

Mass Dissent

DECEMBER 2021

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NLG-Mass Chapter in 2021

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What is clear from reading this year's NLG update issue of *Mass Dissent* is that the Massachusetts Chapter of the NLG continues to be exactly what we all hoped for when we first joined the Guild. The NLG-Mass continues to be the legal arm of movements for justice and liberation throughout Massachusetts. The Chapter has adapted to this COVID-era, ensuring that our comrades fighting for justice always have support in the legal community.

In this issue you will read how the Mass Defense Committee continues to provide effective legal support to activists that are targeted by the state for their movement work. Throughout Massachusetts, activists and organizers know that when their work puts them in the crosshairs of the state, a call to the Guild will always ensure that they are supported and protected.

The Litigation Committee continues to set a standard for chapters around the country for how a local Guild chapter can use litigation to strengthen the movements we are a part of. Congratulations to the Litigation Committee and its first employee hire, Doug Smith. We all welcome Doug on board, and know that he will help the Litigation Committee with their incredible work in support of our movement allies and the causes they fight for.

The Guild has continued to provide dozens of trainings throughout the state. We have trained new Legal Observers, worked with activists to prepare for direct actions, and trained dozens of community partners with our Street Law Clinics. When we operate within a system where the law is so often the enemy of the people,

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**NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD
MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER, INC.**

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JOIN A GUILD COMMITTEE

Litigation Committee:

Established in 2011, the Committee brings civil lawsuits against large institutions (such as government agencies, law enforcement, banks, financial institutions, and/or large corporations) which engage in repressive or predatory actions that affect large numbers of people and perpetuate social, racial and/or economic injustice or inequality. To get involved, please contact the NLG office at 617-227-7335 or nlgmass-director@riseup.net.

Mass Defense Committee:

The Committee consists of two sub-committees: (1) "Legal Observers" who are trained to serve as NLG Legal Observers at political demonstrations and (2) "Mass Defense Team" (criminal defense attorneys) who represent activists arrested for political activism. To get involved, please contact the NLG office.

Street Law Clinic Project:

The Street Law Clinic project was established in 1989. It provides legal clinics and workshops in Massachusetts to address legal needs of various communities. Legal educational clinics and workshops on 4th Amendment Rights (Stop & Search) and Direct Action are held at community organizations, youth centers, labor unions, schools and shelters. If you are an NLG member and would like to lead a clinic or workshop, please contact the NLG office (nlgmass-director@riseup.net).

NLG NATIONAL PROJECTS & COMMITTEES

(FULL LIST AT [HTTPS://NLG.ORG/COMMITTEES/](https://nlg.org/committees/))

NLG National Immigration Project (NIP):

NLGNIP works to defend and extend the human and civil rights of all immigrants, documented and undocumented. Located in Washington, DC, NLGNIP works in coalition with community groups to organize support for immigrants' rights in the face of right-wing political attacks. For more information contact 617-227-9727.

NLG International Committee (IC):

IC supports legal work around the world "to the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests." It plays an active role in international conferences, delegations and on-going projects that examine and seek to remedy conditions caused by illegal U.S. or corporate practices. IC has done work in Cuba, the Middle East, Korea, Haiti, and other countries. For more info go to <https://nlginternational.org>.

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GUILD CALENDAR

NLG ANNUAL MEETING

Starting in 2022, the NLG-Massachusetts will no longer hold its Annual Meeting in March; instead - the meeting will happen in January. At the meeting, we will hold annual elections of Chapter Officers and Board of Directors.

If you are interested in running to serve on the Chapter's Board of Directors, please fill out this form and email it, along with a short Candidate Statement to nlgmass-director@riseup.net. The Candidate Statement should include your reason why you wish to serve on the Chapter's Board and what your contribution to the Board would be.

NLG ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Virtual

Please fill out this form with your nominations for the NLG-Mass Chapter Board of Directors and email it with a short Candidate Statement to **nlgmass-director@riseup.net** by **Wednesday, January 5, 5:00pm.**

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

Only NLG-Mass Chapter members in good standing (dues paying) for at least one (1) preceding year are eligible to sit on the Board.

Board members define Chapter's policies and programmatic work, are expected to participate in monthly meetings and be involved in at least one Chapter committee.

NLG HAPPY HOUR

NLG "Think & Drink" Happy Hour is held quarterly on the **2nd Wednesday of January, April, September, and November.** The event brings together legal professionals and activists to discuss current political and legal topics. If you have ideas for a presentation or would like to be a speaker, please call the NLG office at 617-227-7335.

NLG BOARD MEETING

NLG-Mass Chapter members are invited to participate in monthly meetings of the Chapter's Board of Directors. The meetings are held on the **3rd Wednesday of the month** (except July and August), from **6:00-8:00 pm**, at the NLG Office (185 Devonshire St., Suite 302, Boston), but now virtually. Please notify the office if you plan to attend.

