

BIOGRAPHIES

The following individuals are available for comment or interview. Please contact Amanda Cooper at 212-998-6736 to schedule an interview or to obtain additional information on *Johnson v. Bush*.

Jessie Allen, *Associate Counsel, Democracy Program*
Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School Of Law

Ms. Allen works on litigation challenging felon disenfranchisement laws and campaign finance reform. She joined the Brennan Center following her clerkship with Judge Edward R. Korman on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Previously, she clerked for Judge Pierre N. Leval on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. In 1997-98 Allen was a Bristow Fellow in the Office of the Solicitor General at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. She is a doctoral candidate at Columbia University Law School and graduated from Brooklyn Law School in 1996 as valedictorian of her class. Before law school, Allen was a performance artist in New York City.

Deborah Goldberg, *Acting Director, Democracy Program*
Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School Of Law

Deborah Goldberg is the Acting Director of the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law. In that capacity, she supervises all of the Program's litigation, scholarship, and public education concerning felon voting rights, electoral reform, and other issues pertinent to full participation and fair representation in our political system. Ms. Goldberg oversees the Center's class action lawsuit in Florida, *Johnson v. Bush*, which seeks to restore voting rights to more than 600,000 people with past felony convictions. She is also on the Steering Committee of an eight-member coalition of national organizations working on voting rights restoration in five target states, including Florida. Her public speaking on that issue includes appearances at the 13th annual symposium of the NYU Black Allied Law Students Association and the "Restore the Vote" conference recently held in Tampa. Ms. Goldberg is working to ensure that states implement the new federal electoral reform bill – the Help America Vote Act – in a way that maximizes opportunities to vote and protects against discrimination at the polls, including discrimination against persons with felony convictions. Ms. Goldberg is a graduate of Harvard Law School and served as law clerk to Hon. Stephen G. Breyer, then on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and to Hon. Constance Baker Motley on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Before joining the Brennan Center, Ms. Goldberg was in private practice, concentrating on environmental law. She also holds a Ph.D. in philosophy and taught ethics for three years at Columbia University.

Senator Daryl Jones, *Florida State Senator*

The son of public school teachers, Daryl Jones was born in Jackson, MS. He graduated valedictorian of his high school and was president of the State Student Council. Daryl next attended the U.S. Air Force Academy, graduating with honors. After entering pilot training, Daryl joined the 90th Tactical Fighter Squadron in the Philippines, and in short order became a highly successful combat flight leader and mission commander.

In 1984 Mr. Jones left the active duty and enrolled at the University of Miami School of Law. The University awarded Daryl its highest honor, the Iron Arrow, and he was elected President of both the Student Bar Association and the National Student Bar Association. Mr. Jones worked as a federal judicial clerk for the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Peter Fay, as an assistant Dade County Attorney at Miami International Airport, and finally joined the Puerto Rico Air National Guard as a fighter pilot.

In 1990 Mr. Jones was elected to serve the interests of South Dade County in the Florida House of Representatives. Two years later, Hurricane Andrew devastated Rep. Jones' district while he was in the midst of campaigning for the state senate. Having the only working telephone lines near ground zero, Daryl converted his campaign office into a 24-hour operations center. With the help of numerous volunteers, he coordinated the delivery of food, water, clothing, and medical supplies to the families ravaged by Hurricane Andrew. Daryl's reward: he was elected State Senator, District 40.

Senator Jones immediately went to work, sponsoring the Hurricane Andrew Trust Fund Bill, which appropriated more than \$650 million over three years to help rebuild the devastated area. South Dade County largely recovered in only four years. Senator Jones then passed the famous Rosewood Bill, and successfully defended the existence of Homestead ARB before two Base Realignment and Closure Commission Boards. In 1995 Democratic state senators unanimously elected him their President-designate, and the next year President Clinton appointed Senator Jones to the U.S. Air Force Academy Board of Visitors, a post he currently holds. In 1998 President Clinton also nominated Senator Jones Secretary of the Air Force. In 2002 Senator Jones sought the Democratic Nomination for Governor of Florida.

Daryl Jones is currently a partner with the law firm of Adorno & Yoss, P.A., an investment banking consultant with M.R. Beal & Co., and is the Installation Inspector General at Homestead ARB.

Clarence Office, *Member of the Plaintiff Class*

Clarence Office is a 45 year-old, African-American husband and father who got off drugs and turned his life around in 1994. In and out of jail in the 80's, living on and off the streets for years, he realized he was "tired of living that way," and decided to change his life. He went back to school, eventually going to work for the City of Miami doing outreach for services to homeless people. He continued his education and became a certified substance abuse counselor. This fall, he is pursuing his bachelor's degree in social work. He is currently the Supervisor for the Detainee Project of Dade County for the Miami Homeless Assistance Program. He works with the courts to provide emergency shelter and referral services for homeless people who are being released from supervision. Mr. Office gives all thanks to God for what he has achieved, but recognizes that his own hard work and perseverance played a large role in his recovery and success. And Mr. Office's good works extend beyond his workday. In the evenings, he's the volunteer basketball coach for the inner city teens at his church, and he also provides training on HIV/AIDS to parishioners. "I know if I can keep those boys interested in basketball," he says with the knowledge that comes from experience, "they won't be tempted to run around with the wrong folks doing drugs and getting in trouble."

