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NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD — MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

Mass Dissent

Digital Monthly Newsletter

...To the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests...

February 2023

Welcome to the February issue of *Mass Dissent* - Digital Monthly Newsletter.

If you have any comments or suggestions you would like to share with us about this publication, or if you would like to submit information, email us @ nlgmass-director@riseup.net.

NLG-MASS CHAPTER AND NLG-SUFFOLK LAW HOSTED A PRESENTATION BY DR. LUCA FALCIOLA ON RADICAL LAWYERING IN THE 60s AND 70s (2/13/23)

NLG-Mass Chapter and NLG-Suffolk Law were thrilled to host Dr. Luca Falciola, Columbia University researcher on Cold War radical movements, for a discussion at Suffolk University on his new book, "Up Against the Law: Radical Lawyers and Social Movements, 1960s-1970s" (UNC Press, 2022). The book details the involvement of radical attorneys, especially those of the NLG, in the radical social movements of this time period. Boston law students and NLG members came together with Dr. Falciola for a lively discussion on this history. Dr. Falciola expertly illustrated the qualities of NLG which led to its vital and unique role in supporting radical social movements, inspiring discussions on how these qualities apply to modern-day uprisings.

NLG members who were active in the time period – late 60s-early 70s – gave first-hand accounts of the institutions, strategies, and events detailed in the book, while law students connected and contrasted the experiences of past generations with their own.

Altogether, the event was a huge success, bringing together dozens of law students, legal workers, lawyers, and activists, and elucidating the connection between past and present, just like the Old Left-New Left connection that enabled NLG's successes in the '60s and '70s.



Dr. Luca Falciola (*center*) with Urszula Masny-Latos, ED of NLG-Mass Chapter (*2nd from left*) and Suffolk NLG students (*l.-r.*) Spencer Gilmore, Nick Adams, and Dave Runkle.



[**CLICK HERE FOR DR. LUCA FALCIOLA'S TALK ON**](#)



Save the Date: 2023 NLG Annual Dinner

We are excited to announce that after three years of pandemic life, we are going back to our traditional schedule and will hold this year's Annual Dinner in May! **The Dinner will be held on Friday, May 19, 6:00-9:00 pm, at the Arts at the Armory in Somerville (191 Highland Avenue).**

At this year's Dinner, we will be recognizing and awarding a thrilling group of legal professionals whose achievements are profound and immense: **Makis Antzoulatos, Josh Raisler Cohn, Ronald Fox, Housing Practice Group of Mass Law Reform Institute, Extinction Rebellion, Nick Adams, Ruchi Ramamurthy.** In each issue of *Mass Dissent*, starting this month, we will be profiling one of our NLG Honorees. We will begin with our Lifetime Achievement Honoree, Ronald Fox! **READ MORE ON THE ANNUAL DINNER AND THIS YEAR'S HONOREES**

In January 2023, the Chapter held an ad hoc organized Holiday Party, the first one since 2019!

We enjoyed tasty food, amazing cheap wine, and great company.





Mass Defense Committee Report:

On Friday, February 10th, Jeff Feuer represented 14 Extinction Rebellion activists who were arrested in the evening of February 9th in Governor Healey's office at the State House as part of a large demonstration (approximately 50 people) done by Extinction Rebellion to demand that the Governor take some immediate steps to address the climate emergency facing our state and country. [**READ MORE**](#)

Street Law Clinic Report:

NLG's Street Law Clinic project conducts clinics to educate people and communities about their legal rights. Our goal is to empower people with the knowledge they need to exercise their rights in rising up against systems of oppression.

[**READ MORE**](#)

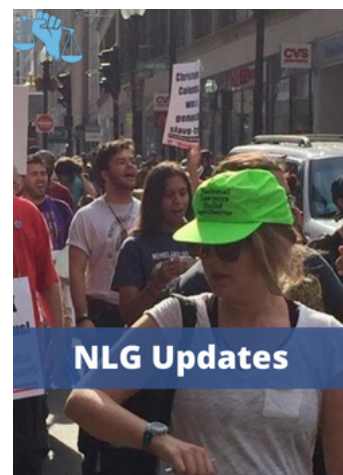
Litigation Committee Report:

As a result of our latest (and third) lawsuit against the Boston Police Department under the Massachusetts Freedom of Information Act, we recently received a list of every complaint against BPD officers from 2011 to present. Each complaint provides the officer's name, the date and description of the complaint, and the disposition. [**READ MORE**](#)

Abortion Justice Task Force Report:

AJTF CALL TO ACTION!

NLG-Mass' Abortion Justice Task Force (AJTF) was established in response to the *Dobbs* decision. The AJTF is currently researching the most pressing legal questions for those seeking an abortion, helping with accessing an abortion, and performing abortions in Massachusetts. [**READ MORE**](#)





Leading up to our 2023 Annual Dinner, **our Member Profile will feature our 2023 Honorees. This month we showcase the work of Ronald Fox, Lifetime Achievement Award.**

We are proud to honor Ron Fox with the NLG Lifetime Achievement Award. Ron has long been a trailblazer in both the legal profession and the Guild. During his 60 year legal career, Ron started a community-based law firm in Lynn, helped legitimize divorce mediation; supported Palestinian human rights, co-founded the NLG MA Chapter's Lawyer Referral Service and the Association of Neighborhood NLG Law Clinics. **[READ MORE](#)**

This month's Student Work section features updates from Harvard.

The Harvard Law School NLG Chapter is busy this year holding monthly abolitionist community building (AbCom) events. They are using their first AbCom event to build care packages for community organizers leading de-carceral campaigns (i.e., organizers with People Not Prisons and FJAH). **[READ MORE](#)**



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