participating in the 1993 World Trade Center attack. Reporting on the human rights violations he experienced posed unique narrative and ethical challenges. But it also sharpened the way I approach prison reporting, by forcing me to treat the morality of my main character as secondary to the moral obligation of those who oversee his incarceration.

What Epstein endured during his short time at MCC—and what thousands of prisoners endured before him—is a matter of local and national importance. It’s a matter of questions and answers: what happened; who is to blame; and what state, federal, or international laws were broken in the process. And it’s a matter of how the federal government will be held accountable, even if the particular agents of change (or blame) have are not always obvious and immediate.

22 Aug - Urgent: Maroon’s Health and Request for Support

As the Shoatz family mentioned last month, Maroon recently underwent surgery and had an extended stay in the prison infirmary. We share with you now Maroon’s latest message on his health.

MORE:

“As a Political Prisoner and fighter for over 50 years, I’ve now reached a point where those close to me can no longer shoulder the things they’re called on to do without broader community support.

Recently I was operated on, where it was discovered that I’m suffering Stage 4 colorectal cancer.

This is a CALL for donations to help us cover costs of treatment.

If the lying politicians can amass thousands of small donations, it speaks ill of our struggle against injustice if we will not support our own in similar ways!

Spread THIS call and help us!”

Straight Ahead!
Political Prisoner
Russell Maroon Shoats/z

While the news of Maroon’s ill health is of course disheartening to us all, we’re committed to doing everything in our power to ensure he receives comprehensive treatment for this latest diagnosis. Your support is critical to our efforts.

We’re reaching out to our extended community of support with a request for immediate donations towards Maroon’s medical costs. We hope to gain a holistic understanding of the treatments he’s received and make informed decisions about his medical care moving forward.

Donate by visiting russellmaroonshoats.wordpress.com/donate and give generously in this moment of heightened urgency.

22 Aug - Political Prisoner Tom Manning Memorial To Be Held in Boston

The Memorial for Political Prisoner Tom Manning will be held on Sunday, September 29, 2019.

MORE:

The memorial is scheduled from 1:00-3:00pm at The City School, 614 Columbia Road, Dorchester, Massachusetts 02125

People wishing to write about Tom to include in the program journal should send to Tom's co-defendants Ray Luc Levasseur and Kazi Toure by Sept. 15th at the latest:

Ray Luc: rayluclev@gmail.com

Kazi Toure: tourekazi@gmail.com

22 Aug - State Appellate Court Rejects Challenge From Murdered Cop's Widow to Parole of Slayer

In the parole case of Herman Bell, Associate Justice Robert Mulvey of the Third Department wrote in the court's decision that, while Piagentini had the right to submit her statement to the board, she didn't have standing to control or challenge its decision.

MORE:

by Dan M. Clark (*New York Law Journal*)

A request to reconsider the release on parole supervision of Herman Bell, who was convicted in the murder of two police officers nearly five decades ago, was rejected Thursday by a state appellate court in Albany.

The Appellate Division, Third Department wrote in the ruling that the widow of one of the murdered officers did not have standing to challenge the Parole Board's decision.

"As the inmate/parolee and the board are the only parties to a parole determination, and the board cannot challenge its own determination, the inmate/parolee is the only person with standing to challenge the substantive determination regarding parole," the court wrote.

Bell was released from state prison last year after serving more than four decades for the murders of officers Joseph Piagentini and Waverly Jones in 1971. He was convicted on those charges in 1975.

Since 2004, Bell had appeared before the Parole Board on seven occasions and was rejected each time.

Anticipating another request from Bell, Diane Piagentini submitted a victim impact statement to the Parole Board detailing the emotional impact and post-traumatic stress she had suffered after the murder of her husband.

She was represented before the Third Department by Mitchell Garber, a partner at Worth, Longworth & London in Manhattan. Garber did not immediately return a call for comment.

After Bell was released on parole last year, Piagentini filed a challenge to the Parole Board's decision, arguing that her statement was largely ignored by the panel before granting his request. Members of the board had read her statement, according to the decision, but Piagentini argued that it should have been given more weight in the proceeding.

Associate Justice Robert Mulvey of the Third Department wrote in the court's decision that, while Piagentini had the right to submit her statement to the board, she didn't have standing to control or challenge its decision.

