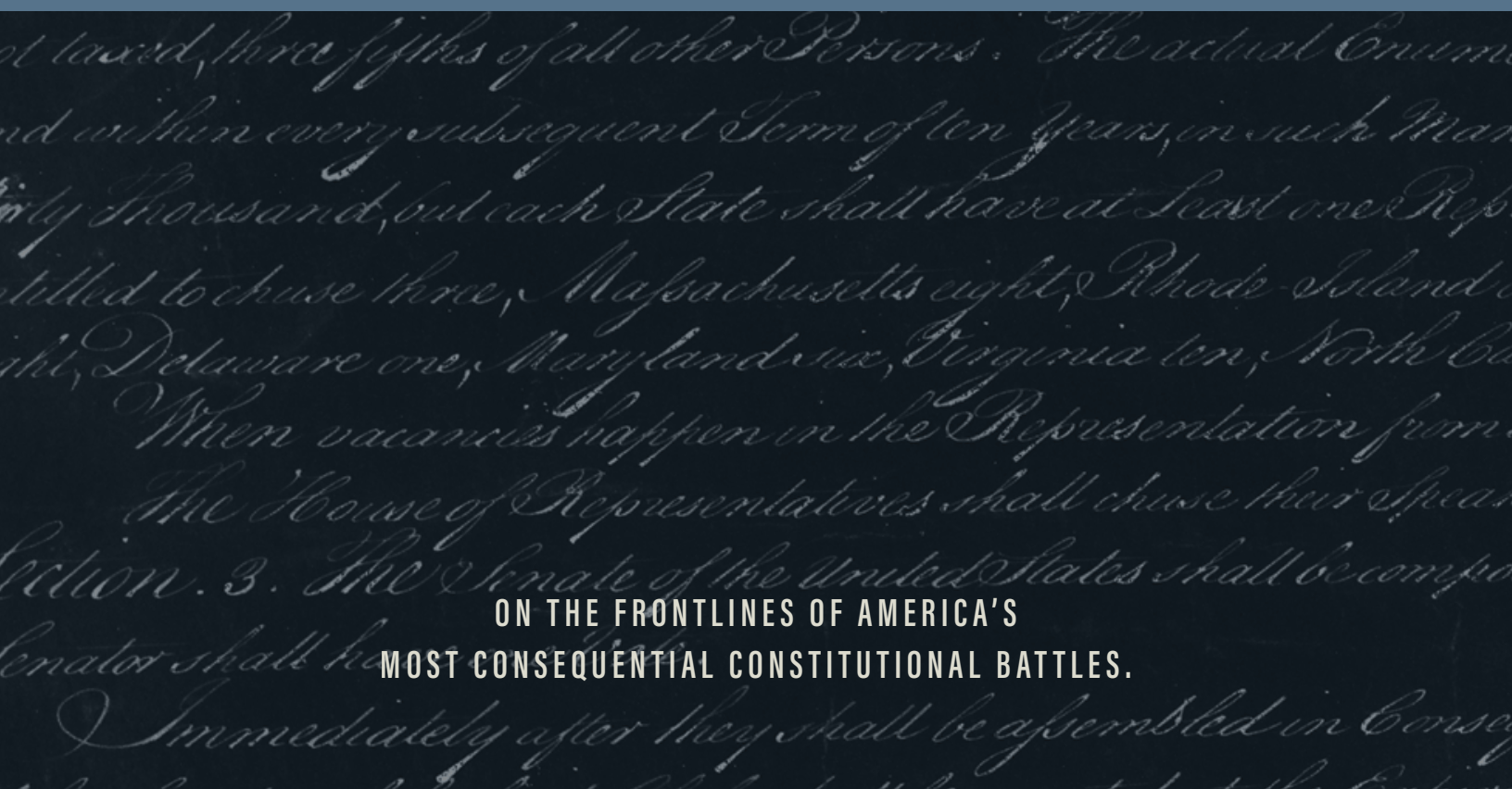


2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection

GEORGETOWN LAW



ON THE FRONTLINES OF AMERICA'S
MOST CONSEQUENTIAL CONSTITUTIONAL BATTLES.

WE USE LITIGATION, POLICY,
AND PUBLIC EDUCATION TO
PROTECT CONSTITUTIONAL
RIGHTS AND TO HOLD OUR
GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS
TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF
INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

I CAP's eighth year is a tale of two workstreams: our work pre-election to ensure a fair opportunity to participate in democracy free from political violence, and our work post-election to challenge executive overreach that threatens the rule of law.

Before the 2024 election, ICAP litigated against a state effort to intimidate a voting rights organization; consulted with local and state officials about how to protect voters, election workers, and elected officials from threats and disinformation; and drafted emergency lawsuits to challenge paramilitary activity during early voting and on Election Day.

After the election, we prepared for what the new administration promised to do on day one, and we filed suit challenging the president's attempt to restrict the constitutional right to birthright citizenship on day two. That case alone has made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court and back to the lower courts, just since January 21, and we now have a preliminary injunction that protects a nationwide class of babies—born and who will be born—who would otherwise be denied their citizenship under the Executive Order. More litigation challenging executive actions that violate constitutional rights and separation-of-powers principles has followed, as has public guidance on issues such as what state and local cooperation with federal immigration enforcement is required by law and

when the U.S. military and federalized National Guard units may be deployed for domestic law enforcement purposes.

