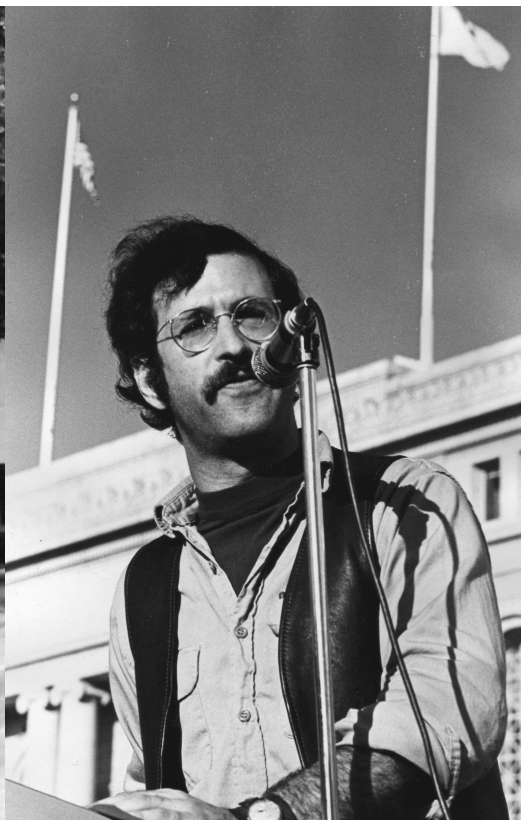


National Lawyers Guild  
San Francisco Bay Area Chapter's

# Testimonial Dinner



in honor of

**Anne Weills & Dan Siegel**

April 5, 2014



# Program

## **Master of Ceremonies**

**Nadia Kayyali**

*National Lawyers Guild SF Bay Area Chapter*

*Electronic Frontier Foundation*

## **Greetings**

**Carlos Villarreal**

*Executive Director*

*National Lawyers Guild SF Bay Area Chapter*

## **Partners in Liberation Presentation**

**Marie Levin & Azadeh Zhorabi**

*California Prison Hunger Strike Coalition Members*

*Family Members of Hunger Strikers*

## **Unsung Hero Presentation**

**Zahra Billoo**

*Executive Director*

*Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) San Francisco Bay Area*

## **Champion of Justice Presentation**

**Cat Brooks**

*Co-Chair*

*ONYX Organizing Committee*

**Michael Siegel**

**Dan Siegel & Anne Weills**

**Nate Miley**

*Alameda County Supervisor*



## Growing Up Siegel

By David, Jonathan & Jesse Siegel

Leon Siegel and Helen Kaplan met some time in the '30s at a rent party on the lower East Side of Manhattan, sponsored by a well-known political organization of the time. They married in 1941 and gave birth to Dan, in 1945, followed by David, Jonathan and finally Jesse. Four boys! Leon was so proud, and Helen was delighted — or always claimed to be.

Leon and Helen abandoned their one bedroom apartment in the Bronx for Long Island in 1951. In 1956, they found their way to Bayville, a working and middle class beach town on the North Shore. We were one of about five Jewish families in a town of 3000, and Dan and David often had to clear the way for Jonathan and Jesse. Their methods, though unorthodox, were undeniably effective. Subsequently, many recipients of bloody noses decided the Siegel kids were okay after all, and being Jewish certainly did not inhibit Dan's social life.

Dan hasn't missed many class reunions, and attended his 50<sup>th</sup> last year. His high school classmates will remember that Dan displayed the traits which distinguish him to this day: remarkable drive for achievement coupled with a tremendous capacity for recreation. He edited the school paper and yearbook, served as vice president of the student council (the last time he ever accepted the number two slot), and was on the track and football teams, all while figuring out how to get into local bars at the age of 16. When the time came, he graciously assisted his brothers who had similar goals.

**Dan was the  
ideal older  
brother.**

Dan was the ideal older brother. He had already introduced our parents to a colorful spectrum of conduct, and we could safely and enjoyably live within its penumbra. You really couldn't outdo him when it came to giving our parents heartburn.

In 1963, Dan went off to Hamilton College near Utica, NY, where he joined the local Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) chapter, went South for voter registration drives, and spent summers working at a camp for disabled children, but still managed to be a party leader in the Chi Psi fraternity.

Dan headed to law school at Berkeley in 1967, inspiring the migration of most of his family to the West Coast. There, he quickly became one of Ronald Reagan's favorite students (see People's Park). Dan never forgot his family on the East Coast, however. Once, he sent a special friend to visit first David, who was in medical school in the Bronx, and then our folks on Long Island. We never found out exactly who he was, and the FBI didn't enlighten us when they arrived on his tail.

Ever the supportive big brother, Dan wired money to Jonathan in Europe to buy a motorcycle (a fact he tactfully chose not to disclose to Leon and Helen until Jonathan



returned safely), and helped Jesse pay for his first amplifier. His generosity has never flagged, and he always picks up more than his share of restaurant tabs on our annual get-together. Of course, we have never insulted him by declining. Most of the rest of the family was moderately annoyed when only Jonathan got to attend Dan and Anne's wedding in 1974 in a judge's

chambers in Oakland. It was somewhat hastily arranged, as Anne wasn't totally won over to the bourgeois institution of marriage, but was ultimately convinced that her shop floor organizing at Caterpillar tractor might be helped by being married to the man she was living with. Any sacrifice for the struggle. The judge dutifully read their vows, pledging their troth to the "fight against imperialism." A fuller version can be found in their FBI files, written by one of the 8-10 people there. Jonathan swears it wasn't him.

The Siegel siblings are all close to this day, taking annual outings to backpack or fish in Alaska. Some things never change: Dan is still the first up, drinks the most coffee, proposes the most challenging activity, chooses the most "creative" route and he's still the first to open the Jack Daniels at the end of the day. That's our brother: incorruptible, inexhaustible and irrepressible. And dearly loved by us all.