"Although crime victims are granted certain rights in relation to criminal actions and parole proceedings, those rights are limited and do not allow victims to control the criminal process or collateral proceedings," Mulvey wrote in the court's opinion.

Mulvey also wrote in the decision that there is currently no mechanism for a decision by the Parole Board to be challenged by anyone other than the person whose parole has been denied. The only two parties to a parole hearing are the inmate and the Parole Board, which can't challenge its own determination.

Thinking more broadly, Piagentini, as a designee for a crime victim, would not be a party to a criminal action, and therefore should also not be considered a party during parole proceedings, Mulvey wrote.

Instead, oversight of the Parole Board rests with the governor and the State Senate, who respectively appoint and confirm members of the panel, Mulvey wrote.

"Although there may not be any mechanism to challenge or audit the board in relation to each parole decision, the board's functioning as a whole is balanced by, and will be tempered by, the power of the governor to appoint and the Senate to confirm board members," Mulvey wrote.

Bell was represented before the Third Department by Robert J. Boyle, an attorney in New York City. Boyle said when reached by phone that he was pleased with the court's decision.

Associate Justice John Egan Jr. wrote in an opinion dissenting from the majority that he would have remitted the matter back to the Parole Board to reevaluate Bell's release.

Egan argued that, while Piagentini could not challenge the Parole Board's ultimate decision, she did have standing to dispute whether her victim impact statement was actually considered by the panel in its decision.

The Parole Board, according to Egan, said that its decision was partly influenced by a statement from a family member of one of the murdered officers who favored granting parole to Bell. The panel, meanwhile, did not mention Piagentini's statement as noteworthy. Egan wrote that the board should have addressed both positions.

"Although the board is not required to decide a case in accord with any particular victim's impact statement, it obviously found this factor to be significant and should have addressed both viewpoints as expressed in the respective victim impact statements provided by the immediate family victims," Egan wrote.

Mulvey, in the majority opinion, had argued that Piagentini essentially abandoned her argument that the board didn't consider her statement after the opposite was revealed during proceedings before the trial court.

He was joined on the majority opinion by Presiding Justice Elizabeth Garry and Associate Justice Stan Pritzker. Associate Justice Michael Lynch concurred with the majority in a separate opinion. Egan was the lone dissent.

The Parole Board was represented by the state Attorney General's Office, which did not immediately comment on the decision.

Bell's parole largely ignited criticism from Republicans in the state Legislature, who argued earlier this year that stricter requirements should be set for inmates seeking parole, particularly those convicted of violent crimes.

23 Aug - Eric King Update

Eric is facing a 20 year hit for being the recipient of an assault by a guard. The following updates give a timeline and offer way to help.

MORE:

August 23rd - Eric In Transit to Colorado

Eric was picked up this morning to be taken to Colorado. We do not know what facility he is heading to. Hope to have an address soon. Eric is going to need all of the love he can get because the next step will be court and to face whatever the state is throwing at him.

He should be placed in a private non-BOP facility and his commissary money will not follow him.

August 27th - We Need To Keep That Spirit Alive: anarchist prisoner Eric King and partner speak on the *Final Straw*

This week on *The Final Straw*, we feature two main guests, anarchist prisoner Eric King and a member of his defense committee who is also Eric's partner. This podcast is being released on the 3rd day of the International Week of Solidarity with Anarchist Prisoners from August 23-30th. While the majority of the show will be filled by anarchist political prisoner, Eric King, well be wrapping it in words from his partner, who also sits on his support committee. For the hour of our broadcast, Eric talks about his health, his political stance, dealing with nazis on the inside, his views on the anti-fascist struggle on the outside, the loss of Tom Manning and supporting political prisoners, counter-recruiting nazis and other topics. You can find his writings, art, and updates on his situation at SupportEricKing.org.

thefinalstrawradio.noblogs.org/post/2019/08/25/we-need-to-keep-that-spirit-alive-anarchist-prisoner-eric-king-and-partner-speak

August 30th - Eric King facing up to 20 more years in prison

[for folks who are unaware Eric is an anarchist and anti-fascist prisoner who was sentenced to 10 years for an attempted arson, an action in solidarity with the Ferguson uprising in Kansas city. Throwing two Molotov cocktails into a state representatives office at nighttime. He has since remained outspoken against the prison system. Exposing abuses and standing tall in the face of constant attacks and oppression]

In august of last year Eric was dragged into a broom closet and attacked by Lt Wilcox at FCI Florence. Attacked because he is an anarchist and anti-fascist. It was timed to line up with the surgery for his wife's cancer. He was subsequently tortured and abused and never checked out medically despite being kicked in the head for 5 plus minutes. And tied to a 4 point restraint for 8 hours, having to urinate himself resulting in nerve damage to his wrists.