Through all of this, we continue ongoing litigation challenging unconstitutional bail practices, police excessive force, and state laws restricting First Amendment rights, among many other cases.

To do this work, and to meet the moment, we knew we needed to build capacity, and so we did. After the election, ICAP added four senior attorneys to its exceptionally talented team, all from the Department of Justice, all bringing their wealth of relevant and unique experience.

Whether litigating, meeting with public officials and community members behind the scenes, or speaking out, we stay true to our mission: to protect constitutional rights and hold our governmental institutions to the highest standards of integrity and accountability. We hope you will support us in this mission!

Sincerely,



Mary B. McCord
Executive Director
and Visiting Professor of Law



Our Plan

We use litigation, policy advocacy, public education, and student training to vindicate constitutional rights, protect democracy, and prepare the next generation of public interest lawyers. By combining legal strategy with public engagement, we're advancing a more just, more accountable future.

Tools for Constitutional Impact

LITIGATION

Bold, precedent-setting legal action to defend rights and advance the rule of law in every level of the court system.

POLICY ADVOCACY

Strategic engagement with elected officials and civic leaders to ensure constitutional values shape legislation, executive action, and government policy.

PUBLIC EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

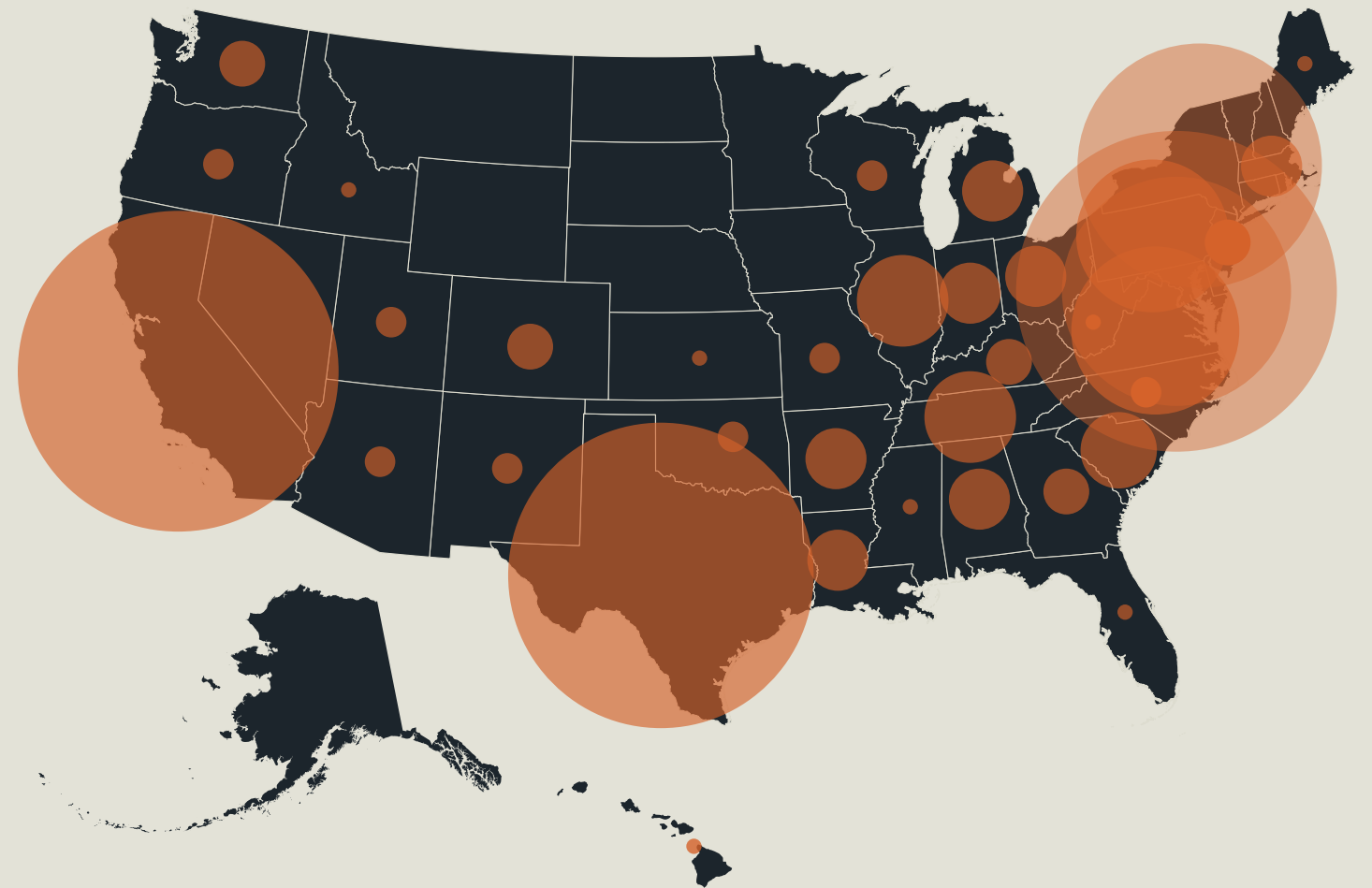
Empowering communities and shaping discourse through scholarship, media engagement, and public-facing materials.