# She Believes and She Acts

By Penny Matson

**R**ebellious, smart and beautiful. How do you compete with a sister like that?

There are six of us “kids” in the Weills family, all born within eight years. If you didn’t know, you would assume Anne was the oldest – she was always the one in charge. She wasn’t the oldest, but she was the leader, the Snow White to our Five Dwarfs. She assumed the reins of leadership and the responsibilities that came with it. It wasn’t always easy. She fought the battles, especially with our mother, with whom she shared many traits. Both confident, headstrong, energetic, forces to be reckoned with. At the poker table, it was “guts to open” with our mother. Movers and shakers, those women.

## Movers and shakers, those women.

Although she was more interested in making her own way than being a compliant member of the family, we all had chores to do. Hers was doing the ironing. It would not be unusual for her date to be

standing around in the kitchen, waiting patiently for her to finish the ironing before they could leave the house. She is a very good ironer, a skill she and the rest of us sisters learned from our father.

Anne has always been physically active, whether it was Yell Leader in high school, swimming in the Marin County Ballet Aquacade or performing the perfect jackknife off the diving board. She also had a few tours of runway modeling.

There were always lots of boyfriends, who were sweet to us little sisters, and parties to go to. She threw one big party at our house when our parents were on a trip and she was supposed to be in charge of us. The local police had to come and shut it down. Was she seventeen? There were few dull times when Anne was around.

As she grew more politically active in her teens, the dinner table discussions became more impassioned. Our father, an Eisenhower Republican, and Anne, would have tremendous battles about, well, about anything and everything. She was vehement, and he was entrenched. They were both stubborn and unmovable. I wish I could say the rest of us joined the fray, but it was pretty much the two of them, arguing to defend their view of the world. She was tough.



On her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, as we waited for her to appear for the family party, it was announced that she had been arrested and was in jail. It was not to be the only occasion she would spend time incarcerated. Although we didn't always understand the particular cause that Anne was engaged in, we have always been impressed by and amazed at her passion and commitment. Her devotion to social justice is deep-felt and powerful. She believes and she acts.

We are proud of our lovely, tough, intelligent sister. We congratulate her and Dan for the honor given them tonight. Yay, Anne!



## The Standard

### By Robert Scheer

I first encountered Anne in 1964 while participating at a pioneering civil rights sit-in at the Sheraton Palace Hotel SF. We were demanding that the hotel hire African Americans for the front desk jobs from which they had been excluded. Anne was this young, fiery woman atop a table in the hotel lobby delivering a speech as one of the key organizers of the Bay Area Ad Hoc Committee to End Discrimination.

Even at that young age of 22, Anne was already one of the major leaders in organizing the supposedly liberal Bay Area community in solidarity with, and inspired by, the struggles in the South to address persistent issues of racism in the Bay Area. Anne was urging us to maintain orderly discipline in the event of a mass arrest by the SF police and reminding us of the importance of the cause that had brought us there. Willie Brown and John Burton were our lawyers, whom Anne needed when she was arrested at the Sheraton or at a similar protest at an Auto Row showroom on Van Ness, for which she served a month in jail at San Bruno.

When I visited her in jail, Anne had developed a bond with other prisoners after discovering they needed a fourth in bridge. Anne soon began organizing the inmates there for prisoners' rights. This has culminated in her work defending the rights of inmates at Pelican Bay Prison after her lifetime of principled and heroic struggle.

**Together, he and Anne have had a major impact fighting the good fight on behalf of working people and oppressed minorities that should set the standard for their profession.**

In my experience with Anne, which included marriage and raising a child, I found her, in both her personal and political life, to be among the most ethically consistent and principled fighters for justice. In that regard, she found the perfect partner in Dan Siegel, who has certainly proven to have the courage and brilliance that one associates with some of

the legendary lawyers of the Left, such as Leonard Weinglass, Leonard Boudin and Charles Garry.

My personal encounter with Dan began when he was a Boalt Law School student who risked his future career by leading us in the People's Park demonstration in Berkeley in 1969. The word for Dan is formidable, in the fullest sense. He knows the law as well as anyone and articulates it brilliantly on behalf of those who are woefully underrepresented and without a voice. Together, he and Anne have had a major impact fighting the good fight on behalf of working people and oppressed minorities that should set the standard for their profession.

## Lucky for Us

### By Narda Zachino

Anne Weills first came to my attention when I was a reporter for the Los Angeles Times, co-writing a series of stories in 1975 about what '60s activists were doing a decade later. My co-reporter, also a woman, came back to LA from an interview with Anne rather dazzled by meeting this pioneer of the modern feminist movement.

Anne was someone who had realized, along with many other women, that the fight for the rights of people of color, exploited workers and those without a voice could not be fully realized without confronting the discrimination against all women on the basis of their gender. She fought to change the status quo.

## She fought to change the status quo.

In 1976, I officially became a member of Anne's extended family when her former husband Robert Scheer and I became a couple, and she quickly became one of my closest friends. Over the years I have admired Anne as a committed role model and mentor to countless girls and women, as this is a critical aspect of her life.

She worked as a machinist and union organizer of Caterpillar, helping women obtain higher-paying jobs that had been exclusively reserved for men. She went to law school, and, later, in her first big case as a lawyer, took on the University of California Berkeley. Her law firm told her not to take a case of a female math professor denied tenure to trial because it was costly and she would not win. So she quit the law firm, worked out of her home and forced several men in suits to a settlement that led to her client being granted the tenure she had been denied.