Since the indictment was filed (in May but conveniently they wait for the painful anniversary to serve indictment) he has been attacked twice at the orchestration of the BOP. Once being blatantly led into a fenced in area where a fascist was waiting to attack while the guards watched and by putting someone who was known to have attacked the last cellmates in his cell. Not even talking about all of the other attempts.

Since the attack he was unable to see or talk to his family for a year, kept in segregation, not allowed even the most basic needs as the right to read a book, have a photo. Denied medical care as he begged for help August 1st, the day before his birthday. His words coming out in slurs because the whole left side of his body...paralyzed. Cognitive and confusion. 29 days without a scan, 29 days... every day further from the potential ability to minimize potentially life changing damage. Being held under the custody of the bop while fighting a bop case. Being held in a prison in which an adult man threatened their daughter 2 years

before, a man who had access. A prison where this man still works. A prison where guards currently fuck with him by asking where his daughters go to school over and over. Despite the fact the BOP has attempted to attack and intimidate, orchestrating these attack by use of white supremacists.

Eric was indicted yesterday for his own assault. He faces up to 20 years in prison for being attacked and beaten, by a guard who feels safe dragging prisoners off camera and attacking. A guard who is known by the PD office for doing this and then destroying lives. Being brought up in the federal court system, a court system that is built to crush as a much more effective machine than any other in our country. Where only 2% go to trial because the feds don't take a case they can't win. Fewer than 1% going on to win their case. Things are looking grim.

We need folks help...

We need folks to write Eric letters, print articles, short stories...hell print books.

[white envelopes, white paper, only black ink, no cards, card-stock, labels, marker, photos or postcards]

We need folks to donate, hold fundraisers, we need to be prepared

We need folks to show up at court appearances. We need to show the state we wont let them bury our friend by filing court dates same day to try to ensure folks can't be there. We let them do this to Eric once already. We let the state convict him of attempted arson and give him 10 years in federal prison, where they are trying to make sure he never walks out those doors.

We need help, Eric needs help.

23 Aug - New York Anarchist Bookfair to feature Ben Morea and Silvia Federici

Announcing this years New York Anarchist Bookfair, taking place on September 6th and 7th.

MORE:

As climate emergency looms, the specter of war and fascism haunts us. In the media and in the world around us, we watch the super wealthy ruling corporative elites persisting in maintaining the exploitative death-culture hierarchy of white, cis, patriarchal, Imperialist, and colonial capitalism. At the NYC Anarchist Book Fair we believe that can be changed, and it takes a village to invent the future.

In its 13th edition, the book fair pays tribute to the anarchist and activist Willen Van Sprosen, who was killed as he tried to disrupt ICE camps activities, and the counterculture anarchist artist Ben Morea. An exhibition of Morea's drawings (features in this year's book fair Poster) will be exhibited during the bookfair and art festival. During the book fair, Morea hosts a workshop/dialogue session around Revolutionary Animism. Workshops also include Silvia Federici talking about "The Struggle for the Commons", and debates on queer – trans feminisms, Antifa, immigration and ecology anarchism, among others. The book fair this year will offer a care-space, where healing practitioners and artists will offer group and individual care experiences.

The NYC Anarchist Book Fair aims at contributing to the ongoing dialogue, analysis and practice of current society, increasing knowledge about history, and create inspiration for the building of liberatory alternatives such as mutual aid, autonomy, solidarity, collectivize and consensus based decision making, to name a few. We emphasize the creation of forward-looking activism and culture as we celebrate the

struggle to free humanity, the animals and the planet from today's predatory global political and social systems.