CLOSING MASS DISSENT

After 44 years in circulation, the NLG-Mass Chapter Board decided to end the publication of *Mass Dissent* and switch to a more modern way of communicating with our members, allies, and Massachusetts community at large. A "communication" sub-committee has been discussing various options for a while and should make a final proposal by the end of this year. At the beginning of next year, you will be informed about what will replace *Mass Dissent*.

If you have ideas about this issue, please contact the office at nlgmass-director@riseup.net

GUILD NEWS

Continued from page 1

the Guild fills a critical role in training our partners, so they know how to protect themselves, and use those laws in their favor when possible.

COVID has created near-impossible obstacles for organizations like the Guild that depend on connection and community to thrive. The Guild managed to stay connected to our members, and in October hosted the 2nd virtual Annual Dinner. The dinner was a huge success. It proved that our commitment to one another and our communities can surmount any challenge.


This issue will also allow you to learn about the great work our student members are doing at law schools throughout the region. Law school chapters have forever been critical to our success. Our law student members have the energy and vision that carries us forward, and ensure that the Guild will realize another 50 years of great work.

What remains true is that the Massachusetts NLG creates a space for radical and progressive lawyers to find community and make sure that their skills, knowledge, and privilege are used to challenge,

rather than uphold power. We can assure you that if you want to be part of the work there is a role for you, and encourage you to reach out and get involved in one of our committees. There is nothing more rewarding than using our legal skills to advance liberation, we all knew that when we first joined the Guild, and the work continues to be energizing, necessary, and fun.

In solidarity

- Makis Antzoulatos &
Coco Holbrook -
Co-Chairs-Mass Chapter



National Lawyers Guild Massachusetts Chapter

DONATION OPTIONS

- **Website:** <https://nlgmass.org/donate/>
- **Text** the words **"GiveToNLG-Mass"** to 44-321

GUILD NEWS

Hepatitis C in the Department of Correction

We want to hear from you if you are (or were) a prisoner in the Department of Correction and have concerns about Hepatitis C, including if:

- You have asked to be tested for Hepatitis C but have been denied testing;
- You have Hepatitis C but have not been evaluated recently, or told whether and when you will be treated for it;
- You have Hepatitis C and have not been assigned priority level for treatment; and/or
 - You have other questions or concerns about Hepatitis C treatment.

Prisoners' Legal Services and the National Lawyers Guild are monitoring the settlement in *Fowler v. Tureo*, a class action concerning the testing, evaluation, and treatment of Hepatitis C in the DOC. The Settlement calls for universal testing for Hepatitis C (the prisoner can decline testing,) regular assessments of those who have Hepatitis C, to determine their priority level for treatment, and treatment to be given within certain time frames to those who qualify. The settlement also limits the reasons why the DOC can deny treatment to prisoners who otherwise qualify for it.

If you have questions or concerns about Hepatitis C, please contact PLS or NLG with as much detail as you can give about your specific issue:

PLS: 617-482-2773 NLG: 617-227-7335

Street Law Clinic Report

The following clinics and trainings were conducted since last issue of Mass Dissent:

September 30: *Stop & Search-Know Your Rights* clinic for Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), by **Kylah Clay** (Suffolk) & **Mason Kortz**. • *Legal Observing* at the 10th Anniversary of Occupy Boston at Faneuil Hall, by **Kevin Roberts**.

October 4: *Stop & Search-Know Your Rights* clinic for Racial Justice Rising in Franklin County, by **Rebecca Kozak**.

October 9: *Legal Observing* at a rally and march in Boston organized by United American Indians of New England and North American Indian Center in celebration of the Indigenous People's Day, by **Sarah Tansey**.

October 21: *Legal Observing* at a rally in Boston, organized by City Life/Vida Urbana, Right to the City-Boston and Homes For All-MA in support of the COVID Housing Equity Bill, by **Daniel Donadio**.

October 22: *Stop & Search-Know Your Rights* clinic for activists from the Defund Newton Police Department group, by **Sara Malley** (New England), **Elliot Oberholtzer** (Northeastern), and **Mason Kortz**.

October 25: *Legal Observing* at Mass & Cass at the police raid of homeless people, by **Nora Mann**, **Joan Steffen**, and **Josh Raisler Cohn**.

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New NLG-Mass Chapter On-line Store

Please visit our new on-line store where we offer items to commemorate our 50th Anniversary: a copy of a new 30-min. documentary about our Chapter's beginnings (on a pen with USB drive and on a USB drive) and a business card holder (https://nlgmass.org/featured_news/nlg-mass-chapter-store/).



Mass Defense Committee (MDC)

by Makis Antzoulatos & Josh Raisler Cohn

Our Mass Defense Committee had an effective and busy year supporting social movements for racial, economic and climate justice. At the turning of the year, we ramped up our infrastructure from the response to the 2020 racial justice and police accountability protests to prepare for potential unrest and government overreach during the inauguration.

Our Legal Observers covered actions across the state. As part of this work we partnered with activists, legal workers and attorneys in Western Mass to support their creation of a Western Mass specific NLG infrastructure. And for the second year in a row, thanks to robust volunteers and recruitment, we were able to activate our protest Legal Hotline on very short notice to be prepared to support emergent protest and uprisings.

