

2020 IN REVIEW

ACLU of Arkansas: **DEMANDING JUSTICE, DEFENDING DEMOCRACY**

BY THE NUMBERS

18 cases filed or ongoing in Arkansas

3,000 members and thousands more supporters

400+ legal actions filed against the Trump administration since 2017

Election protection efforts **reached voters in every county**

After a nationwide search, Holly Dickson was named executive director of the ACLU of Arkansas



“The COVID-19 pandemic magnified the inequities, disparities, and injustices that have plagued our country for centuries. Now is the time to recommit to confronting these challenges and building a more perfect union for everyone.”

– ACLU of Arkansas Executive Director Holly Dickson

Protecting the Vulnerable

- » At the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic, ACLU of Arkansas wrote to every criminal legal system stakeholder in the state with a comprehensive list of demands for how to prevent jails and prisons from becoming powderkegs for the disease.
- » As COVID-19 outbreaks swept through Arkansas prisons, ACLU of Arkansas joined civil rights groups in challenging the state's failure to protect people in custody.
- » Representing a renter facing eviction and potential criminal penalties after losing their job due to COVID-19, the ACLU of Arkansas and its partners filed suit challenging the constitutionality of the state's criminal eviction statute.





Voter & Election Protection

- » Through grassroots organizing and voter education, the ACLU of Arkansas' Voter Protection Project helped educate hundreds of thousands of Arkansans about their voting rights, helping to achieve record turnout across the state.

Black Lives Matter

- » Throughout the protests against the murder of George Floyd, the ACLU of Arkansas worked to protect people's rights, provided advice to and helped secure legal representation for those charged while exercising their fundamental right to protest.



Defending Reproductive Liberty

- » When Arkansas officials tried to use the pandemic as an excuse to block people from abortion care, the ACLU of Arkansas sued - resulting in a temporary restraining order and a loosening of the restrictions.



Police Reform & Accountability

- » A report from the ACLU found that police shootings in Arkansas have continued despite the pandemic, with people of color disproportionately impacted.

FACT

Arkansas's rate of death by police shootings over the last five years is the **10th highest in the country.**

ACLU
Arkansas