Together with the book fair, happen the NYC Anarchist Art Festival and the Emma Golden Film Festival. The first happens on the eve of the book fair, on Friday, with a diverse lineup including 30+ artists, focusing on performance art and collective creation collaboration, inspired by Ben Morea's concept of revolutionary Animism. The Emma Goldman Film Festival this year focus on Narratives from Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, particularly on the indigenous people in Brazil.

All events take place at the Judson Memorial, 55 Washington Square Park South. The venue, in a neighborhood long associated with the anarchist movement in the U.S., has hosted the NYC Anarchist Book Fair nearly every year since its inception, and it will again in 2019.

- 13th Anarchist Art Festival ANARKOARTLAB Friday, September 6, 2019 7:00pm–12:00am
A tribute to and with Ben Morea: Revolutionary Animism FREE
- 13th Annual NYC Anarchist Book Fair Saturday, September 7, 2019, 11:00am–7:00pm
Books, art, workshops, skillshares, care-space and more
- 3rd EMMA GOLDMAN FILM FESTIVAL Saturday, September 7, 2019 7:00–9:00pm
Featuring: Narratives from Indigenous Peoples of the Americas FREE

Details about additional events and book fair exhibitors, featured films and participating artists TBA by August 20th on anarchistbookfair.net NYC Anarchist Book Fair tablers include publishers of anarchist literature (from the East and West Coast); small independent presses; community groups focused on, among other topics, ecological activism and animal liberation; and prisoner support networks.

26 Aug - Statement on FBI Contact of Antifascists On Unite the Right Anniversary

Statement on recent FBI harassment in Virginia on the second anniversary of Unite the Right in Charlottesville.

MORE:

by Anonymous Contributor (*It's Going Down*)

Two people in Virginia – one in Charlottesville and one in Richmond – were contacted by the FBI in the days leading up to the second anniversary of August 12, 2017. FBI Agent Wolf knocked on one person's door and called the other. Both people refused to speak to him, immediately alerted friends, and were put in touch with a lawyer. Agent Wolf inquired about the anniversary of Unite the Right, and what antiracists and antifascists may have had planned to commemorate August 11th and 12th. Agent Wolf was last noted in Virginia in July and early August 2017 when he harassed Charlottesville antiracists about counterprotests prior to Unite the Right.

If you are located in Virginia and interested in antirepression training, workshops, or information, contact Scuffletown Anti-Repression Committee at [scuffletown \(A\) protonmail.com](mailto:scuffletown(A)protonmail.com). Please reach out if you are approached by the FBI or local police!

These instances of FBI contact are part of an uptick in FBI harassment and other forms of state repression against antiracist organizing in South Carolina, Bloomington, Indiana, and Portland, Oregon. Follow @Norepressionsc on Instagram or visit norepressionsc.home.blog for updates about ongoing state repression in South Carolina. Click through for links to descriptions of recent state repression in Bloomington and Portland.

Alongside increased contact by state agents comes a growing and strengthened commitment to noncooperation. Across the continent, antiracists and antifascists refuse to be intimidated or silenced by scare tactics. If you are contacted by law enforcement, do not answer questions or consent to searches. Contact a lawyer and your support system. Alert your networks and communities that you have been contacted. Put out a public statement about the interaction. You do not need to reveal any identifying information in the statement, but it's important that we all know what the state is doing to target us and our movements. We can keep each other safer and better support each other when we share information about state repression.

Crimethinc will broadcast a workshop on resisting state repression on their website in the next few weeks. In the meantime, check out their recorded presentation on grand jury resistance. FBI door knocks do not always lead to grand jury subpoenas, but taking a moment to brush up on ways to resist state repression when the FBI starts knocking is always good.

27 Aug - How Drawings & Zines Led to Me Being Labeled a "Terrorist"

The following report details someone's harrowing experience while crossing the border from Canada into the United States.

MORE:

A few weeks ago I was traveling alone with my dog from Alberta, Canada back through the U.S border into Montana. Upon crossing, border patrol agents asked me only two questions: "Where do you live?" "Olympia, Washington," I replied. "Have you ever been arrested?" "Yes," I answered.

Right away, I was told to pull over for an extended search and interrogation. I cross the border often and am no stranger to being put through the ringer due to my US passport bringing up my previous arrest record, so I didn't think much of this.