Most of the NLG criminal cases from 2020 have been resolved,

and none of the clients we were representing ended up with jail time as a result of their arrests,



(Above): Benjamin Pitta & Joan Steffen Legal Observing at Mass and Cass in Boston;
(below): Anti-white supremacist demonstration in Boston.

and many cases resolved without a conviction being entered. The charges against a group of Worcester activists were also dropped en mass.

And activists remained in the streets this year, keeping us active! We held many Direct Action legal trainings for groups engaged in resistance work, and

provided legal support to those groups when they took action. We supported immigrants’

rights and climate justice organizers who protested at the governor’s home in Swampscott, numerous activists arrested supporting the Movement for Black Lives, and anti-nuclear activists. We were present with activists who shut down the entrance to a courthouse when evictions resumed in Boston, and with numerous groups holding demonstrations at the State House. We held training with public health advocates pushing for free and equitable vaccine access across the globe.

As happens with an uptick in resistance, we also saw repression, and our attorneys represented numerous people who

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Mass Defense Committee

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were approached for questioning by federal agents.

As the year comes to a close, we have been providing legal support to the unhoused community at Mass and Cass in Boston, sharing “Know Your Rights” information, providing legal consults, and sending Legal Observers for almost

two weeks (as of the time of this writing) - from early morning to evening hours - to monitor the state’s forced removal of people’s tents and property.

The NLG Mass Defense Committee also needs your help! We are constantly looking for legal workers and attorneys who can plug into

the Committee and support our work supporting the movement. Join us!

Makis Antzoulatos & Josh Raisler Cohn are Co- Coordinators of the MDC and serve on the Chapter’s Board of Directors; they are public defenders.

Street Law Clinic Report

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November 1: Legal Observing in Mass & Cass area at the police raid of homeless people, by Benjamin Pitta. • Legal Observer training for UMass Dartmouth law students, by Melinda Drew.

November 2: Legal Observing in Mass & Cass area where the police raided and arrested homeless people, by Fjora Arapi & Alex Ropes.

November 3: Legal Observing in Mass & Cass area where the police raided and arrested homeless people, by Nora Mann & Joan Steffen.

November 5: Legal Observer training for law students at Boston College, by Melinda Drew.

November 7: Legal Observing at a counter-protest Boston organized by Solidarity Against Hate-Boston against a Super Happy Fun America rally, by Jacki Baum, Melissa Costa, Annemarie Guare, Benjamin Pitta, and Sarah Tansey.

November 10: Legal Observing in Mass & Cass area where the police raided and arrested homeless people, by Jude Glaubman, Benjamin Pitta, Alex Ropes and Joan Steffen.

November 15: Legal Observing at a one-day hunger strike of a Harvard custodian who is fight-

ing for fairness employment, by Anita Alem & Joan Steffen.

November 17: Legal Observer training for law students at Boston University, by Melinda Drew.

November 18: Stop & Search-Know Your Rights clinic for the New England Learning Center for Women in Transition, by Leah Hastings (Boston University) and Mason Kortz. • Legal Observer training for law students at Harvard, by Melinda Drew.

November 29: Stop & Search-Know Your Rights clinic for the Walpole Peace & Justice Group, by Sara Malley (New England) & Mason Kortz.

November 30: Stop & Search-Know Your Rights clinic for A Knee Is Not Enough (AKINE), by Jacob Cantor (Boston University), Andi Goodman (Northeastern) and Makis Antzoulatos.

December 2: Legal Observer training for law students at Boston University, by Melinda Drew.

December 9: Stop & Search-Know Your Rights clinic for the New Bedford Whaling Museum Apprentice Program, by Jacob Cantor (Boston University) & Makis Antzoulatos.

MDC Trainings in 2021: Direct Action, Know Your Rights, and Legal Observer

by Melinda Drew & Jeff Feuer

The NLG-MA Chapter offers workshops to activists, community organizations, and progressive political groups in Direct Action, Know Your Rights, and Legal Observer™ Trainings, all of which have been well attended over the past year.

Direct Action Training helps progressive activists understand their rights and legal consequences when planning a protest, demonstration, or other event. Participants learn what they are legally entitled to do in such actions, what the police might do or order the participants to do, what the participants may be arrested for, what options they have if they face being arrested, what responsibilities and limitations the police have when making an arrest, what the court process will look like following an arrest, and what the possible outcomes of a court case might be. During 2021, DA Trainings have been led by several NLG Mass Defense Committee lawyers including Makis Antzoulatos, Melinda Drew, Jeff Feuer, Lee Goldstein, and Josh Raisler Cohn, and delivered to a very diverse collection of activist groups, including Building Up People Not Prisons, Extinction Rebellion,

Jobs With Justice, No Coal No Gas Campaign, a parent’s group, a group from a local church, a local housing group, and many others, totaling more than 150 participants. In addition, the Direct Action Training Booklet was comprehensively revised and updated this year with input from law students, Makis, Jeff, Lee, and Josh.