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION

Offering law students hands-on experience in constitutional litigation and public interest advocacy through ICAP's practicum and summer intern programs.

Where We Litigate

ICAP's litigation spans the country. We litigate in state and federal courts nationwide, at the trial, appellate, and Supreme Court levels, to preserve and defend constitutional rights and values.



Our Work

At a time of mounting threats to democracy, ICAP takes action where it matters most: in the courts, in the policy arena, and on the ground.

Strategic Litigation. Policy Expertise. Rapid Response.

LITIGATION THAT SHAPES THE LAW

Over the past year, our team filed more than 70 legal briefs in federal and state courts to protect constitutional rights, defend individuals and communities under attack, and shape the law at the trial, appellate, and Supreme Court levels.

LEGAL SUPPORT FOR LAWMAKERS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS

We supported legislators in crafting bills to rein in unlawful paramilitary activity, worked with public officials across the country to ensure that elections remained fair and free from violence, and provided legal guidance as new matters of concern emerged.

A DEEP BENCH OF CONSTITUTIONAL EXPERTISE

Our work spans the most urgent areas at the heart of constitutional democracy—from protecting birthright citizenship, free expression, voting rights, and separation of powers to confronting political violence, curbing government overreach, and defending the rights of young people and immigrants. Together, these efforts reflect our commitment to justice, accountability, and the rule of law.



PROTECTING DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES AND INSTITUTIONS



Before the 2024 election, we took swift action to ensure elections remained free, safe, and fair. After the election, we worked to limit executive overreach and preserve the rule of law.

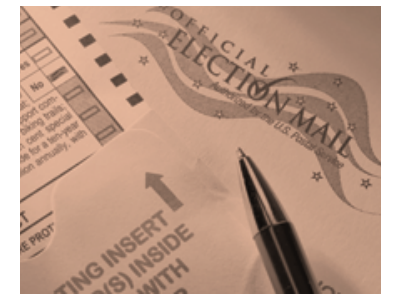
BEFORE THE 2024 ELECTION

In September, Executive Director Mary McCord **testified** before the Senate Judiciary Committee about the implications of the Supreme Court's July 2024 immunity decision in *Trump v. United States*. Her **written statement** details the damage the decision does to the separation of powers embedded in our Constitution and to our ability to hold presidents and other executive-branch officials accountable for abuses of power.

Leading up to Election Day, we brought cases to challenge state efforts to chill voters and advocates, and we were ready to file suit to protect polling places against political violence and intimidation.

JOLT v. PAXTON We **successfully paused** the harassing document requests served by state Attorney General Ken Paxton targeting a Latino civic engagement non-profit aimed at intimidating the organization from continuing its voter registration work.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY v. PAXTON We **protected** Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley against the Texas Attorney General's overreaching



ICAP ELECTION HUB

Our "**Election Hub**"—now relaunched as the Resource Center—offers written guidance and video explainers on key legal issues like voter intimidation, mis- and disinformation, private paramilitary activity, true threats, and other advice for election officials and law enforcement.

"WE PREPARE FOR
THE WORST SO WE CAN
PROTECT THE BEST
OF DEMOCRACY."

- RUPA BHATTACHARYYA
LEGAL DIRECTOR, ICAP

ICAP BY THE
NUMBERS

101
CASES

Number of cases
ICAP has litigated,
often at multiple
court levels

"OUR LITIGATION IS
STRATEGIC AND FAST.
WE HAD A LAWSUIT
READY THE DAY
AFTER THE EXECUTIVE
ORDER DROPPED."

- WILLIAM POWELL
SENIOR COUNSEL, ICAP

investigative effort to chill the charity's provision of human-
itarian aid to recent immigrants.

BROWN v. YOST We furthered direct democracy in Ohio by **challenging** state Attorney General Dave Yost's repeated blockage of a citizens' ballot initiative. After we defeated Yost's efforts to obtain a stay from the Supreme Court of the lower court's injunction, Yost finally **gave his approval**, clearing the way for our clients to circulate the petition statewide with the goal of placing it on an upcoming general election ballot.

As we did in 2020, we brought together a coalition of law firms willing to work with us pro bono if we needed to file emergency litigation on or before Election Day in response to paramilitary or other extremist threats at polling places.

AFTER THE ELECTION

We anticipated threats and were ready to act.

JANUARY: CASA v. TRUMP The day after inauguration, we filed **suit** challenging the president's Executive Order purporting to limit birthright citizenship.

FEBRUARY: MENNONITE CHURCH USA v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY Less than a week after winning a preliminary injunction against the birthright citizenship Executive Order, we filed **suit** on behalf of more than two dozen religious denominations and associations, **challenging** the Department of Homeland Security's rescission of its "sensitive locations" policy, which had restricted ICE raids, arrests, and other federal immigration enforcement action in or near places of worship for more than 30 years.

