



GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders

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Dear Friend,

Thank you for writing to GLAD. GLAD is unable to provide substantive legal information or assistance to people in prison outside of New England, because most laws relating to sexual orientation, gender identity and HIV/AIDS status, as well as prison laws and policies, vary from state to state.

You may wish to contact one or more of the organizations listed below for assistance with issues of violence and maltreatment in prisons and jails, or regarding prisoner medical care.

As a general rule, it is a good idea to document your situation as fully as possible. If you believe you are being mistreated, either by fellow prisoners or members of the prison administration, you might consider filing formal grievances within the prison to register your complaints. While filing grievances may be met with a certain amount of hostility from the prison administration, following the established complaint procedure can be valuable in the long run, by showing that the administration was fully informed about the harassment and turned a blind eye or otherwise responded inappropriately.

Additionally, try to keep all correspondence and paperwork between you and the prison administration or others regarding the matter. Keep a log of the harassment or other problems you face, with an emphasis on facts—who did and said what, when and where any incident(s) occurred, whether there were witnesses, etc.

Good luck in pursuing your rights. We hope these ideas and resources are of service.

Legal Advocacy

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

915 15th St., N.W., 7th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005;
(202) 393-4930 (*National Prison Project*, among others)

125 Broad St., 18th floor, New York, NY 10004;
(212) 549-2500

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project*.

Legal Services for Prisoners with Children

1540 Market St., Suite 490, San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 255-7036
info@prisonerswithchildren.org

LSPC is an advocacy group focusing on female prisoners and their families, and on the role of race in incarceration. They provide information, legal advice and referrals. Publications, including the *Incarcerated Parents' Manual*, may be requested through the mail.

Prison Policy Initiative

PO Box 127, Northampton, MA 01061
www.prisonpolicy.org

Documents the impact of mass incarceration and provides information and resources to prisoners including lists of legal resources by state.

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Main
Washington, D.C. 20530
(202) 514-4609
(TTY) : (202) 514-0716

This agency enforces the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA), protecting residents of institutions from conditions that deprive them of their constitutional rights. Also enforces Title III of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits race discrimination in public facilities. The Special Litigation Section has been active in prisoners' rights cases, focusing on conditions of confinement, law enforcement misconduct, and access to reproductive health facilities and places of religious worship.

Legal Resource and Information

Columbia Human Rights Law Review— Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual

435 West 116th Street, New York, NY 10027
(212) 854-1601

The JLM is a handbook developed for inmates, to inform them of their legal rights and how to secure them. To purchase the Manual and Supplement, contact Columbia Human Rights Law Review.

Human Rights Watch Prisoner Resources

www.hrw.org/prison-resources

A listing by state of resources for prisoners and ex-offenders.

National Lawyers Guild

Prison Law Project, 132 Nassau St., Room 922, New York, NY 10038
(212) 679-5100

Publishes *Jailhouse Lawyers Handbook* and *Women's Appendix*.

Prison Legal News

P.O. Box 1151, Lake Worth, FL 33460
(561) 360-2523
pwright@prisonlegalnews.org

This monthly publication reviews and analyzes prisoner rights, court rulings and reporting on prisoner news.

Prison Policy Initiative

PO Box 127, Northampton. MA 01061
www.prisonpolicy.org, www.prisonpolicy.org/contact.html

Provides information and resources for prisoners including lists of legal resources for prisoners by state.

Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC)

PO Box 70447, Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 893-4648
prisonactivist@gmail.com
www.prisonactivist.org/resources

PARC produces a directory free of charge to prisoner upon request.

Prisoners' Self-Help Litigation Manual

Customer Service: Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Road, Cary, NC 27513;
1-(800)-445-9714
Custserv.us@oup.com

This excellent resource includes information on federal and state legal systems, legal terminology, legal research and procedures. It also has directories of courts and legal assistance organizations.

Political Advocacy

Amnesty International, U.S.A.

5 Penn Plaza – 16th Floor, New York, NY 10001
phone: (212) 633-4254 (Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm EST)
aimember@aiusa.org

Amnesty International is a worldwide movement working for international protection of human rights. It seeks the release of prisoners of conscience, and advocates for fair trial for political prisoners.

Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE)

National Headquarters
P.O. Box 2310, National Capitol Station, Washington, D.C. 20013-2310

Organizes prisoners, their families, and other concerned citizens to achieve reforms in the criminal justice system.

Social Services & Counseling

Fortune Society

253 Broadway, 8th Floor, New York City, NY 10007
(212) 788-7550

Ex-offender self-help program offering general counseling, HIV/AIDS programming, court advocacy, public education, alternative to incarceration services, housing placement assistance, career development, treatment services, also targets at-risk youth.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People- National Prison Project

4805 Mt. Hope Dr., Baltimore, MD 21215

The National Prison Project's mission is to bring rehabilitation upon incarceration through various life skills programs. Availability varies by state.

Just Detention International

(213) 384-1400 Collect calls accepted
info@justdetention.org
Resource Guide:

http://www.justdetention.org/en/resourceguides/rg_national.aspx

Legal mail address for incarcerated individuals:

Cynthia Totten, Esq.
CA Attorney Reg. #199266
3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340
Los Angeles, CA 90010

JDI is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention. JDI's *Resource Guide for Survivors of Rape Behind Bars* lists legal and psychological counseling resources for survivors who are still incarcerated, those who have been released, and loved ones on the outside. JDI's Survivor Speakers List gives survivors a chance to work with journalists and policymakers to tell their story. Finally, the JDI website features stories from survivors and information for family members, while a listserv provides news reports and opportunities for activism.

Family Resources

Family and Corrections Network

The National Resource Center on Children & Families of the Incarcerated (NRCCFI)
at Family and Corrections Network (FCN)
93 Old York Road
Suite 1 #510
Jenkintown, PA 19046
215-576-1110
www.fcnetwork.org, fcn@fcnetwork.org.

FCN provides information on programs for families in the correctional system. Also: training, parenting programs, prison visiting, returning to the community, the impact of the justice system on families, and prison marriage.

HIV/AIDS & Health Resources

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

To order publications:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Rd, Atlanta, GA 30333
1-800-CDC-INFO

The CDC is a government agency that works with national, state, and local organizations to conduct research, publish findings and develop programs to promote health and well being. The CDC publishes information on policy, prevention, surveillance, co-infection, and testing among other topics.

National Commission on Correctional Health Care

1145 W. Diversey Pkwy. Chicago, IL 60614
773.880.1460
info@ncchc.org

Publishes standards for health services for jails, prisons, and juvenile confinement facilities, develops programs for training correctional and health care personnel, acts as a clearinghouse on correctional health care, conducts research on selected aspects of correctional health care.

National Minority AIDS Council—Prison Initiative

1931 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009
(202) 483-6622
communications@nmac.org

The Prison Initiative's HIV/AIDS education, technical assistance, and national advocacy programs publish materials for inmates, care providers, and case managers. Inmates may also access a Resource List for HIV and Corrections, updated bimonthly.

POZ

Smart + Strong, 462 Seventh Avenue, 19th floor, New York NY 10018
General Phone: (212) 242-2163
Magazine Single Subscription Phone: (800) 973-2376

POZ is a magazine about the HIV epidemic, including profiles and updates on treatment. It is published in English and Spanish and is free for people who cannot afford it.