Know Your Rights (KYR) Trainings have been in high demand throughout 2021. Led primarily by Makis, Jeff, and Josh, more than 100 people have come to a number of different workshops to learn about their rights when stopped and questioned by law enforcement personnel or to learn about their rights as protestors. In addition to directly educating community groups and members about their rights, NLG-MA lawyers have trained law student facilitators to lead KYR workshops (under the supervision of a Guild attorney) for community groups and have trained other NLG lawyers on how to conduct and supervise KYR clinics.

Legal Observer™ Trainings (LO) led by Melinda and Jeff prepare lawyers, law students, and other community activists to serve as volunteer objective

(but not neutral) observers of police activities during protests and demonstrations for the purpose of protecting the rights of protestors to assemble, exercise their right to free speech, and call upon our government to redress their grievances. LOs watch interactions between law enforcement and counter-protestors, and progressive protestors/demonstrators, take notes when necessary to document attempts to suppress activists’ First Amendment rights, any use of force, any use of chemical crowd control weapons or other so-called less lethal weapons such as tear gas, pepper gas, rubber bullets, flash-bang grenades, etc., and any injuries caused by law enforcement or counter-protestors. The NLG Legal Observers™ also could serve as witnesses if activists are arrested and have to go to trial. The very presence of our LOs at most of the major progressive political demonstrations in Massachusetts has contributed greatly to a significant decrease in police misconduct over the past 20 years. During 2021, approximately 80 people were trained as Legal Observers™, many of whom have observed at protests/demonstrations in sup-

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Litigation Committee

by David Kelston

The Litigation Committee ended this calendar with a new start, and a giant step forward: we have created our first ever, paid position, and found an attorney to fill it with a lifetime of experience working in progressive law and, in particular, directing students and younger lawyers in clinical practice. Doug Smith graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1987 (he is currently studying for his doctorate in law from Northeastern), and since clerking for U.S. District Court Judge Cyr in 1988, has both practiced law in Massachusetts and taught and supervised others in a variety of settings, including as clinical Director at Suffolk Law from 1991-2000, and lecturer at a number of law schools (Univ. of Denver, Univ. of Minnesota, Univ. of North Dakota, Brandeis), while also practicing progressive lawyering, including work at the National Consumer Law Center, the National Day Labor Organizing Network (organizing day laborers in California), and most recently as Legal Programs Director at the Right to Immigration Institute here in Massachusetts training students for human rights advocacy. We in the Committee very much look forward to working with Doug to advance our work, and we very much thank the other

fine lawyers who considered working with us.

Our work this year has focused of policing, and has been geared to exposing abuses, preventing abuses, and aiding in the creation of alternatives to traditional policing models. In the first area – exposing abuses – we have filed our third state Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the Boston Police Dept. and its “fusion center”, the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC), this one focused on how the Department “polices” the right wing (with kid gloves, it appears) and disciplines its officers when they assault counter protestors (not at all, it appears). As with our past cases, this time around our G.L. ch. 66 section 10 requests got few documents, but the subsequent lawsuit, *NLG v. BPD and BRIC*, Suffolk Sup. Ct. No. 21-2184, produced a trove of materials exposing troubling patterns of police force used against the wrong people. In this same area of exposing abuses, we are exploring now filing a lawsuit to document and change the all-too-common practice of police at demonstrations unlawfully covering their badges and thus hiding their identities.

As to preventing police abuses, we are particularly proud of our

successful campaign continuing this year to put strict restrictions on police use of supposedly “less lethal weapons”, including tear gas, pepper spray, rubber bullets, and the like. Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville have, as a result of our advocacy, testimony and legal work with progressive local elected officials, enacted strict restrictions (and in Somerville outright bans) on such weapons. We are now actively exploring enacting at the state level what we have successfully enacted in three of our major cities.

Finally, we are working to assist in the creation of alternatives to traditional policing aimed at minimizing police violence while improving municipal services to those most often the victims of such violence, starting with efforts in Cambridge to help a coalition of progressive citizens reform policing in that city.

We invite all our members to attend our monthly meetings and become involved in our committee’s work, especially in this exciting time as we hope to move our work to its next level.

David Kelston is a member of the Lit. Com. He is an attorney at Adkins Kelston & Zavez in Boston.

Dinner Committee

by Kylah Clay

On October 1st, over 130 NLG members and guests virtually gathered at the Chapter’s Annual Dinner to reflect on and celebrate the many accomplishments of the NLG and this year’s honorees, while also raising funds to sustain our work.

