

What Would Ovid Butler Do? Today's Movement for Better Policing and Racial Justice

TODAY'S PANEL: Wednesday, February 4, 2015

February marks Black History Month and 2015 is the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights March in Selma, Alabama. Butler University was founded 160 years ago on the principles of diversity, inclusivity, stewardship and equality. Yet racism is still the elephant in the room. We dare not discuss it. If we are white, we are told we have no business discussing it. If we are black, we are guilty of playing the "race card." But now events in Ferguson, Missouri; Cleveland, Ohio; New York City and in many communities across the country raise issues of racism again, under the lens of fair treatment by the police. In Indianapolis, it is fitting to explore this state of affairs between the community and police now, while we are not in the cross-hairs of the national media. Through discussion, perhaps we can better understand not only where we are on these issues, but what history has taught us about a way forward that keeps us from ever making the kind of headlines that might cast doubt on the fairness and hospitality of this community. We hope you will join in our discussion today and follow the topic on social media @acluindiana #FirstWednesdays. Thank you so much for joining us!

The American Civil Liberties Union is our nation's guardian of liberty, working daily in courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country.

We do not receive public funds, tax dollars or government support. Our strength comes from thousands of supporters in Indiana whose tax-deductible donations fund our free legal services and educational outreach, and whose annual membership dues support advocacy, organizing and lobbying activities to promote civil liberties. Learn more at aclu-in.org.

The ACLU of Indiana has a small but mighty staff of lawyers and support personnel headquartered in Indianapolis. We bring cases against government entities to protect the rights of individuals and groups. We are nonpartisan and do not endorse political candidates; we

Moderator: Erika D. Smith is Metro Columnist for The Indianapolis Star. She currently covers issues related to diversity, community development and public safety. A graduate of Ohio University in 2000 with a B.S. in Journalism, Smith joined The Star in 2005 as its business and technology reporter, following several years as a reporter for The Akron Beacon Journal and The Plain Dealer in Cleveland. The Associated Press Society of Ohio awarded her First Place for business reporting in 2005, and she received Second Place for general commentary in 2012 from the Hoosier State Press Association. Her Star blog, "Travels with Erika," which ran from 2010-2011, covered efforts to expand the transit system in Indianapolis and document the average person's experience riding the bus.

Kelly Eskew is ACLU of Indiana staff attorney. A litigator with thirteen years' experience in trial and appellate work, she also teaches ethics and law at Butler University and Indiana University McKinney School of Law. She joined the ACLU legal team in June, 2014. Eskew earned her Juris Doctor degree from the IU McKinney School in 2001. She also earned a Master of Arts in United States History from IU in 2012. In 2009, she was recognized as a Distinguished Fellow of the Indianapolis Bar Foundation.

Benjamin Hunter is the Chief of Staff/Executive Director of Public Safety for Butler University. He also serves as a member of the Indianapolis City-County Council and former officer of the Indianapolis Police Department. He graduated with a B.S. in political science from Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis and helped create the Indiana Consortium for Volunteer Service at IUPUI. He is a recipient of IUPUI's "Spirit of Philanthropy" award and the IPD Medal of Bravery. He is the past chair the National Education Committee for the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators.

Regina Marsh is Executive Director of the Forest Manor Multi-Service Center, a community-based social service organization located on the near eastside of Indianapolis that empowers the lives of individuals and families by offering services and support they need to become self-sufficient. A graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University and the University of Southern California, Marsh is a longtime community leader with awards from Indy's Best and Brightest (2005); Fairness in Law Enforcement Leadership Award (2006); NUVO Cultural Vision Awards (2006) and the National Coalition of 100 Black Women (2008). She was a 19 year volunteer for Indiana Black Expo.

Monica Solinas-Saunders is an Assistant Professor of Public Affairs at Indiana University Northwest, where she teaches a number of courses in both the undergraduate and graduate programs. Among them is the "Inside-Out Prison Exchange" course held inside a correctional facility. Dr. Solinas-Saunders earned the Ph.D. in Sociology/Criminology from the University of Pittsburgh in 2007. She published several scholarly articles, government reports and editorials on topics related to crime/violence, incarceration and reentry with both civilian and military personnel. She has volunteered for several organizations including "We The People" (as a judge) and the Lake County Juvenile Justice Center since 2011.

ACLU of Indiana membership automatically includes membership in the National ACLU, and can be obtained at <https://www.aclu.org/secure/join-aclu-indiana>. Membership dues are not tax deductible. Donations to the ACLU of Indiana Foundation are charitable contributions and are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Donations to the Foundation may be made at <https://www.aclu.org/secure/support-aclu-indiana> or mailed to ACLU of Indiana, 1031 E. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46202.

On the road again! First Wednesdays in 2015

First Wednesdays has been a fixture in Indianapolis since 2006. In 2014, we took this educational series to communities throughout the state, including Indianapolis, Evansville, Muncie, South Bend, Fort Wayne and Gary. In 2015, we'll be holding the program in the following communities:

- April 1, Lafayette, Tippecanoe Public Library
- June 3, Terre Haute, Vigo County Public Library
- August 5, Columbus
- October 7, Richmond
- December 2, Bloomington

Stay informed... Sign up for email alerts at the registration table, on our website at www.aclu-in.org, or by emailing info@aclu-in.org

- Visit www.aclu-in.org/FirstWednesdays
- Follow #FirstWednesdays on social media: Twitter @acluindiana and [facebook.com/aclu.indiana](https://www.facebook.com/aclu.indiana)

*THANK YOU to **Butler University**, and to all of our panelists and guests for making today's program possible. First Wednesdays is sponsored by **Cohen & Malad, LLP**; **Barnes & Thornburg, LLP** and the **National Bank of Indianapolis**. Educational outreach activities of the **ACLU of Indiana** have been made possible by the generosity of **Albert G. and Sara I. Reuben** and the **Reuben Family Foundation**.*

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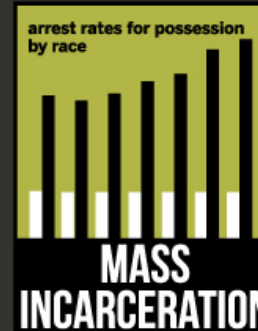


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FEBRUARY 4, 2015

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