Upon entering the building, my car keys and passport were taken from me, which was congruent with my previous experiences. However then I was placed in a locked holding cell with my dog and I realized that this was different.

Instantly, I turned disappearing messages on. I attempted to run down my battery to make my phone die by setting the screen to the highest brightness but I was patted down and my phone was immediately confiscated. My phone was definitely manually looked through and from what I understand there is a high potentiality that the data was downloaded for later investigation [for more information on phone security, go to itsgoingdown.org/phone-cop-opsecinfosec-primer-dystopian-present].

After several hours of searching my vehicle, I saw multiple US Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) agents walk past my cell wearing latex gloves and carrying armfuls of my belongings. Mostly books, zines, journals, and sketchbooks but also stupid shit like an orange my friends gave me, and some candies.

Through the glass window I could see half a dozen agents pouring over my belongings searching for something incriminating. I asked multiple officers for a phone call to speak with an attorney and they all said no. My dog was left in the holding cell by themselves and I was pulled into an interrogation room. I was shown pictures and photocopies of my journal entries, my drawings, stickers, highlighted excerpts from books and anything else they found in my car supposedly linking me as member of the "terrorist cell – Antifa." Any book that had the words "revolt," "destruction," or "militancy" in the titles were scrutinized for evidence to fit the narrative they were attempting to construct.

I was questioned about little dead pig doodles in my sketchbook, specifically one titled “The Life Cycle of a Revolutionary.” They repeatedly pointed to each figure in the drawing, and fueled by paranoia asked me, “What does this mean?” They were also especially amped about a zine I had titled Destroy The Border. (As though in their delusions I was on a solo mission and this zine was my blue-print to single-handedly destroy the US Border.)

Suddenly, I was able to put it together. It had not even been a month after anarchist and antifascist comrade Willem Van Spronsen (Rest in Power) was killed by Tacoma Police officers for taking action against the Northwest Detention Center. These CBP officers have been all riled up on white-nationalist propaganda and instilled with fear of the dangerous leftist terrorists, especially those coming out of Washington State.

CBP continued to inform me that they knew I was part of “antifa”: an “extremely violent terrorist unit, whose goal is to murder police officers,” according to them. Interrogations continued about whether or not it was my intention to murder CBP agents. They kept asking me if I had explosives on my body and patting me down.

After my third interrogation, I was hauled into a cell in the back with no windows and nothing in it but a metal table. Two border pigs told me to strip as they taunted me and made explicit sexual comments toward me. I physically resisted and was threatened to be charged with assault of an officer if I did so again. The border pigs proceeded to cavity search me while laughing to each other, which was an obvious humiliation tactic and blatant sexual assault. I could hear my dog barking while I was being strip searched.

I was taken back into the first holding cell where I waited another couple of hours with my dog, both of us still being denied food/water or access to a bathroom. Eventually I was informed that I was being charged with a felony offense for transporting dangerous narcotics across the border. They had found two joints and a CBD tincture for my dog’s arthritis in my vehicle. A local sheriff came in and arrested me, attempted to continue to question me after I requested to speak to a lawyer. I was driven to the nearest small town and booked into the jail. Finger printed, questioned more, and more creepy “flirtations.” My dog was with me in the cruiser, and remained in the cruiser while I was being booked into the jail. They threatened to take my dog to the shelter.

After hours of them trying to weigh my CBD oil as weed flower to find a way to charge me with a possession felony, they realized that CBD is legal and were only able to charge me for the two joints, a misdemeanor. I bailed myself out. They took me and my dog back to the border. They made it clear to me in the same rapey tone that it was a bummer I wasn’t going to be spending the weekend with them in jail. Upon being brought back to the border I was reluctantly given back my keys and passport and released.

I walked into that situation a little too naive. Afterwards I understood how in so many ways I was slacking on my security. I desire to normalize anti-state rhetoric, yet it can make me vulnerable to being targeted. I am going to be more paranoid, but not to the point where it interferes with my work, or immobilizes me. I wanted to share this as a reminder that tactics are escalating against anarchists and antifascists. We could all benefit by utilizing better security practices.

28 Aug - Portland: Door Knock and Arrest

Early August 28th a comrade in Portland had their home raided by the Portland Police in relation to one of the recent demonstrations against white nationalists.