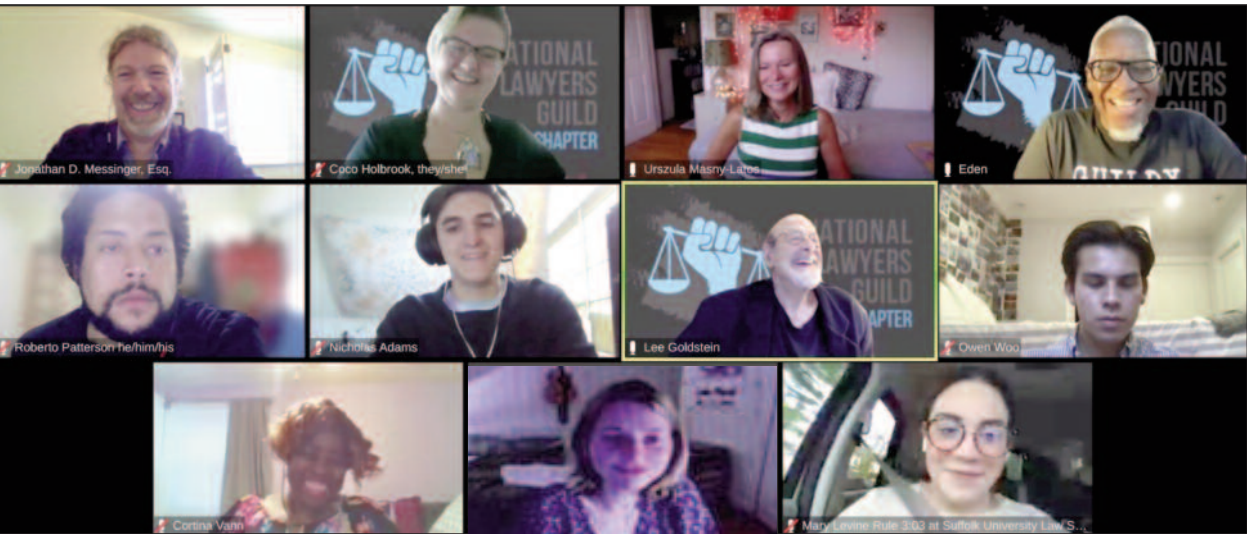
This year, **Cortina Vann** from the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance emceed the event and introduced our outstanding honorees - **Ricardo**

Arroyo (Boston City Councilor), **Dick Bauer** (housing attorney at GBLS) received Lawyer Award, **Grace Ross** (Mass. Alliance Against Predatory Lending in Worcester) received Legal Worker Award, and **Noah Meister** (Western New England School of Law) received Student Award (*photos on next page*).

In addition to the awards, we also had a touching tribute to the late **Brian Flynn**, a long-time

Employment Unit, and **Eden Williams** from the NLG Dinner Committee described Brian’s work with the Committee.

Part of the entertainment were music performances by **Jazz Triangle 65-77**, originally from Japan and now residing in New York, and by **Swamp Guard**, a roots rock band from Pennsylvania. We also had an educational Trivia run in a very lively manner by **Jonathan Messinger**.



(Above) Dinner “Conrol Room” (from top left): Jonathan Messinger, Coco Holbrook, Urszula Masny-Latos, Eden Williams, Roberto Patterson, Nick Adams, Lee Goldstein, Owen Woo, Corina Vann (MC), Kylah Clay, and Mary Levine. (Below) Gavels for trivia winners.



NLG member, a member of the Dinner Committee, and a recipient of a 2017 Lawyer Award. We lost Brian last year in November. At the tribute, we heard from **Monica Halas**, Brian’s long-time colleague from GBLS, who talked about Brian’s incredible contribution to the work of the GBLS

While the second virtual Annual Dinner was a wonderful event, we look forward the time when we can gather again in person. Hopefully next year!

Kylah Clay is a member of the NLG Dinner Committee; she studies at Suffolk Law School.

2021 Annual Dinner in photos



2021 NLG Dinner Honorees: Ricardo Arroyo, Dick Bauer, Grace Ross, and Noah Meister.



NLG Lawyer Directory

by *Roberto Patterson*

From its beginnings, the NLG has been a pillar in the legal system that stands with the people. Protesters, community organizers and activists, and lower-income families have been able to count on their local NLG branches for assistance in their time of need. Our Chapter is no different in that respect, and our primary mode of connecting lawyers with the people and potential clients is the online **Lawyer Directory** program (LD).

The successor to the long running Lawyer Referral Service,

the LD is the bridge that our Chapter maintains, so we can bring prospective clients closer to attaining representation that is as empowering as it is enabling. Ideally, the Lawyer Directory cuts out the middle person and allows clients and lawyers to connect directly, to discuss their case and receive legal advice or representation. This has been and continues to be one of our most important initiatives.

In order to maximize our legal umbrella, we need more NLG lawyers to sign on with the program, and that's where you

come in. The LD is committed to making you and your practice visible and available to new clients. Each participant is given a listing which includes their photo, area of legal focus and contact details. We are also happy to say that the first year in the program is free!

To join, please contact us at nlgmass@riseup.net.

Roberto Patterson is the Mass Chapter's Administrative Coordinator.