There followed a number of successful discrimination cases Anne and Dan won against Brown, Stanford and other universities. Her career in law, solo and with Dan as her brilliant partner, has been stellar. Anne is a tough, uncompromising and indefatigable defender of human rights for all. But she is more than a committed and courageous lawyer. Outside of her work, she takes time to enjoy her wonderful family, particularly her two grandsons, and to nurture her close friendships. Lucky for us.

## Growing up NLG

By Michael Siegel

I wasn't born into the National Lawyers Guild, but sometimes it feels like I was.

Actually, I was born on a picket line. In December 1977, my mom, Anne Weills, was a welder and union shop steward at the San Leandro Caterpillar factory. At the time of my birth, she was busy leading a “wildcat” strike, facing down both a reactionary international and a greedy multinational while carrying her second son.

One of my earliest political memories is being down in Watsonville, California, in the 1980s, where my dad, Dan Siegel, was representing local cannery workers who were fighting to organize in the face of oppressive conditions. I can recall sitting on the back of a pickup truck as we rolled through neighborhoods, exhorting community members to come to a theater performance and learn about the struggle.



If you know my parents and my family, you know that we often work at the intersection of politics and the law. If we can't beat you in the courts, we'll meet you in the streets.

My childhood was solidarity with striking janitors and teachers, protests to block shipments of war materials, barbecues to celebrate organizing campaigns and countless late night meetings to plan the revolution (as well as various reform efforts before now and the big moment).

As I became older, I became more aware of the “NLG” as a separate institution from the other formations we participated in. When I decided to transition from public education to law school (to my parents' substantial chagrin), it was instantly assumed that I would join the organization. And of course, when I attended my first Convention, I was soon reminded of my “legacy” status. (“Oh, you're Dan and Anne's son? I remember you in diapers!”)



In many ways, NLG has been a part of our family. From Stephen Bingham to Walter Riley, from the fight against the Iraq War to the fight against gang injunctions, this has been a place of solidarity and support.

I am proud to be a part of the next generation and to be carrying on the legacy of my parents and of all of the

folks who have built this organization. And I am deeply appreciative of my parents who, in addition to all the wonderful things they have shared with me over all these years, have also brought me into a wonderful network of people committed to changing the world.

## A Tough Act to Follow

By Christopher Scheer

Being a Californian, I've heard my share of "lawyer jokes" – all about sharks, hustlers and ambulance chasers – but even as a kid in the '70s I was quite aware that my step-father, Dan Siegel, wasn't one of THOSE kinds of lawyers. For one thing, his office was in a funky claptrap building on a commercial strip of the Fruitvale, a working class Latino neighborhood in the heart of Oakland. The only decoration was a satiric bathroom poster from the Red Scare asking if "your bathroom paper is breeding Bolsheviks?!" There was nary a glass-framed abstract print in sight, or even a receptionist.



For another, his client list was all working class, whether union members or troubled homicide suspects, and while he seemed to win every case and worked like an animal while consuming pots of (pre-Peets) coffee, he still managed to make less money than my mother, Anne Weills, a machinist and union activist at Caterpillar Tractor in neighboring San Leandro.

Years later, when Anne was laid off from Cat and had to create a new career in middle age, I was a bit skeptical when she decided to become a lawyer, as well. I knew she was plenty smart enough, but did she have the patience to find joy in the minutiae of day-to-day legal practice? As it turned out, ever the rebel, she managed to make the profession fit her passions as much as she grew to meet its demands; she quit her first law firm after only a few months to take on a super-challenging sex discrimination

lawsuit against a modern-day "Octopus" – the University of California – and a half-decade of risky legal warfare later, won a landmark victory on behalf of her female mathematician client.

As it turns out, Dan and Anne have been able to work together as a sort of legal superhero team: Anne's unrelenting passion and devotion for her clients and the causes their legal battles represent, combined with Dan's phenomenal breadth and depth of legal experience and wisdom has, over the past several decades, led to an astonishing string of victories on behalf of the screwed over, whether in the Ivory Tower or the mean streets.

That they simultaneously combine this with their leadership and support of so many radical causes and political struggles, on top of being loving parents and grandparents, is a bit hard to fathom – and certainly a tough act to follow! Still going at full-speed as septuagenarians, they are a true inspiration to so many of us; as lawyers, to be sure, but much more so as community leaders who exemplify resilience, compassion and a lifetime commitment to social change.

## Occupy the Farm

By Krystof Lopaur & Effie Rawlings

When we first met Anne Weills and Dan Siegel in 2002, Krystof was a graduate student at UC Berkeley and a member of Students for Justice in Palestine. We had just ignored warnings not to repeat the direct action we had done a year prior and had taken over Wheeler Hall for a second time! Eighty arrests later, we were facing a furious and determined wave of repression from the administration. Since the courts had been dissuaded from taking our cases to trial, the University decided to use conduct charges to get retribution against students who had been arrested, charges which could result in expulsion (a much scarier prospect for many students than a misdemeanor conviction). What the administration didn't expect was that Dan and Anne, along with a crew of lawyers from the NLG who had defended us in court, would stay on the case to serve as our legal representation in the University's notoriously biased student conduct hearings!



Student conduct hearings were (and are) a process UC Berkeley administrators had honed over many years to give themselves free rein to punish activists. Much to our surprise, and the UC's surprise as well, even their kangaroo court proved no match for Dan and Anne. After months of fighting us, the administration was forced to back down and give up. In fact, the UC was so thoroughly humiliated that it changed its own codes of conduct to ban legal representatives of the accused from speaking in conduct hearings, thinking students would now be defenseless against the UC's repression.

The story doesn't end there, however. A full decade later, the UC was using this new code to again attack students, this time participants in the massive wave of anti-austerity protests and occupations of 2009-2010. With "representatives" of the accused banned from speaking, Anne came back to campus to work her magic, strategizing along with a cohort of amazing Boalt law students. Despite being disallowed from addressing the hearing board, this legal team devised our hearing strategy and sat next to the accused students in every hearing, advising students every single tiny step of the way! The defense was so impressive that the UC ended up being traumatized by the very process they had intended to intimidate student activists with. They lost case after case. In the end the Office of Student Life was reorganized with at least one conduct officer losing a job.