MARCH: CRISTOSAL HUMAN RIGHTS v. PETER MAROCCO We **challenged** DOGE's effort to dismantle the Inter-American Foundation (IAF), an independent agency that focuses on community-driven development across Latin America and the Caribbean, helping to reduce mass migration.

APRIL: ETHICS AMICUS BRIEFS RE: EXECUTIVE ORDERS TARGETING LAW FIRMS We teamed up with the Harvard Election Law Clinic to **represent** a group of legal ethics professors in opposing blacklisting-style executive orders issued by President Trump targeting specific law firms.

MAY: CASA v. KRISTI NOEM & U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY We **sued** U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem to stop her **unlawful attempt** to terminate Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations for Afghanistan and Cameroon, representing those who fled armed conflicts, hunger, and human rights abuses in their home countries.



SHAPING THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION

We participated in events hosted by **Lawfare Live**, **Georgetown Law**, the **ABA Litigation Section**, and **The New York Historical Society** to discuss national security concerns related to some of Trump's announced appointees and threats to core constitutional principles from early executive actions.

Executive Director Mary McCord frequently joined **NPR's 1A** and other programming to explain legal issues arising from executive overreach.

Mary **testified** before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the importance of maintaining the independence of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice.

Mary published op-eds in **The Atlantic**, **Just Security**, and **The Washington Post** on issues ranging from DOJ independence to blanket pardons and unlawful removals.

Legal Director Rupa Bhattacharyya appeared on **The Daily Show** to debunk the myth of government "inefficiency" and offer firsthand experience on how government processes protect the public and enhance quality of life.

“ A L L P E R S O N S B O R N O R
N A T U R A L I Z E D I N T H E U N I T E D
S T A T E S , A N D S U B J E C T T O
T H E J U R I S D I C T I O N T H E R E O F ,
A R E C I T I Z E N S O F T H E U N I T E D
S T A T E S A N D O F T H E S T A T E
W H E R E I N T H E Y R E S I D E . ”

14th Amendment, Section 1

CHALLENGING THE ADMINISTRATION'S BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP EXECUTIVE ORDER

On Inauguration Day, President Trump signed an Executive Order attempting to reinterpret the 14th Amendment to deny birthright citizenship to children born to immigrant parents unless at least one parent is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.

ICAP BY THE NUMBERS

10
OUT OF
13

ICAP lawyers
are former U.S.
Department of
Justice attorneys

Anticipating this move, we responded immediately. Our litigation not only secured protection for our plaintiffs, but also shaped a national legal strategy to preserve birthright citizenship.

ICAP SUES We filed a lawsuit on January 21 on behalf of five pregnant mothers and hundreds of thousands of members of two immigrant-rights organizations—CASA and the Asylum Seeker Advocacy Project (ASAP). The plaintiffs include pregnant mothers with pending asylum claims, pregnant mothers in the U.S. on student visas, pregnant mothers with temporary protected status, and pregnant mothers who are undocumented.

A UNIVERSAL INJUNCTION Within two weeks of filing the lawsuit, a federal district judge in Maryland granted a universal injunction against the Executive Order, protecting not just the plaintiffs, but everyone across the nation who would have been impacted. The judge explained that the Executive Order conflicts

with the plain language of the 14th Amendment, contradicts 125-year-old binding Supreme Court precedent, and runs counter to the country's history of recognizing citizenship by birth.

THE GOVERNMENT CHALLENGES UNIVERSAL INJUNCTIONS

The Trump Administration responded by appealing our preliminary injunction and two others granted to groups of state plaintiffs, then sought an immediate stay of the universal application of the injunctions pending appeal. When the Administration lost its stay motions in the district courts and courts of appeals, it sought emergency Supreme Court review.

THE SUPREME COURT LIMITS UNIVERSAL INJUNCTIONS

Six weeks after Supreme Court Director Kelsi Corkran argued the case, the Supreme Court ruled that “universal injunctions likely exceed the equitable authority that Congress has given to federal courts.” The Court granted a partial stay of the existing universal injunctions, limiting them to what is “necessary to provide complete relief” to the plaintiffs. The Supreme Court *did not* address the constitutionality of the Executive Order, which had been found unconstitutional in the lower courts. It also *did not* stay the injunction barring the Executive Order from being applied to the plaintiffs in our case: individual named pregnant mothers (some of whom had given birth) and members of CASA and ASAP. *Their children remained protected against the Executive Order.*

A CLASSWIDE, NATIONWIDE INJUNCTION To ensure protection for *all* U.S.-born children and not just those who had the ability to file a lawsuit, within two hours of the Supreme Court decision, we filed an **amended class-action complaint** and a **motion seeking an immediate injunction** for *all* babies born or who will be born in the United States to whom the Executive Order would otherwise apply. On August 7, the district court granted the relief requested, certifying a nationwide class of born and to-be-born babies that would have been denied citizenship under the Executive Order and enjoining the government from enforcing it. We look forward to continuing to protect the cherished right to citizenship that the Constitution provides.