MDC Trainings in 2021

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port of Black Lives Matter, climate change activists, transgender rights, Palestinian rights, justice for black people killed or injured by law enforcement, anti-fossil fuel and stop new pipeline protestors, supporters of free or more widespread Covid vaccines,

tenant and stop evictions advocates, prisoners' rights, immigrant rights, Stop Asian Hate demonstrators, and many more throughout Massachusetts. These LO volunteers come from most of the law schools in this state, from community groups and activists, and even

from large law firms whose lawyers feel passionate about a particular issue and want to contribute to that cause.

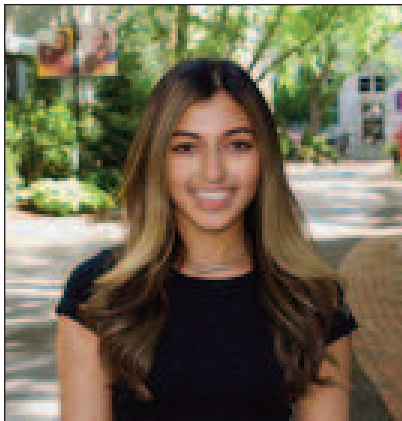
Melinda Drew & Jeff Feuer are members of the MDC and Chapter's Board of Directors.

Street Law Clinic Project

by *Annie Guare & Ruchi Ramamurthy*



Annemarie Guare



Ruchi Ramamurthy



Liam Hofmeister

Over this year, the Street Law Clinic project have been hosted by 11 organizations and coalitions throughout Massachusetts (*see details on pages 1 & 7*), and we have four more "Stop & Search-Know Your Rights" clinic scheduled for the rest of this year. We have also been working to increase our internal ranks of trained facilitators, and to that end, we have trained a total of 29 law students this year to prepare them for facilitation of these clinics.

Over the past few months, NLG trained attorneys and law students have conducted workshops for new organizations all over Massachusetts, including Worcester Nurses Strike, Community Action Agency of Somerville, Racial Justice Rising, and Defund Newton Police Department. Not only has SLC expanded its network to more partner organizations,

we have also expanded our trained attorney and law student network. In doing so, some of our trained attorneys and law students have created meaningful relationships and mentorships with each other. Street Law Clinic fosters a community of passionate individuals who enjoy learning from one another while being actively involved in the Massachusetts community, together.

We have recently completed our ENTIRE contact log for organizations that were interested in workshops in 2021. In the upcoming weeks, we will be compiling a list of new organizations that would like to receive a "Stop & Search-Know Your Rights" workshop. This compilation of organizations will be created by circling back to organizations who were not yet ready for a workshop and by reaching out

to trained law students, attorneys, and NLG members to see if any interested organizations remain untrained within our network. We will then continue building our new log by emailing previously trained organizations to find any partner organizations that would like a workshop. Once we have compiled a robust list, we will begin scheduling these workshops for the Spring term of next year.

We welcome any interested attorneys and law students to join us for our next SLC facilitator training and get involved with the project. Please contact us at nlgmassslc@gmail.com with any questions!

AnneMarie Guare & Ruchi Ramamurthy coordinate SLC and study law at Northeastern.

Student Reports

BOSTON COLLAGE

by Rachel Feinberg

NLG at Boston College Law School has had a very exciting semester! After a year of isolation and remote school, we have been emphasizing community building and creating a radical space on campus. We have also participated in Know Your Rights trainings and a very successful Legal Observer Training. Our biggest project has been our involvement in the End the Contract Coalition. Other organizations, most notably Immigration Law Society and the Latin American Law School Association, have joined our efforts and we plan on meeting with the Dean and research librarians by the end of the semester. Next semester we hope to bring some panelists to campus to discuss a variety of topics, such as radical lawyering and abolitionism.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

by Neel Mehrotra

BU NLG started the academic year with lots of interest, especially from our incoming class. We have set up a monthly discussion group covering topics pertinent to radical lawyering in Boston. Our chapter also hosted a Disorientation (*photo below*) with the help of Jeff Feuer and Urszula Masny-Latos to introduce the students to the pressures of legal aca-

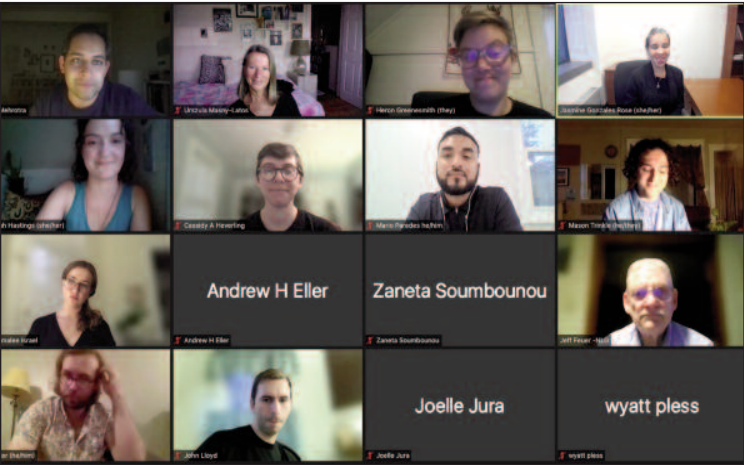
demia and to NLG. We are hosting a legal observer training this month. We have also begun an initiative to involve the students in climate activism, especially with regards to how law firms and the legal profession facilitate climate change. We hope to continue being as active next semester, and to expand our efforts to represent a radical view on even more issues.