In the 15 years we have known them, whenever we have mobilized, Anne, Dan, or Anne and Dan have stood shoulder to shoulder with us. Often, of course, in the green hats as legal observers at a protest, or standing next to us in criminal court or conduct hearings as counsel for the defendant. But they don't just play defense. They have fought civil cases too numerous to list and created serious material consequences for all kinds of state repression that local authorities have used to try to bring down the movement. Recently, Dan represented Occupy the Farm in civil court: the prospect of fighting him intimidated the

UC so much that they dropped the malicious SLAPP suit they had filed against us. And then he followed that up by going on the offensive, bringing our own lawsuit against the City of Albany to try to preserve this public farmland!

Anne and Dan's work is an essential component of our social movements in the face of repression and their contributions over the years are a big reason why social movements are so strong in the bay area. And their legal support is not the whole story. Just as often,

**Just as often, if not more, we find them alongside us as comrades, as activists, as organizers.**

if not more, we find them alongside us as comrades, as activists, as organizers. At this point, we have marched together on both sides of the bay, in the streets, at the port, for labor, against the war.

We have met them at city hall, school board hearings, in nine-person meetings planning rallies for Oscar Grant, even camped out overnight at an occupation ready to provide legal support in anticipation of a looming police raid. They have given us rides, stood between us and the police, opened their office to meetings and even made their home a space for movement events.

Now that we count them as friends, we have learned much more about their histories and radical pedigree. So we know that the part of the story we've been around for is just the tip of the iceberg. Anne and Dan have made social justice and movement work a lifelong commitment, in a way that's unique and impressive and serves as an inspiration to many of us who hope to be able to live our entire lives (and not just a few youthful years) true to our ideals. When we see comrades starting to withdraw from social movement work, bending under the pressures of making a home, raising kids, building a career, and when we too find it hard to stay the course, Dan and Anne are a beacon... two people who have managed to do all of the above, seemingly without pause or compromise on their commitment to social justice.

## At the Source

By Ignacio Chapela



2003 Iraq War Protest

left to right - James Cox, Tanya Russell, Dan Siegel, Millie Cleveland, Anne Weills

Many bathe graciously in the River of History, others swim and go places with it. Still others, not many, draw from it, using its waters to grow. But it is rare indeed in History itself to find those who change it with intention and art, whose life in the stream of streams transforms its nature and, with it, the fate of so many others, those who become conscious shapers of our better destiny. What touches on the miraculous is that Anne and Dan found each other, in the twists and tumbles of turbulent historical times, and became a force of two.

I met Dan a decade and a half ago at a tumultuous time in my life, as I confronted the administration of a formidable institution, the University of California. The administrators of the University were engaged in efforts to further privatize our education, and I had an opportunity to confront their self-serving actions whose consequences we all now know too well.

Having interviewed practically all the lawyers in the country who had the experience and ability to stand a chance of succeeding against such a multi-headed opponent, I found myself in an office whose understated style spoke volumes about the sturdy man in the leather chair sitting across from me. Fresh air from Denali seemed to breeze across the desk, with an eclectic, beautiful mix of warm currents of comradeship from Cuba, Vietnam, China and the Labor Hall of the US. No words had to be exchanged for me to know I had finally found the right person. Meeting Dan's penetrating, deep blue eyes simply confirmed and settled any questions I could have had. Of course Dan asked the right questions immediately and had me cased in less than twelve minutes.

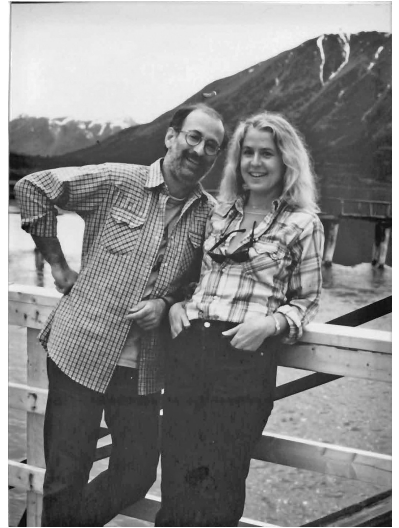
In the days that followed, Dan gave a breath-taking performance against the jaded corporate lawyers of the University, resulting in a swift win. My experience of Dan's interactions with such opponents has always been one with two sides: one side with



sharpness and poise delivering few but unstoppable blows, the other plain shaking in their boots. I have gone to see Dan argue in court not least for the joy of seeing such masterclasses performed for the best causes, but also because the history of his cases reads like the history of so many important advances of civil rights, and each case is history in the making.

What Dan's court performance alone does not show is a much deeper and wider front of engagement with the world, not least because of his association with that other unstoppable force, the amazing Anne Weills. I knew Anne before I met her because of the powerful, bright light she sheds over so many lives and so many events of our History. From the Caterpillar assembly floor, where she organized as a worker, to the street organizing throughout the Bay Area and beyond – most recently and notably her dedication to dismantling the prison industrial complex – Anne demonstrates her underlying deep belief in humanity, the humanity she brings out in every person she meets. When we first met in person, I felt an immediate force of empowerment, a trust in my intrinsic capacities and an understanding warmth which invigorated every fiber of political and intellectual engagement, even some that I did not know myself I had. Such is the rare power which Anne brings to the world, the power of empowering others. I have witnessed this power on the street, in the small strategic meeting, as much as in the court room.