“THE PARENTS WHOSE CHILDREN ARE HARMED BY THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER HAVE OFTEN LIVED, WORKED, AND PAID TAXES HERE FOR DECADES. THEY ALL WANT THEIR U.S.-BORN CHILDREN TO HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP AS EVERYONE ELSE, JUST AS THE CONSTITUTION GUARANTEES.”

– JOSEPH MEAD
SPECIAL LITIGATION
COUNSEL, ICAP

“WITHOUT THE PROTECTIONS OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP, THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION COULD EVEN TRY TO RIP MY BABY AWAY FROM ME AND OUR FAMILY AND DEPORT THEM TO A COUNTRY THEY’VE NEVER KNOWN.”

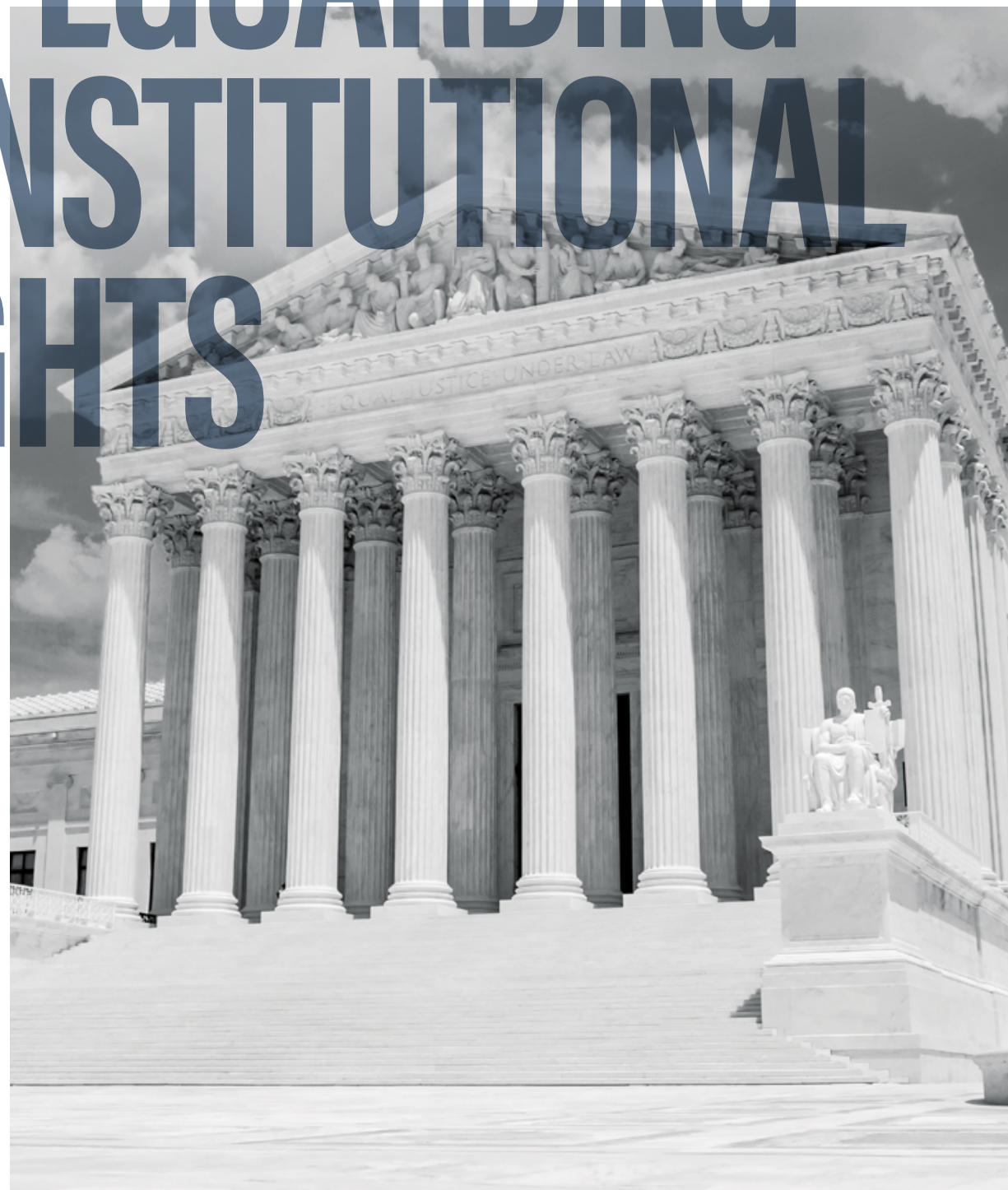
– PLAINTIFF “MARIBEL”

SAFEGUARDING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

ICAP BY THE
NUMBERS

5
SUPREME
COURT
BRIEFS

Filed since
July 2024



From free speech to criminal legal system overreach, our legal team defends constitutional rights under attack—especially those impacting marginalized communities. Our victories have helped set new precedents and protect the most vulnerable.

LEGAL WINS AND ONGOING LITIGATION

TORRES v. MADRID After 10 years, four rounds of district court briefing, **two appeals to the Tenth Circuit**, and a **trip to the U.S. Supreme Court**, we secured compensation for Roxanne Torres, who was shot in the back by police who were looking for someone else.

