

SPEAKERS LIST

Stonewalled: Still demanding respect!

AI's campaign to stop police brutality against LGBT people

March 2006

Below is the list of speakers who can speak to the range of issues on police abuse and misconduct against LGBT people. If you are interested in any of these speakers, please email us at outfront@aiusa.org and we will send you the speakers' contact information.

AIUSA

Michael Heflin

Personal profile: Michael Heflin is the director of OUTfront, Amnesty International USA's program on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender human rights. (Bio available upon request.)

Areas of focus/expertise: General knowledge on findings of AI *Stonewalled* report and AI's campaign to combat police brutality and misconduct targeted against LGBT people in the US. Played leadership role in conceptualization and development of AI *Stonewalled* report and in developing campaigning strategies to address human rights concerns documented in report.

Honorarium: Not required – any funds raised should go directly to AIUSA.

Travel costs: Depends on distance of travel and nature of the event.

Travel limitations: Flexible, no specific limitations.

Advance notice: Flexible, but have busy schedule.

Ariel Herrera

Personal profile: Ariel Herrera is the National Field Organizer for OUTfront, Amnesty International USA's program on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender human rights. Ariel has contributed to the report and developed OUTfront program's campaigning strategy on *Stonewalled*. He coordinates OUTfront membership actions at AIUSA. (Bio available upon request.)

Areas of focus/expertise: Knowledge on findings of AI *Stonewalled* report and AI's campaign to stop police brutality against LGBT people in the US.

Honorarium: Not required, but donations can be made to AIUSA.

Travel costs: Must be reimbursed.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: Flexible, but prefer at least a month notice.

Trine Christensen

Personal profile: Trine Christensen is a Senior Researcher at Amnesty International USA's Research Department. (Bio available upon request.)

Areas of focus/expertise: Researcher and co-author of AI *Stonewalled* report and contributor to AI's campaign to combat police brutality and misconduct targeted against LGBT people in the US. Traveled to each of the four target cities (NY, LA, Chicago and San Antonio) to conduct research.

Honorarium: Not required – any funds raised should go directly to AIUSA.

Travel costs: Depends on distance of travel and nature of the event.

Travel limitations: Limited availability. Will travel only within the US.

Advance notice: 2 weeks or more notice.

Suha Dabbouseh

Personal profile: Suha Dabbouseh is a membership field organizer at the AIUSA's Southern Regional Office

Areas of focus/expertise: Racial profiling, police abuse and misconduct against LGBT people.

Honorarium: Not required, but donations can be made to AIUSA.

Travel costs: Must be reimbursed unless the trip coincides with other regional activities.

Travel limitations: I can travel anywhere.

Advance notice: Minimum of 3 weeks.

Mona Cadena

Personal profile: Mona Cadena is a member of the field staff for the Western Region of Amnesty International. She has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and an MA in International Studies.

Areas of focus/expertise: Prison conditions and abuse including search and transfer, profiling (racial/gender), use of restraint devices and stun technology.

Honorarium: Not required, but donations can be made to AIUSA.

Travel costs: Require travel reimbursement.

Travel limitations: Open

Advance notice: Prefer 3 weeks, but willing to consider requests under 3 weeks especially if in Bay Area.

Advocates

- Los Angeles

Shirley Bushnell

Personal profile: Shirley Bushnell has worked tirelessly to help educate her community about issues faced on a daily basis by members of the transgender community, such as employment and housing discrimination, hate and bias crimes, domestic violence, addiction and recovery issues and access to health care. She has worked with the LA County Domestic Violence Council's LGBT Issues Committee, as well as provided transgender training classes to service providers throughout LA County.

Shirley has also been instrumental in providing transgender awareness training in law enforcement, and has provided transgender awareness training to the West Hollywood Sheriffs Department, The Los Angeles Police Community Relations Section, and Hollywood-Wilcox LAPD Station. Shirley received several awards, including the City of West Hollywood's "Public Safety Leadership Award" and the City of West Hollywood's Women's Advisory Board's "Women in Leadership" award in 2005.

Areas of focus/expertise: Transgender issues in law enforcement, such as profiling, sex work, hate crime, training, community dialogue, detention

Honorarium: Not necessary.

Travel costs: Depending on location of speaking engagement, must be reimbursed.

Travel limitations: Willing to travel as long as advance notice is given.

Advance notice: Within Los Angeles metropolitan area, 1 week; Outside of Los Angeles, 2 weeks.

Bamby Salcedo

Personal profile: Bamby Salcedo, a Latina transgender woman, is the Program Manager for the Transgeneros Unidas Program with Bienestar Human Services. Ms. Salcedo has spoken at various conferences on transgender issues across the country.

Areas of focus: Issues that impact the Latina transgender communities in the US.

Honorarium: Negotiable.

Travel costs: Must be reimbursed.

Travel limitations: Can travel anywhere in the US.

Advance notice: 1 month.

- New York City

Davim Horowitz

Personal profile: Davim Horowitz is a NYC Social Justice Fellow at the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, an advocacy organization providing free legal services to transgender, intersex and gender nonconforming low-income people and people of color.

Area of focus: Transgender prisoner advocacy and legal issues in New York.

Honorarium: Honorariums are preferred and should be paid directly to the Sylvia Rivera Law Project.

Travel costs: Reimbursement is required if speaking outside of New York City.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: 3 weeks if possible, 1 week required.

Additional reservations: Speaking is contingent upon SRLP approval. Furthermore, SRLP reserves the right to substitute another speaker depending upon availability and topic.