With time, I have come to consider myself a friend of this couple. It is through this friendship that I have come to gain an inkling of the sources of Dan and Anne's historical role. Dan and Anne brave the treacherous waters of deep Alaska on a kayak without trepidation; we have walked the heights of Arctic fjords together in a storm. From these and many other experiences, I understand them as much more than a powerful political and cultural force; they are a work of art, of that elusive *ars vivendi* which is missing in so many lives today. I see Dan and Anne bringing to the political and cultural realm the much deeper and ancient love for life, for nature and in that love their love for a humanity that is just, egalitarian, trustful of each one of us, hopeful beyond measure.



I see my friends deftly flowing, navigating the many currents of our historical times. I see them leading, showing so many of us how to find our navigational bearings. Uniquely, however, I also see them as standing at the source, with that rare capacity to truly understand and influence the course of history, a capacity gained through the infinite hours of intelligent dedication and uncompromising love.

## Love in the Movement

Cat Brooks | Co-Chair, ONYX Organizing Committee

I first met Dan and Anne during the Oscar Grant struggle. Things were tense during those times to say the least. The police were increasing their aggression against protesters and organizers were struggling to remain on common ground. I remember Dan and Anne as consistently principled in their engagement and committed to doing whatever it took to achieve justice. They both were tireless in their efforts – giving of time, space, passion and resources – and they were a critical piece of the puzzle that sustained that movement over the entire three years.

Since that time, I have been fortunate enough to grow my relationships with both Dan and Anne. They are more than allies in the movement. They are my friends and my family. As ONYX has grown in programs and efforts – so has their support. And they



never ask for anything in return – other than that we continue to build the movement and serve the people. And I can't think of much I wouldn't do for them in return.

What I find amazing about both of them is that they cannot be pigeonholed into one area of struggle. Police brutality, workers' rights, immigrant rights, prisoner rights, labor rights – HUMAN

RIGHTS. For them, it is truly about transforming the world we live into a place where human beings are not simply surviving but rather living and thriving with dignity.

Two of the most humble people I have ever known – they inspire me regularly with their commitment and dedication. A beautiful couple that has somehow managed to survive the movement stronger and even more intact. That in itself is no small feat as the struggle has been known to take unforeseen tolls on families, marriages and relationships. I look to them often as inspiration for my own relationship and family. They are a living breathing example of love in the movement.

Love. They are so full of love. Recently, I had a pretty intense health scare. They were both immediately there – offering me whatever I needed. When I got a clean slate – Anne showed up to a meeting with flowers, a card and tears in her eyes. “We’re so happy you’re OK.”

**Love. They are so full of love.**

I am so happy to have them in my life. I am so happy the struggle has them. I am so happy they are being honored for being the wonderful people, activists, lawyers and lovers that they are. Congratulations Dan and Anne – we love you.

# The Adventures of Rights Girl

## By Davi Barker

Unsung Hero

There is a school of thought which suggests that Superman is not a hero at all, but at best mediocre from a moral standpoint. The logic for this goes that heroism is a measure of one's bravery and conviction. But it's not hard to be brave when you are impervious to harm. And it's not hard to have conviction when you are constantly praised for your actions.

Zahra Billoo on the other hand exudes heroism by both measures. In a perfect world there would be a comic book based on her work. "The Adventures of Rights Girl," and her sidekick, AnarCat. Obviously her costume would be purple. But unlike other superheroes who beat their chest and butt heads with super villains to defend the public from evil, Rights Girl's power is to go into that population and enable them to defend themselves. Young girls would clamor to be like her, and grow up to be heroes themselves.

Sure, sometimes Zahra's got to fight the bad guys. In 2011, she went to the mattresses against the FBI in a rather famous GPS tracking device lawsuit filed by CAIR. When she needs to, she confronts big corporations like Abercrombie & Fitch. She's one of the few Muslim activists I've seen hold her own on Fox, and if you think that's low risk activism you don't understand the kind of character assassination these villains are capable of.

But her primary work has been empowering others. Her weekends are spent conducting "Know Your Rights" presentations in a marginalized community that's intensely targeted by law enforcement. She's also often the first woman to speak in a lot of these spaces. She helps organize the annual Muslim Day at the Capital, and Youth Leadership Conference so others can learn how the sausage is made in the legislature.

Most importantly she does this whether she faces criticism or not, and it doesn't matter if the criticism comes from her enemies or her own community. She does this whether she is praised or not. And even when she has to say it nicely, she never shies away from throwing Truth in power's face.

And she does something Superman never did. She makes phenomenal cupcakes. And if you think that's not activism you haven't seen "Justice is a Warm Cupcake," a little known short film documenting her prowess. Rights Girl auctions cakes and cupcakes for donations to worthy causes, and at least once a month bakes a cake for Cake 4 Kids, which provides birthday cakes to kids in poor families who struggle to afford them.

So next time you go to a comic convention, consider leaving the spandex at home and donning a pantsuit and a purple scarf. Fortune favors the bold, and Superman has nothing on Rights Girl.



## **California Prison Hunger Strikers & The California Prison Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition**

Partners in Liberation

**I**n early 2011, prisoners at Pelican Bay State Prison began to develop a strategy that would call attention to the torture of solitary confinement and unite them in their efforts to change their conditions.

Deciding to go out on hunger strike, the interracial group of prisoners in Pelican Bay's Security Housing Unit that would come to be known as the Short Corridor Collective, reached out to their loved ones along with legal workers and various grassroots organizations that they had relationships with, in order to build outside support for their protest. The Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition (PHSS) was formed and since 2011 has supported three hunger strikes that have rocked the California prison system. PHSS has mobilized thousands of people across the state and the world to support the activism of imprisoned people, has brought to international attention the torture of solitary confinement, has defended imprisoned activists from retaliation by prison officials and has compelled elected officials to take decisive action in addressing the demands of the hunger strikers.