TORRES v. COLLINS We obtained a **final judgment** barring unconstitutional bail practices in Hamblen County, Tennessee, protecting pretrial detainees too poor to afford cash bail or an attorney.

LEBLANC v. MCNEAL We successfully **defeated** Supreme Court review of a Fifth Circuit victory allowing the claims of a prisoner who was unlawfully detained for 41 days after his release date to proceed.

ERMOLD v. DAVIS In the Sixth Circuit, we **preserved** our clients' victory over former county clerk, Kim Davis, who repeatedly refused to grant the couple a marriage license based solely on her religious views against same-sex marriage.



HUMAN RIGHT TO HOUSING

We were honored to be recognized at the National Homelessness Law Center's 2024 *Human Right to Housing Awards* for our work before the Supreme Court in *Grants Pass v. Johnson*. Alongside the Oregon Law Center and the Oregon Justice Resource Center, we accepted the Stewart B. McKinney Award for outstanding leadership in the movement to end homelessness.

"TEN YEARS AFTER SHE
WAS SHOT BY POLICE,
ROXANNE TORRES FINALLY
RECEIVED JUSTICE."

- KELSI CORKRAN
SUPREME COURT
DIRECTOR, ICAP

"EVEN A CHURCH
OFFERING SHELTER
COULD BE CRIMINALIZED
UNDER TENNESSEE'S
NEW LAW. WE'RE
FIGHTING TO STOP THAT."

- ELIZABETH CRUIKSHANK
SENIOR COUNSEL, ICAP

ICAP BY THE
NUMBERS

35
FEDERAL
DISTRICT
COURT
FILINGS

In just one
year alone

BLEDSON V. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY We successful-
ly **sued** on behalf of Captain Joy Bledsoe, former West Point
valedictorian, who was denied her request to be assigned to
noncombatant duties in the U.S. Army as a conscientious
objector based on her religious beliefs.

BARRED BUSINESS V. KEMP We're defending on appeal the
preliminary injunction **we obtained** in Georgia barring a new
state law that would have imposed severe restrictions on the
payment of charitable cash bail.

FRAZIER V. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY We're **challenging**
the constitutionality of the pretrial detention practice in
Prince George's County, Maryland, by which judges defer de-
tention decisions to the county's corrections department.

SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD V. FINNEY We're **challenging the**
constitutionality of a new Tennessee law that criminaliz-
es providing shelter to people who are undocumented, even
when there is no intent to conceal them.

WELTY V. DUNAWAY We're **defending** on appeal an injunction
against another new Tennessee law that criminalizes the "re-
cruitment" of a pregnant minor for the purpose of procuring
an abortion—even in a state where abortion is legal—with no
definition of whether "recruitment" includes "counseling."

A.B. V. HOLCOMB We're **representing** child victims of abuse
and neglect in Indiana seeking to challenge the deliberate in-
difference to their basic needs in the state's foster care system.



PRESERVING PUBLIC SAFETY



Public safety requires both strong institutions and strong safeguards. We defended gun safety laws, supported law enforcement policies that protect community safety, and prepared to challenge the misuse of military authorities for domestic law enforcement.

LITIGATION

WOLFORD v. LOPEZ We secured a favorable **decision** from the Ninth Circuit, largely upholding the constitutionality of Hawai'i's gun safety law barring firearms in sensitive places like parks and beaches and its default rule banning firearms on private property without owner consent.

COMBATTING GUN VIOLENCE We supported state and local bans on firearms **in sensitive places** and **bans** on **assault-style weapons** and high-capacity magazines through amicus briefs on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

SUPPORTING LOCAL AND STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT We represented the Major Cities Chiefs Association, the Police Executive Research Forum, and dozens of current and former national security officials, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors, in explaining to the Supreme Court in *Garland v. VanDerStok* why ATF's "ghost gun" regulation is critical to preventing untraceable weapons from falling into the hands of malign actors (including domestic violent extremists), and to allowing law enforcement to



CONSTITUTIONAL PROTEST GUIDE

With protests rising across the country, we have witnessed a surge in demand for our **Constitutional Protest Guide**—a comprehensive toolkit that equips public officials with legal options for protecting public safety while preserving constitutional rights at public events.



THE LIMITS OF DOMESTIC MILITARY POWER

Can the president deploy Marines in Los Angeles? We're answering that question—and helping lawmakers prepare for potential abuse of military power. You can watch our Executive Director Mary McCord explain the legal issues on [CSPAN's Washington Journal](#), at a [panel discussion](#) sponsored by the Reiss Center on Law and National Security at NYU, on the [Main Justice](#) podcast, or during Mary's testimony at a [Senate spotlight forum](#) on the administration's mass deportation policy and its impacts on constitutional rights.

detect and prevent firearms trafficking. The Supreme Court upheld ATF's rule in March 2025.

STATE EX REL. ROKITA V. MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE We [continue to defend](#) the sheriff in Monroe County, Indiana, whose policy of protecting his community by not entangling his deputies in federal immigration enforcement except where required by law is being challenged by the state Attorney General. (Our representation of the sheriff in this case builds upon our [prior work](#) successfully defending cities' welcoming ordinances in Indiana.)