MORE:

The Portland Police detained this activist on charges including rioting, criminal mischief, and disorderly conduct. The police seized many items of clothing, some goggles, and walkie talkies. In these situations, remember to get all paperwork from the officers and look it over to ensure they are only taking what is listed on the warrant. Take pictures of any damage. Do not talk to the police. Once the police have left, or you are released, immediately contact the NLG, your comrades, and the GDC to get the word out. It's important to communicate about what is going on, and be upfront with your comrades and community about what happened while interacting with the police, and anything you learned in that process. Having your home invaded by the police is terrifying and this is their intent. Lean on your community if this happens. We are stronger and safer when we openly share information and support each other through these experiences.

30 Aug - From Portland to Tucson: Solidarity With All Those Facing Repression

Statement of solidarity from Portland, Oregon to Tucson, Arizona.

MORE:

Amidst extreme violence from the far-right and from the State, protest movements and demonstrations in the U.S. are increasingly being attacked for standing up against brutal tactics of repression.

We in the Rose City stand with those who were arrested in Tucson, AZ after heading home from a noise demo at the Pima County Adult Detention Complex. In the Borderlands, the blending of I.C.E. and the prison industrial complex are even more entangled than elsewhere in the U.S., even in the so-called sanctuary city of Tucson.

We commend our friends and accomplices for their dedication to supporting migrants and refugees in a myriad of ways and for disrupting the business-as-usual of colonialist-capitalist control of labor and racist incarceration practices meant to terrorize and tear apart communities.

No one is going to save any of us from the environmental destruction of the current world order. No one is going to make places of safety and refuge for those who have been forced out of their homes. No one is going to stop filling up as many cages as can be made with people and children. No one – except us.

We have to take care of each other and together build new ways of relating to each other and the Earth.

Fuck I.C.E. Fuck prisons. Fuck borders. Fuck the police. Fuck all forms of exploitation.
All we want is total freedom, and until then let's keep it up and BRING THE NOISE!

3 Sept - Imprisoned Activist Jeremy Hammond Called Against His Will to Testify Before Federal Grand Jury

Virginia Grand Jury Believed to be the Same Probe that Previously Called on Chelsea Manning

MORE:

via The Sparrow Project

Imprisoned information activist Jeremy Hammond has been called against his will to testify before a Federal Grand Jury in the Eastern District of Virginia (EDVA). Last week Hammond was removed from the Federal Correctional Institution in Memphis, Tennessee where he was serving a 10-year prison sentence after pleading guilty to charges he hacked the private intelligence contractor Stratfor Global Intelligence. At the time of his transfer Hammond was enrolled in the Federal Bureau of Prison's intensive Residential Drug Abuse Program (RDAP) which upon completion qualifies participating inmates for early release. Hammond's prison release date was projected to come around mid December of 2019 but because of his

removal from the RDAP program and the summons to this grand jury his time incarcerated could be extended by over two years. Although Hammond is still in transit it is believed he will be detained in or near Alexandria, VA for the duration of his proceedings.

The following is a statement from the Jeremy Hammond Support Committee regarding these developments:

“It’s with great sadness and anger we announce that Jeremy Hammond is being brought to the Eastern District of Virginia in an effort to compel him to testify before a grand jury. Given the secrecy of grand jury proceedings, we don’t know the nature or scope of the grand jury’s investigation. However, our assumption is that this is the same grand jury that Chelsea Manning is currently being incarcerated for refusing to testify before.

“Jeremy pled guilty in 2013 in the Southern District of New York to one count of violating the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act. He agreed to plead guilty pursuant to a non-cooperating plea agreement that granted him immunity from further prosecution in all 94 federal judicial districts. At the time of his guilty plea, Jeremy made a statement that made it clear that he was pleading guilty so that he could speak freely about his actions and move on with his life without putting anyone else in jeopardy:

‘Today I pleaded guilty to one count of violating the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act. This was a very difficult decision. I hope this statement will explain my reasoning. I believe in the power of the truth. In keeping with that, I do not want to hide what I did or to shy away from my actions. This non-cooperating plea agreement frees me to tell the world what I did and why, without exposing any tactics or information to the government and without jeopardizing the lives and well-being of other activists on and offline.’