Fighting from within and against some of the most crushing violence imaginable, the Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition's unwavering commitment to elevating the leadership of prisoners themselves and their loved ones has helped to broaden our understanding of what is possible to bring about social change. The fight to bring about an end to the torture of solitary in California is ongoing, and the inspiring struggle of the California prison hunger strikers and their supporters on the outside will surely continue to fuel our hope and imagination for the work that lies ahead.

The 2013 California Prison Hunger Strike was a powerful and courageous action by 30,000 or more people locked inside California prisons to end long term solitary confinement, torture, and other cruel and unusual conditions. People locked inside all California prisons participated, and hundreds or more conducted labor strikes, many with their own specific demands for their own prison and/or prison workplace. The National Lawyers Guild (NLG) SF Bay Area was not able to reach out to all the tens of thousands of participants regarding their nomination for the Partners In Liberation Award so we reached out to the four main representatives of the movement - Antonio Guillen, Todd Ashker, Sitawa Dewberry and Arturo Castellanos. NLG members who were doing legal visits and solidarity correspondence notified other participants of the hunger strike of the award and solicited statements. Below are the statements we have collected so far. If other participants in the hunger strike would like to submit statements, we are open to printing statements in our newsletter, Guild Notes, and on our website, [nlgsf.org](http://nlgsf.org).

If you would like to write to any of the individuals featured here, please include their name and CDC # (listed below name) and mail to:

Pelican Bay State Prison  
P.O. Box 7500  
Crescent City, CA 95532

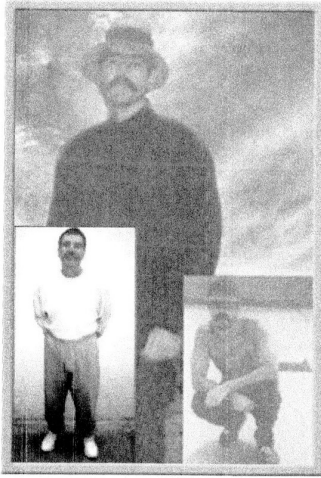
**Arturo Castellanos**  
**C-17275**

I received your letter regarding the award. I will only accept it on behalf of all the 30,000 prisoners who participated in this latest Hunger Strike ... They deserve this recognition as well as the Prisoner Hunger Strike Coalition and all the outside supporters. Without all of their support we would have all been allowed to silently die of starvation and CDCR would of called it suicide.

Thank you very much,

In Solidarity.  
Arturo Castellano

Excerpt from a pamphlet produced by Jack Morris



Support  
Jack's  
Right to Be  
Treated as  
a  
Human  
Being

**Jack has been held  
in Solitary Confinement  
for 23 years !!**

I have lived in a cage for a quarter of a century, an environment designed to transform hope too hate. The walls of Solitary Confinement can eat and consume individuality. Left to travel the corridors of reflection, ultimately even memories fade; I'm left locked within the void of repetitive existence seeking to out run insanity which consumes my humanity.

Jack Morris C-06409  
SHU D-5-222  
PO Box 7500  
Crescent City 95531

I continue my struggle, determined in fortitude to survive the bombardment of hypocrisy and false accusations. Deprivation of humanity does not happen in a civilized State. Dissolve SHU!

California Families to Abolish Solitary Confinement  
1137 E. Redondo Blvd. - Inglewood CA 90302  
(310) 677-7445 (ASK FOR  
Geri Silva.)



**Todd Ashker**  
**C-58191**

Greetings of solidarity & respect to all who fight for human rights! I want to express my sincere appreciation to the NLGSF Bay Area Chapter for including my comrades & me for nomination to receive the Partners in Liberation award for 2014.

Your support of our cause has helped us in immeasurable ways & it is truly a great honor & privilege for me to humbly accept the award on behalf of all those who have selflessly been involved in our struggle to end long term solitary confinement [torture], as it is solely through our unified-collective efforts that we have made progress & it is our unified-collective efforts that will lead us to victory! Onward in Struggle & Solidarity

Todd Ashker,  
PBSP-SHU Rep

**Peter Salazar**  
**J-91338**

To whom it may concern...

Greetings.

I am a 45 year old who is doing life plus 29 years on top of that. I've spent the last 16 years of my incarceration in Bedrock (A.K.A) Pelican Bay SHU.

I've been to 32 hearings conducted by ICC/UCC, and all of them ended the same way, with me being denied release back into the general population despite the fact I have no current prison gang activity.

The sole purpose for my prolonged SHU placement is because I refuse to become a jailhouse snitch. At each hearing I was told by senior staff that if I want to go to Mainline (General Population)- I have to debrief.

I always say, "No! I'm not gonna snitch/debrief because I haven't done anything. Period!!"

Just recently, 2011-2013, the inmates at Pelican Bay SHU decided to put their differences aside and work together to stop indefinite SHU placement of inmates considered to be associate members of prison gangs.

It was profound and unprecedented. Truth be told, it shocked CDCR and caught them off guard. They (CDCR) truly believed that we (the inmate population), could never cross racial lines, nor let go of old grudges, die. But it happened.

During my 16 years in the SHU I've lost several close cousins, two favorite uncles, and the light of my life my beloved Mother, all to cancer. And during this ordeal (CDCR) never had not even the smallest amount of compassion or respect.

I was told by C/Os (correctional officers) after my uncle Santiago died on April 26, 2002..."Another gangbanger dead!"...

I was so upset at this statement by c/o's that I held up the program by refusing to return to my cell until a sgt. came to talk to me.

I didn't receive RVR (rules violation report). What they did was took my yard privilege for 72 hours, but the correctional officer was never disciplined for his remarks.

This as well as the fact that I.G.I (Institutional Gang Investigator) is refusing to correctly comply with the law, was the final slap across my face to wake me up to my reality.