MILITARY AUTHORITY AND RULE OF LAW

We are prepared to challenge the misuse of the U.S. Armed Forces and National Guard units for domestic law enforcement. We have provided briefings to state and local elected officials, members of Congress, and community leaders to help them understand the limits of those authorities, legal options for challenging misuse, and the dangers of using the military for domestic law enforcement.

COMBATting POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND PARAMILITARIES

ICAP's expertise on political violence and paramilitary activity is regularly called upon by the media, government officials, law enforcement, and the public. We have written numerous [articles](#) about the evolving threat of unlawful private paramilitary groups since the attack on the U.S. Capitol in 2021. We have testified in support of state efforts to combat private paramilitaries, including the introduction of legislation based on ICAP's [model state anti-paramilitary-activity bill](#). We have hosted webinars and spoken at conferences of elected officials, law enforcement, union leaders, journalists, and others about the threat of political violence and how communities can address it.



OUR INFLUENCE

New York Times

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025

Quote of the Day

“If we want to look at marauding mobs, look at Jan. 6.”

MARY McCORD, the director of the Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection at Georgetown Law, on President Trump saying he needed to send in the National Guard to secure the nation’s capital, a different reaction than on Jan. 6, 2021 — the most lawless day in recent Washington history. Page A16.

From defending citizenship to safeguarding elections, ICAP’s voice is sought out by media, policymakers, and academics alike.

MEDIA

ICAP attorneys are regularly featured in print, broadcast, and online media for their expertise in constitutional and rule-of-law matters.

Executive Director Mary McCord regularly appears on MSNBC, NBC, and PBS, as well as NPR programs including 1A, Here and Now, and On Point. She provides legal analysis on election-related threats, executive overreach and separation of powers, the judicial response to litigation challenging the administration’s actions, domestic extremism, and national security matters. The award-winning MSNBC podcast she co-hosts with Andrew Weissmann, “Main Justice,” provides a weekly deep dive into the legality of executive actions and how they are being prosecuted and defended by the Department of Justice. And she regularly publishes articles and op-eds in the Washington Post, Just Security, the Atlantic, and Bloomberg Law, among others.

Other ICAP attorneys have also appeared in major media outlets, including Legal Director Rupa Bhattacharyya discussing the birthright citizenship case on ABC News Live; Senior Counsel William Powell being quoted in the Washington Post on the atmosphere of fear created by Tennessee’s new criminal harboring law; and Supreme Court Director Kelsi Corkran being quoted in papers across the country explaining why 27 religious groups sued to protect houses of worship from ICE raids.



“I WOULD SAY WHAT TO KEEP YOUR EYE ON IN THIS SPACE—OR IN EVERYTHING THE SUPREME COURT DOES—IS HOW POWER IS BEING TRANSFERRED AMONG THE BRANCHES.”

– **KELSI CORKRAN**
SUPREME COURT DIRECTOR, ICAP,
SPEAKING AT **NYU’S SUPREME COURT REVIEW** OF THE 2024-2025 TERM

"THE SPEAKERS WERE
PHENOMENAL...[THE
ICAP ATTORNEYS]
DEMONSTRATED EMPATHY
AND UNDERSTANDING
OF THE CHALLENGE
WE FACE TO WORK
TOWARD EQUALITY AND
FAIRNESS."

- SUMMER INSTITUTE
TEACHER PARTICIPANTS

ICAP BY THE
NUMBERS

100
AMICUS
BRIEFS

Filed since ICAP'S
launch in 2017

GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

ICAP attorneys are regularly asked to testify or offer opinions to members of congress and state elected officials across the country on issues related to constitutional rights, political violence, and legislative initiatives to protect public safety. On the Senate side alone, Mary testified in the past year about the impact of the Supreme Court's immunity decision, the need for the Department of Justice to be independent from the White House, and the effects of mass deportation policies on due process and other constitutional rights.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

ICAP attorneys also teach and speak at scores of conferences and webinars each year, including:

TRAINING Providing training on constitutional law for select high school teachers from across the country, through Street Law and the Supreme Court Historical Society.

CONFERENCES Speaking at conferences of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Major City Chiefs Association, American Bar Association, the National Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the Eradicate Hate Global Summit, the Washington Council of Lawyers, the American Constitution Society, and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights.

ACADEMICS Presenting at academic institutions including Cardozo Law, Princeton University, the Aspen Institute, the Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law, William & Mary Law School, the Reiss Center on Law and National Security, and George Mason Law School.



“ W H E N T H E R E A R E N O
L A W Y E R S T O R E P R E S E N T
T H E O P P O S I T I O N T O
T H E A D M I N I S T R A T I O N ’ S
E X E C U T I V E O V E R R E A C H ,
W E H A V E N O A D V E R S A R I A L
S Y S T E M , N O D U E P R O C E S S ,
N O R U L E O F L A W . ”

Mary McCord, Executive Director

INSTITUTE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL ADVOCACY AND PROTECTION

Legal Battles in the Headlines

Our cases don't just make headlines—they shape the future of constitutional rights.