HARVARD

by Fjora Arapi

The Harvard Law School chapter of the National Lawyers Guild is excited for the various events and initiatives it has led and will continue to lead throughout the 2021-2022 school year. At the start of the fall semester, we participated in the End the Contract Coalition Collective Action Week, advocating for the denouncement and end of LexisNexis's and Westlaw's harmful data-sharing contracts with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. We are also holding abolitionist community building events throughout the semester aimed at creating a space for those who believe in the abolition of police and prisons to participate in various abolition-minded activities and discourse. On December 2 at 7 pm, we are co-sponsoring a panel event with NLG National titled "Representing Radicals" with panelists who have experience representing activists in

court and using trials in pursuit of movement goals. Throughout this semester, we have written testimony in support of numerous legislative bills that will further protect incarcerated people's rights while in detention and on parole. We have also been sending Legal Observers to monitor the mass eviction and arrests of unhoused people at Mass and Cass, coordinating hotline support for those arrested there, and supporting court



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Student Reports

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watch initiatives at the South Bay jail-"court." Next semester we plan to host a series of abolitionist skills training workshops with the goal of educating people on ways to de-escalate potential conflict situations and administer protest first aid, among other skills, in order to provide alternatives to using law enforcement.

NORTHEASTERN

by Raven Mello

Over the last year, the Northeastern University School of Law chapter of the National Lawyers Guild has focused on hosting educational events and talks. Their biggest event was the Week Against Mass Incarceration: Prison Abolition and Beyond in Spring 2021, which included many local organizations as guest speakers. During WAMI, their largest speaker events were LatinoJustice presenting "Intersectionality of Abolition," and Black & Pink presenting "Queer and Trans Liberation through Prison Abolition." Other speakers included a panel on Jailhouse Lawyering and a panel on the Cradle-to-Prison Pipeline. The week concluded with a trivia night and bake-off to benefit Families for Justice as Healing. Another notable event from Spring 2021 was a Critical Legal Theory talk where the chapter hosted movement lawyer and organizer Carl Williams to speak about abolition and abolitionist lawyering.

Current and upcoming NLG events at Northeastern University School of Law include: Critical Legal Theory Talks on native land rights based off of the [This Land](#) podcast (hosted by activist and citizen of Cherokee Nation Rebecca Nagle), and Critical Legal Theory Talks on 1L Doctrinal Classes led by professors of Northeastern. The Northeastern University School of Law chapter of NLG is currently planning a training for legal research software alternatives to WestLaw and

LexisNexis in support of the [End the Contract Coalition](#), such as CaseText. Planning for Spring 2022's Week Against Mass Incarceration has also begun, and the chapter is also looking into hosting more Legal Observing training events in the future for new students. Many members of the Northeastern University School of Law's chapter of NLG have already been trained in Legal Observing, and many also are involved with the Guild's Street Law Clinic project.

SUFFOLK

by Kylah Clay

This semester, the NLG Suffolk University Chapter was busy planning and hosting various virtual and in-person events. In October, we hosted a student debt panel featuring panelists from Zero Debt Massachusetts, the Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts, and the Hildreth Institute, with additional remarks from Senator Elizabeth Warren. Our chapter also prepared and provided an Employee Rights Training for Boston Youth Options Unlimited for over 70 young adults. In preparing for this event, we were lucky to receive support and guidance from NLG Mass attorneys Michael Felsen and Rachel Smit. We also provided a Know Your Rights training to Boston Youth Options Unlimited with the support of NLG Mass attorney Rebecca Kozak. We look forward to providing these trainings again to their Winter and Spring cohorts. In addition, we hosted a Disorientation event to address the harmful practices in law school that undermine student goals of becoming movement lawyers. We look forward to organizing more events next semester, including an Election Law panel in the Spring!

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NLG-Mass Chapter Sustainers

In the spring of 2003, the Massachusetts Chapter of the NLG initiated the Chapter Sustainer Program. Since its inception, the Program has been very successful and has been enthusiastically joined by the following NLG members & friends:

- Anonymous • Spencer Brody • Patricia Cantor & Jeff Petrucelly • Howard Cooper • Barb Dougan • Melinda Drew & Jeff Feuer • Carlo Favazza • Roger Geller & Marjorie Suisman • Lee Goldstein & Mark Stern • Lisa Gordon • Andrei Joseph & Bonnie Tenneriello • Michael Kantrovitz • Nancy Kelly & John Willshire-Carrera • David Kelston • John Mannheim • Allan Rodgers • Martin Rosenthal • Liz Rover Bailey • Anne Sills & Howard Silverman • Judy Somberg • Daniel Walters • John Dazhong Xia

The Sustainer Program is one of the most important Chapter initiatives to secure its future existence. Please consider joining the Program.