I will never be allowed out of the SHU, which means I'll never get out of prison. Because as long as you're in the SHU no parole board panel will grant you a parole date.

So I became part of the Hunger Strikes. Just recently did the July 8th to September 5th, 2013 Hunger Strikes. It was a long 60-day strike. I went through a lot physically as well as mentally.

I sincerely hope that CDCR will live up to its word and take the necessary changes that end inhuman treatment of people in California prison(s), as well as within our nation.

I am committed to this fight to bring about change/hope, so that inmates no longer must choose between being a snitch/go crazy in the SHU/solitary confinement. If you'd like to hear more about my SHU placement please contact me in person. Willing to write anyone who will listen...

**Steve Ramos**  
**T-32555**

To: National Lawyers Guild

First I would like to thank you on behalf of the many of thousands that stood up for nothing more than our basic human right to be treated as men with dignity, respect and given the rights and fair treatment we have been denied. Some men have been here at P.B.S.P. for more than 25 years. These hunger strikes have started a worldwide call to action for all men and women and children held in solitary confinement. Many eyes have been opened. Thank you so much to all of you for all you have done to get our voices heard.



I'm not sure of the reach of this, but, to all of you at the Lawyers Guild, from my heart I extended this to all of you.

Thank you,

Sincerely,  
Steve Ramos

## **The Present**

Imagine there is a bank which credits your account each morning with \$86,400, carries over the balance from day to day, allows you to keep no cash balance and every evening cancels whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day.

What would you do? Draw out every cent, of course! Well everyone has such a bank. Its name is time. Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off, at least, whatever of this you have failed to invest to good response. It carries over no balance. It allows no overdraft. Each day it opens a new account for you. Each night it opens a new account for you. Each night it burns the records of the day. If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no borrowing against tomorrow. You must live in the present on today's deposits. Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success!

The clock is running, Make the most of today. To realize the value of one year, ask a student who failed a grade.

To realize the value of one month, ask a mother who gave birth to a premature baby. To realize the value of one week ask the editor of a weekly newspaper. To realize the value of one hour, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.

To realize the value of one minute, ask a person who missed the train.

To realize the value of one second, ask a person who just avoided an accident.

To realize the value of one millisecond ask the person who won a silver medal in the Olympics.

Treasure every moment that you have! And Treasure every moment even more because you shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time.

And remember, time waits for no one. Yesterday is history.

Tomorrow is a mystery.

Today is a gift.

That's why it's called a present.

Thank you so much for the word, but its more about the struggle and the fair treatment we seek. God bless.

**Antonio Guillen**  
**P-81948**

Greetings one and all,

My name is Antonio Guillen and, with raised fist, I demand my rights as a man and as a human being!

I began this journey with that mindset firmly in place and it still holds true to this day. I believe this mental attitude has allowed my determination to take root and grow into open defiance against the monstrosity that has become the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

I chose to become part of the Human Rights Movement not because I consider myself to be a revolutionist or political prisoner. Neither can I claim to be a progressive thinker or a person of conscience. I have not yet earned the right to wear any such badge of honor. Rather, I am simply a man, and fellow human being, who got tired of the continuous abuses and horrific conditions that seem to fester in the dark corners of this world that is solitary confinement!

I am but one of many who felt it necessary, and morally right, to take a stand and participate in each evolution of the hunger strike. And, although I feel honored and humbled to receive, in part, the Partners in Liberation award I can only do so on behalf of all those who willingly sacrificed their health and well-being for the betterment of people. Especially, in honor of those whose lives were lost.

There is much work that still needs to be done in this protracted struggle and many of us, on both sides of the wall, who are prepared to meet the challenges ahead of us. It won't be easy and much that we wish to achieve may not come to fruition in our lifetime but, together, we will make a difference.

In closing, I wish to give a special thanks to all the families and friends and outside supporters who walked along side of us, fought on our behalf and sacrificed much as a result. Without you our voice would have been stifled and our fate would have been sealed. So, with every ounce of my being I sincerely say, "THANK YOU!"

Strength and Respect,

Antonio Guillen

**The following would like to  
CONGRATULATE  
Anne, Dan, Zahra,  
the California Prison Hunger Strike  
Solidarity Coalition  
and  
the California Prison Hunger Strikers**

Daphne Blake

Teresa Bright

Seth Chazin

J.C. Eaglesmith

Fred Goss

Doug Hill

Karim Kahwaji

Nancy Lowenthal

Matthew Rinaldi

Bill Ryan

Gloria Ryan

Jae Scharlin

Constancia Dinky Romilly

Terry Weber

**Congratulations  
and kudos  
Anne, Dan and  
Zahra!**

Linda Fullerton and Ann Noel

**ELLAHIE  
& FAROOQUI LLP**  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

**CONGRATULATE  
ZAHRA BILLOO**

*AND WISH HER & CAIR CONTINUED SUCCESS*

**Dan & Anne**

**Congrats for years of  
good work.**

Paul Harris

**NLGSF Mindfulness Meditation  
Sitting Group for Progressive Lawyers**

We meet the First Wednesday of  
each month at 8:15 am and the Third  
Wednesday of each month at 5:15 pm  
at Sundeen Salinas & Pyle, 428 13th  
Street, 8th Floor, Oakland, CA 94609.

Call 510.663.9240 to confirm  
availability on a particular day.

**Congratulations to  
Dan and Anne  
(GGU class of 1988)**

from  
Golden Gate University  
School of Law

**Congratulations**

The Oakland Office of the  
National Treasury  
Employees Union

**Congratulations  
Dan & Anne  
for an honor well  
deserved**

Tom Meyer

**Congratulations and  
best wishes to Dan,  
Anne and Zahra**

From Richard Doctoroff and  
Lissa Mattross

**Anne and Dan:**

**We honor your four decades of fearless legal struggle.**

Deborah, Chris and David



**THE ACLU OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

is proud to sing the praises of our coalition partner Zahra Billoo for her courageous work on the front lines of civil liberties



**Congratulations on a job well done!**



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***Congratulations to this year's  
honorees  
and  
In celebration of the work of the  
National Lawyer's Guild***



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Congratulations, Anne and Dan,  
on your hard work, leadership,  
and commitment.