CASA V. TRUMP

Immigrant groups file lawsuit in Maryland over Trump’s order on birthright citizenship

Trump birthright citizenship order could leave U.S.-born babies of asylum-seekers ‘stateless,’ attorneys say

Judge Blocks Trump’s Birthright Citizenship Order Nationwide

What is birthright citizenship and what happens after the Supreme Court ruling?

CASA V. KRISTI NOEM & U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Exclusive: Trump Admin Faces Lawsuit Over Ending More Migrant Protections

MENNONITE CHURCH USA V. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

27 religious groups sue Trump administration to protect houses of worship from immigration arrests

Trump Is Siccing ICE on Churches. The Pastors Are Fighting Back.

Religious Groups Sue Homeland Security Over Immigration Arrests

SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD V. FINNEY

Lawsuit challenges Tennessee law against ‘harboring’ undocumented people

ELCA synod sues Tennessee over ban on harboring illegal immigrants

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY

Judge denies Texas AG’s request to depose Catholic Charities

BROWN V. YOST

Ohio’s ballot initiative procedures debated before full Sixth Circuit

ERMOLD V. DAVIS

KY clerk who denied marriage licenses to same-sex couples loses another round in court

ETHICS AMICUS BRIEFS RE: EXECUTIVE ORDERS TARGETING LAW FIRMS

Law Firms Made Deals With Trump. Now He Wants More From Them.

JOLT V. PAXTON

Ken Paxton agrees to pause its investigation into Texas civic group’s voter registration efforts

Training the Next Generation of Public Interest Lawyers

At ICAP, shaping the future of constitutional advocacy doesn't start or stop in the courtroom. Through immersive legal education and mentorship, we prepare law students to become principled, strategic defenders of civil rights and democratic institutions.

CONSTITUTIONAL IMPACT LITIGATION PRACTICUM-SEMINAR

Each fall and spring semester, ICAP offers a practicum seminar at Georgetown Law that combines rigorous classroom learning with hands-on litigation experience. Students receive academic credit while contributing directly to ICAP's active cases and policy work.

The students are embedded in litigation teams where they have the opportunity to provide research support in developing legal theories; produce first drafts of motions and sections of legal briefs; participate in meetings with clients and partner organizations; and contribute to policy initiatives including guidance documents and draft legislation. In weekly seminar sessions, students analyze the legal doctrines that shape constitutional impact litigation—often in conversation with the very attorneys who litigated the cases under discussion.

Many Georgetown Law alumni of the ICAP practicum have gone on to distinguished public-interest careers—federal and state clerkships, fellowships at public-interest organizations, and roles within the U.S. Department of Justice and other federal departments and agencies. Empowering the next generation of public-interest legal leaders remains a cornerstone of our mission.

DOMESTIC VIOLENT EXTREMISM SEMINAR

Taught each spring by Mary McCord, this seminar explores the legal, historical, and constitutional dimensions of domestic violent extremism. Students examine the root causes and drivers of extremist violence, existing laws (and gaps in those laws), and the implications of regulation on constitutional rights. Each student produces a final paper that proposes an original policy solution to a real-world problem involving domestic extremism.

ICAP BY THE NUMBERS

4.2K

Student hours devoted to ICAP each year



Our Team

LEADERSHIP

Mary B. McCord, *Executive Director and Visiting Professor of Law*
Rupa Bhattacharyya, *Legal Director*
Kelsi Brown Corkran, *Supreme Court Director*

TEAM

Sara J. Adeli, Litigation and Administrative Assistant
Jonathan Backer, Senior Counsel
Gregory Briker, Liman Fellow
Shelby Calambokidis, Senior Counsel
Elizabeth Cruikshank, Senior Counsel
Julia Gegenheimer, Special Litigation Counsel
Alex Lichtenstein, Counsel
Joseph Mead, Special Litigation Counsel
William Powell, Senior Counsel
Samuel Siegel, Senior Counsel
Allahjah Smith, Operations Manager
Kate Talmor, Senior Counsel
Seth Wayne, Senior Counsel and Criminal Reform Litigation Coordinator

FACULTY CHAIR

Neal Katyal, Paul and Patricia Saunders Emeritus Professor of Law

The Work Continues

As long as threats to democracy persist, our work remains urgent. At ICAP, we stand on the front lines of constitutional advocacy—litigating boldly, informing the public, and shaping policy to protect civil liberties and democratic principles.

We are proud of what we’ve accomplished, but we don’t take it for granted—and we know how much more remains.

With your help, we’ll keep fighting for a more just and resilient democracy.

Because the work must continue.

WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

ICAP provides all its legal services at no cost—whether we’re litigating in courts across the country, advising public officials and community members about political violence, or offering behind-the-scenes strategic guidance to protect democracy and civil rights.

Though we are based at Georgetown Law, we are not funded by the law school. Our work depends entirely on external support.

Please consider [MAKING A GIFT](#) to help us continue this vital work.



Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection

GEORGETOWN LAW

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Washington, DC 20001

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ReachICAP@georgetown.edu
Bluesky | Instagram | LinkedIn