For all his good work and community involvement, however, Mr. Office still can not vote. He applied for restoration of his civil rights more than one year ago, but has not heard from the Governor's board. So, for now, Mr. Office can't vote. He says this makes him feel "deprived." He says, "I do everything else right, but there is this one thing from my past, years ago, that keeps me from being a complete citizen."

David A. Sadler, *Activist*

David A. Sadler had a life altering experience in November 1992. He was arrested on charges of possession and delivery. Never having had any serious run-ins with the law, he was oblivious to what was about to happen to him. David's attorney advised him to accept a plea bargain to avoid jail time, and he did. This decision made him a convicted felon and cost him his civil rights. After being denied financial aid for graduate school because of his ex-felon status, David decided to run/walk from Orlando, Florida to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to hand-deliver his clemency application to the governor of that state, to shed light on the crippling effects of disenfranchisement. With the help of Senator Gary Siplin of the 19th district, Mothers of Incarcerated Sons, President of the NAACP's Orange Branch, Gerald Bell and others, David has taken this cause on the road. Mr. Sadler will be running/walking through all of the remaining 8 states that permanently disenfranchise felons and ex-offenders. His goal is to educate this country about disenfranchisement and how it affects the life of ex-offenders, their families and their communities. Says Davis, "I will do this the old fashion way – 'Marching'!"

Courtenay Strickland, *Coordinator, Voting Rights Project*
ACLU Florida

As Voting Rights Project Coordinator, Courtenay Strickland manages the ACLU of Florida's legal, legislative and grassroots efforts on election reform issues. She is the primary organizer of the ACLU's campaign to re-enfranchise citizens with felony convictions and has organized more than two dozen re-enfranchisement workshops throughout the state. She also played a key role in the founding of the Miami-Dade Election Reform Coalition, which worked to improve elections in Miami-Dade after the disastrous September 2002 primaries and still functions today to promote positive electoral reform in the community. Her work with the ACLU of Florida began as Coordinator for the Florida Equal Voting Rights Project, a collaborative effort to address voting irregularities and minority disenfranchisement brought to light by the November 2000 election. Courtenay began her civil liberties work with the ACLU in 1998 as the Legal Program Associate for the Washington state affiliate.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is freedom's watchdog, working daily in the courts, legislatures and communities to defend individual rights and personal freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The ACLU works to defend constitutional principles such as free speech, freedom of expression, privacy, equality, and separation of church and state.

The ACLU is a national non-profit, non-partisan membership organization, neither liberal nor conservative, Democratic nor Republican. Since its founding in 1920, the ACLU has grown from a handful of civil liberties activists to an organization of 300,000 members, with more than 10,000 ACLU members and 12 local chapters in Florida.

James K. Green, *former Legal Director and President*
American Civil Liberties Union of Florida

James K. Green is past Legal Director and past President of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida currently in private practice in West Palm Beach. A 1973 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and a 1976 graduate of the Antioch School of Law, Mr. Green has tried numerous death penalty, First Amendment, police misconduct, mental health reform and migrant farm worker cases. His most recent victory was one of the top jury verdicts of 2002--a \$54,600,000 award to three torture survivors against two former Salvadoran generals who now reside in Florida.

Anita Hodgkiss, *Director, Voting Rights Project*
Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Anita Hodgkiss is Director of the Voting Rights Project and Coordinator of the Police Misconduct Initiative for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, a non-profit civil rights litigation and advocacy organization. From April 1988 to August 2000, Ms. Hodgkiss served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, where she had responsibility for the Division's Voting, Educational Opportunities, Disability Rights and Coordination and Review sections. In the spring of 2002, she taught a Voting Rights Seminar as an adjunct Professor at the University of Maryland Law School.

In the voting rights area, Ms. Hodgkiss was a lead attorney for the NAACP in litigation challenging the disenfranchisement of minority voters in Florida following the 2000 election. She represented the Gingles defendant-intervenors in *Shaw v. Hunt*, the case challenging North Carolina's congressional districts. Prior to the *Shaw* litigation, she participated in a number of cases challenging at-large election methods in local jurisdictions.

For ten years Ms. Hodgkiss litigated civil rights cases as a partner with Ferguson, Stein, Wallas, Adkins, Gresham & Sumter in Charlotte, North Carolina. In private practice, her work involved voting rights, police misconduct, school desegregation, employment discrimination, public accommodations, disability rights and first amendment cases.