The full statement is available at sparrowmedia.net/2013/05/jeremy-hammond-plea-deal

“Jeremy pled guilty to put an end to the case against him. He pled guilty because he had no interest in cooperating with the government. He was sentenced to 10 years —the maximum allowed under his plea agreement— and has been serving his time, counting down to the day that he will finally be free. That day was supposed to come in mid-December of 2019.

“The government’s effort to try to compel Jeremy to testify is punitive and mean-spirited. Jeremy has spent nearly 10 years in prison because of his commitment to his firmly held beliefs. There is no way that he would ever testify before a grand jury. The government knew this when they gave him immunity in every federal jurisdiction in exchange for his guilty plea. In bringing him against his will to the Eastern District of Virginia, the government has put an end to his participation in the RDAP drug program, effectively adding a year to his sentence. (If Jeremy had been permitted to complete the 9-month program, he would have earned a 12-month sentence reduction.) When he refuses to testify, his sentence will be indefinitely prolonged when he is punished with further incarceration for contempt of a court order.

“Like brave grand jury resisters before him, including Chelsea Manning, Jeremy firmly believes that grand juries are repressive tools of the government, used to investigate and intimidate activist communities and are abused by prosecutors to gain access to intelligence to which they are not entitled.

“The U.S. government’s blatant abuse of the grand jury process in this case continues a clear pattern of targeting, isolating, and punishing outspoken truth-tellers and activists. We must stand up and say that enough is enough. We cannot allow the government to use fascist intimidation tactics to target, imprison, silence, and torture, those who threaten their power. We must not let the government fracture us or our support for those who need us most, no matter how they may try to pit us against one another, and we must not allow them to sow fear and distrust in our communities. We must come together as one, united in our support for truth and transparency, and for those who have paid the ultimate price to bring it to us.”

7 Sept - Punk Rock Karaoke Benefit for People's Power House!

WHAT: Punk Rock Karaoke!

WHEN: 8:00pm, Saturday, September 7th

WHERE: Bushwick Public House, 1288 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn

COST: \$10

MORE:

After a rain-soaked maiden voyage, we are excited to be teaming up with Wisteria NYC and bringing PRK back to Bushwick Public House!

As always, it is a benefit! This time we are raising money for The People's Power House (PPH)!

PPH is a group of folks who wanna open up a space in north Brooklyn, focusing on self-defense and skill-share programming! We know a lot of folks who love martial arts, who love to learn it, who love to teach it. The problem is, a lot of these folks are either:

*Not participating in these spaces due to the overall lack of care for anyone who's not a straight-gym bro

*Are participating in these spaces, but are fighting for a place for themselves (in addition to fighting in classes, tournaments, et cetera)

*Are leading their own queer+, accessible classes, but are having a hard time finding cost-effective space to do the work

PPH hopes to try to address these issues by opening and maintaining a community space where folks feel comfortable learning the things they love, and that doesn't require skill-share event organizers to break their budgets when finding a venue for their things!

Where Does the Money Go?

Financial transparency is super important for us, so that we remain accountable to the community we serve! We're planning on a season long fundraiser filled with crowdsourcing and events, with the hope that we can reach one of our financial goals in opening up a space (rent, insurance, maintenance, equipment, build up, and all that other fun stuff that goes into opening up a spot like this)

13 Aug - Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council (MACC) General Assembly

WHAT: General Assembly

WHEN: 6:30-9:00pm, Friday, September 13th

WHERE: Mayday Space, 176 St Nicholas Avenue, Brooklyn 11237

COST: FREE

MORE:

The Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council (MACC) is hosting one of our monthly general assemblies. GAs are a great opportunity to get plugged in with MACC's projects and working groups. MACC assemblies are open to all anarchists, antifascists, anti-authoritarians and those interested in anarchist ideas and organizing so please invite your friends and share widely! We encourage everyone to come with ideas about what they would like to see for future campaigns or actions and what direction they'd like MACC to take to build a more powerful, militant anarchist movement. Bring snacks (pre-packaged, vegan, and gluten-free options encouraged)!

Agenda will be announced after the organizing assembly.

An orientation will precede the assembly starting at 6:30 PM for those interested in familiarizing themselves with MACC, general assemblies, and anarchist ideas. General Assembly will begin at 7:00 PM. For more information visit macc.nyc/ or contact us at info@macc.nyc