NLG-Mass Chapter Sustainers are NLG members and friends who make a commitment to support the NLG Massachusetts Chapter with an annual contribution of \$500 or more (not including the NLG membership dues).

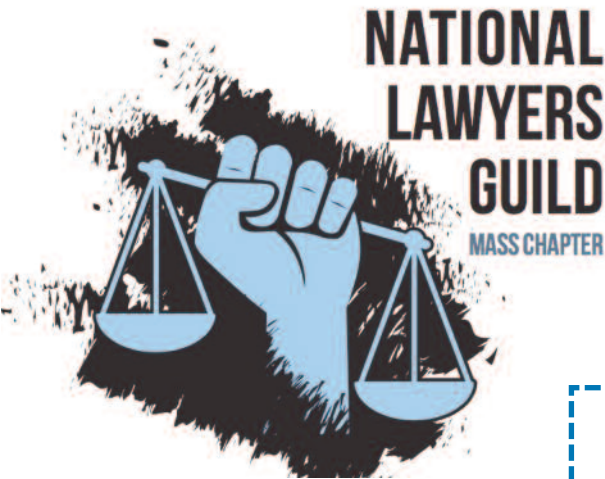
- The NLG Sustainers receive:
- special listing in the Dinner Program
 - 1/8 page ad in the Dinner Program
 - acknowledgement in *Mass Dissent*
 - two (2) free raffle tickets for a Holiday Party raffle
 - invitation to special events.

- There are three ways to become a sustainer:
- contribute \$500 or more a year (in addition to dues)
 - pair up with another person and pay \$250 each, or
 - join the "Guild Circle" and pay \$50/month or more.

If you are interested in learning more about the NLG-Mass Chapter Sustainer Program or if you would like to become a Sustainer, please contact our office at
617-227-7335 or nlgmass-director@riseup.net

Mass Dissent

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" ... an association dedicated to the need for basic change in the structure of our political and economic system. We seek to unite the lawyers, law students, legal workers and jailhouse lawyers of America in an organization which shall function as an effective political and social force in the service of people, to the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests."

Preamble to the Constitution of the National Lawyers Guild

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

The NLG-Mass Chapter provides legal representation and assistance to the radical and progressive movements.

Please help by donating to the Mass Chapter by sending this form and a check to
185 Devonshire St., Suite 302, Boston, MA 02110
or visiting www.nlgmass.org/donate.

I, _____ (name), am donating \$ _____ to the
NLG-Mass Chapter to help support the fight for the people,

Student Reports

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UMASS DARTMOUTH
by Maggie Henry

For the first half of 2021, UMass Dartmouth Law was fully virtual, and so were all of our NLG student chapter's events and workshops. This year's events included NLG Legal Observer trainings and a "Stop & Search-Know Your Rights" training for our students. The "Stop & Search-KYR" training provided us with information on protesters' rights and how to conduct the S&S-KYR clinics for community organizations and for activists. We also organized a panel discussion with formerly incarcerated individuals.

This fall semester, the UMass Law chapter has gotten several new members and is enthusiastic about this growth in membership. A few of our students represented UMass at a Bans Off Our Bodies march in New Bedford, where they distributed information on protesters' rights. We also organized social events to safely gather. Currently we're planning events and trainings for next semester, which we hope will include guest speakers, a "Stop & Search-KYR" training, and some panels to be run in conjunction with the Week Against Mass Incarceration.

JOIN US!

Dues are calculated on a calendar year basis (Jan.1-Dec.31) according to your income*:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Jailhouse Lawyers..... | Free |
| Law Students | \$25 |
| up to \$15,000 | \$40 |
| over \$15,000 to \$20,000..... | \$50 |
| over \$20,000 to \$25,000 | \$75 |
| over \$25,000 to \$30,000 | \$100 |
| over \$30,000 to \$40,000 | \$150 |
| over \$40,000 to \$50,000 | \$200 |
| over \$50,000 to \$60,000 | \$250 |
| over \$60,000 to \$70,000 | \$300 |
| over \$70,000 to \$80,000 | \$350 |
| over \$80,000 to \$90,000 | \$400 |
| over \$100,000 | \$500 |

* Any new member who joins after September 1 will be carried over to the following year. Dues may be paid in full or in quarterly installments. Dues of \$80 cover the basic membership costs, which include publication and mailing of *Mass Dissent* (the Chapter's bi-monthly newsletter), national and regional dues, and the office and staff.

Fill out and send to:
National Lawyers Guild-Mass Chapter
185 Devonshire St., Suite 302, Boston, MA 02110

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: (w) _____ (c) _____

E-MAIL: _____

FAX: _____

Circle one:
____ Lawyer Legal Worker Law Student Jailhouse Lawyer

Alumna/Alumnus of _____ Year _____

Dues (from schedule): _____

I am interested in working on the following projects:

____ Street Law Clinic

____ Mass Defense Committee

____ Litigation Committee

____ *Mass Dissent* (bi-monthly publication)