



## *Protecting your rights for more than 60 years*

1953

**Founding** — The Indiana Civil Liberties Union held its first meeting at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Indianapolis on November 20, 1953 after being denied meeting space at the Indiana War Memorial by the State of Indiana. The "Argument in Indianapolis" set off a 20-year fight profiled on Edward R. Murrow's television series, *See It Now*.

1960s

**Protest Rights and Protecting the Poor** — Irving Fink, a founder of the ICLU, represented Vietnam War protesters including Jehovah's Witnesses and the "Marian 8," a group of Marian College students arrested on criminal charges for protesting. The ICLU also took on many cases involving welfare rights and jail conditions.

1970

**Protecting Free Expression** — In *Crews v. Cloncs*, the ICLU won an appeal on behalf of a North Central High School student over public school rules mandating the length of hair of male students. Because of this highly publicized case, parents from all over the state contacted the ICLU with requests to intervene on behalf of other students.

1973

**Victory!** — In *Indiana Civil Liberties Union v. Indiana War Memorials Commission* the Indiana Supreme Court reversed a lower court decision that prohibited the ICLU from holding meetings at the War Memorial. The ICLU's first program there featured William F. Buckley Jr., Mike Wallace and Fred Friendly, Edward R. Murrow's producer.

1977

**Keeping Religion Out of the Science Classroom** — The ICLU won an important First Amendment victory in *Hendren v. Campbell* when parents in West Clark Community Schools argued successfully that their children's ninth grade biology textbook taught creationism in violation of the First Amendment.

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1980s

**Defending Against Police Brutality**

— Galvanized by a series of brutal police killings that sparked tensions between the Indianapolis Police Department and the African American community, the ICLU helped form the Indianapolis Law Enforcement/Community Relations Coalition, which became instrumental in the establishment of a civilian review board in 1989.

1985

**Ending Patronage at the License Branch**

— The ICLU ended political patronage in the state's license branch system through *Robinson v. Packard*, a class-action lawsuit filed in 1983. In 1985, the ICLU organized the License Branch Reform Coalition to work for legislative reform.

1986

**Protecting Free Speech**

— The ICLU won a major First Amendment victory in *American Booksellers v. Hudnut* when the U.S. Supreme Court summarily dismissed an appeal of a Seventh Circuit Court ruling striking down an anti-pornography ordinance. The City of Indianapolis had argued that pornography discriminated against women.

1986

**Ryan White**

— The ICLU filed a friend of the court brief in *Bogart v. Ryan White* and made an appearance in the trial court arguing for dissolution of the preliminary injunction prohibiting AIDS victim Ryan White from attending school. White, age 13, of Kokomo, won the battle in Clinton Circuit Court.

2000

**Protecting against Unreasonable Searches**

— In *City of Indianapolis v. Edmond*, the U.S. Supreme Court limited the power of law enforcement to conduct searches using drug-sniffing dogs at roadblocks. The ICLU successfully argued that privacy protections under the Fourth Amendment were being systematically eroded by the increased use of police procedures to detect crimes.

2006-2013

In 2006, the ICLU changed its name to the ACLU of Indiana. Recent victories include stopping the state from enacting an unconstitutional immigration law, ensuring humane conditions for mentally ill prisoners in state facilities, preventing the defunding of Planned Parenthood clinics, and forcing the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to reinstate a specialty license plate for the Indiana Youth Group. Get more of our news at [aclu-in.org](http://aclu-in.org).

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