- San Francisco

Chris Daley

Personal profile: Christopher Daley is the director of the Transgender Law Center in San Francisco. He began working on transgender criminal justice in 1999 and has worked on cases of transgender prisoners who had been sexually assaulted while in different county jail facilities. He is currently co-counsel on a case from Southern California of a transgender prisoner who was denied appropriate medical treatment. He has written on issues of police harassment and abuse of transgender people.

Areas of focus/expertise: Profiling of transgender people leading to invasive searches, detention, harassment, and arrest.

Honorarium: Fine if available, but not required.

Travel costs: Travel costs within CA can usually be shared between TLC and the organizers, but travel outside of CA require full reimbursement.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: Within CA, speaking engagements can generally be booked with two weeks notice. Outside of CA, requires a month more or less.

Cecilia Chung

Personal profile: Cecilia Chung is the deputy director the Transgender Law Center in San Francisco. Cecilia is a leading activist in California's transgender community. In 2004, she was appointed as a Commissioner of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. Cecilia is currently working with county jail activists and service providers to plan strategy around improving conditions for transgender prisoners in San Francisco County Jail. She is also participating with trainings for San Francisco Police Officers and academy trainees.

Areas of focus/expertise: Profiling of transgender people leading to invasive searches, detention, harassment, and arrest. Police training on transgender issues.

Honorarium: Fine if available, but not required.

Travel costs: Travel costs within CA can usually be shared between TLC and the organizers, but travel outside of CA require full reimbursement.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: Within CA, speaking engagements can generally be booked with two weeks notice. Outside of CA, requires a month more or less.

- DC

Gigi Thomas

Personal profile: Gigi Thomas is a 35-year-old transgender woman. She works as a client advocate and supervisor of the 24-hour crisis hotline at HIPS (Helping Individual Prostitutes Survive). Ms. Thomas is currently attending UDC for a Master's degree in Social Work.

Areas of focus/expertise: Police harassment, discrimination, assault and unprofessional behavior by police against the transgender and gay men community.

Honorarium: Negotiable.

Travel costs: Require full reimbursement.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: Prefer 3-4 weeks notice.

Survivors

Rachel Thompson

Personal profile: Rachel Thompson is a writer, artist, musician, public speaker, and human/LGBT rights activist from Bethlehem PA. She became an activist in 1998 upon coming out as a transsexual. Rachel formally served on the board of SPARC and is currently an active member of the LGBT youth group HAVEN. She co-founded the Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition which engages in grass roots education on transgender issues. Rachel is also a member of various pro LGBT organizations, art associations, and writer's groups. Her advocacy work includes her artistry by writing and publishing political editorials, social commentaries and political cartoons in the gay and mainstream press. (Bio available upon request.)

Areas of focus/expertise: Can speak to personal experience of various mistreatments, abuses and indignities at the hands of the police, family courts and government institutions. And as a long time LGBT peer supporter and mentor, can also speak to similar accounts of mistreatment of other LGBT individuals.

Honorarium: Preferred but negotiable.

Travel costs: Require full reimbursement.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: Prefer 2 weeks notice.

Police Officials

Brett Parson

Personal profile: Sergeant Brett Parson has been serving MPDC since 1994. Brett arrived at the GLLU in June of 2001, joining co-founder, Kelly McMurry, who created the unit in June of 2000. Since his arrival, he has endeavored to keep the GLLU on the street and in the community. He speaks publicly regarding LGBT issues, and trains law enforcement in ways to better serve the LGBT communities. Community members, law enforcement and the media have recognized Brett (and the entire GLLU Staff) as a national leader in LGBT-Police relations. Brett is nationally recognized as a resource for investigations involving crimes by, and against the GLBT communities.

Honorarium: Negotiable.

Travel costs: Must be reimbursed for all travel expenses.

Travel limitations: No restrictions.

Advance notice: Very flexible.

Edgar Rodriguez

Personal profile: Edgar Rodriguez is a former New York Police Department (NYPD) sergeant and social justice activist. As GOAL's (Gay Officers Action League) president in the 90s, he was instrumental in changing and instituting NYPD policies regarding recruitment and training that have had a profound impact on the prevalence, visibility and accomplishments of LGBT people in the NYPD and the criminal justice system nationwide.

Areas of focus/expertise: LGBT in law enforcement and community issues.

Honorarium: Negotiable.

Travel costs: Must be reimbursed.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: Very flexible.

Drew Diamond

Personal profile: Drew Diamond joined the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) as its deputy director after retiring as Chief of Police in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He completed twenty-two years of service with the Tulsa Police Department. Prior to joining the Tulsa Police Department he was an employee of the Federal Bureau of Investigation until he entered the U.S. Army and became an Agent in the Army Criminal Investigations Command. He is a graduate of Northeastern Oklahoma State University, the 116th Session of the FBI National Academy and the 12th Session of the FBI National Executive Institute. Mr. Diamond has directed several large community policing projects for PERF, and co-authored the PERF report entitled "Racially Biased Policing: A Principled Response." He also worked in Bosnia during the summer of 1996, providing technical assistance to the International Police Task Force and is presently working with the Jamaica Constabulary Force and the British Transport Police providing community policing and problem solving training and technical assistance.

Areas of focus/expertise: Racially-biased policing

Honorarium: Not required.

Travel costs: Full reimbursement required.

Travel limitations: None.

Advance notice: Need 2-3 weeks notice.