# First Legal | Network

***Thank you for your hard work and dedication!***

**Anne Weills & Dan Siegel**  
Champions of Justice

**Zahra Billoo**  
Unsung Hero

**Sue Hammer | 415.720.6229 | [shammer@firstlegalsupport.com](mailto:shammer@firstlegalsupport.com)**

# **Congratulations Anne and Dan & The National Lawyers Guild**



Anne Brandon  
510.682.6644  
abrandon@apr.com  
www.apr.com/abrandon

## **Solidarity with the California Prison Hunger Strikers Congratulations Zahra, Anne & Dan Strength in Struggle**

Monique Doryland  
Terry Koch  
Kale Williams

Leah Hess  
Jane Tishkoff

**INSIDE PRISONS & OUT IN THE STREETS**



**SUPPORT THE MOVEMENT TO  
END SOLITARY CONFINEMENT**

Congratulations to Anne, Dan, Zahra  
and the Hunger Strikers!

From your supporters at 179 11th St.:  
Stuart Hanlon, Megan Books, Steven  
Angell and Jeff Wozniak





## **Congratulations Dan and Anne!**

You've mentored many.  
You've ensured justice for  
workers.

You've fought for women's equality, again and again.

**Thanks to you and the entire Siegel & Yee team!**

# **Congratulations to Dan and Anne**

from Alameda County Public Defenders  
Association

"A system that warehouses people is not the cure for social ills"  
— Amiri Baraka

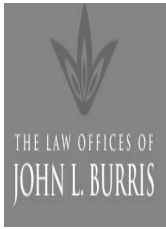
- ▶ Strength and solidarity to the prison hunger strikers, Partners in Liberation.
- ▶ Congrats to Dan Siegel & Anne Weills, Champions of Justice! Well deserved.
- ▶ Gratitude to Zahra Billoo, Unsung Hero, for the amazing work you do!



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John L. Burris salutes Champions of  
Justice Dan Siegel and Anne Weills for  
a lifetime commitment to civil rights  
for the poor and disenfranchised

**Salut Dan & Anne  
for your  
Inspiration  
and  
Commitment**

Yolanda Huang

Yay for **student radicals!**  
Yay for **lawyers who win cases for good causes!**  
Yay for **protectors of religious diversity!**  
Yay for **guardians of privacy!**  
Yay for **exemplars of human dignity!**

(Yay for **Oakland's future mayor!**)

Dan Siegel  
Anne Weills  
Zahra Billoo  
Prison Hunger Strikers

We **honor** you, we **respect** you, and we **thank** you.

Walter Riley and Barbara Rhine

**Three cheers for Dan, Anne and Zahra!  
Thank you for never giving up in the  
fight for justice.**

**Sundeen Salinas & Pyle**

Ruben Sundeen  
Hunter Pyle  
Mana Barari  
Rocio Toriz  
Alicia Ramirez  
Janet Montes

Robert Salinas  
Pamela Kong  
Tanya Tambling  
Taniseia Vo  
Inocente Rios-Oregon

**We salute and honor the Bay Area Chapter  
of the National Lawyers Guild for over 75 years  
of fighting for social, legal and economic justice.**

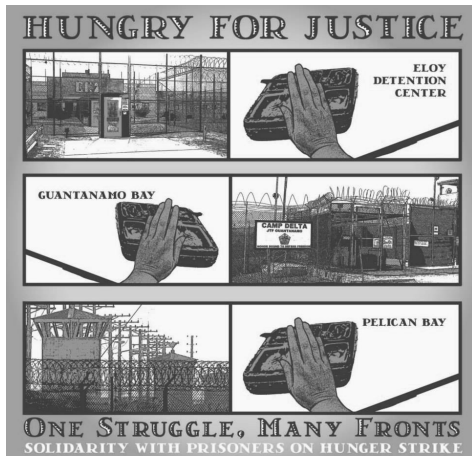
Grace Aguirre  
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Bernadette Riordan  
Dennis Riordan  
Rocio Sanchez

Layli Shirani  
Natassja Trujillo  
Marilyn A. Waller  
Doron Weinberg  
Jocilene Yue  
Marc Zilversmit

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The United People of Color  
Caucus & The Anti Racism  
Committee Salute the  
California Prison Hunger  
Strikers for Their Bravery  
In the Struggle For Justice  
& Freedom! We Stand In  
Solidarity With Each of  
You, Toward the Liberation  
of All of Our Peoples!

Congratulations to our  
Partners in Liberation, Champions of Justice & Unsung Hero,  
who support this important work.



Artwork by Dignidad Rebelde

**Anne, Dan and Zahra -**

**We applaud your advocacy on behalf  
of working women and men and your  
perseverance in fighting the good fight.**

**With gratitude,**

From the Womens Labor Project (still)

Kathy  
Judy  
Blythe

Andi  
Diane  
Dale


Margo  
Lainey  
Lynda

A WARM CONGRATULATIONS  
*to* Dan, Anne & Zahra!

*from*

**THE LAW OFFICES OF PETER FRANCK**

PFRANCK@CULTURELAW.COM 510.788.1009



**Gilardi & Co LLC**

*Salutes*

**Anne Weills  
& Dan Siegel,**

*Champions of Justice  
for their long careers as  
defenders of civil liberties  
and as National Lawyers  
Guild activists.*

For more information on class action  
administration, contact Jenny Trang:  
Jenny.Trang@gilardi.com  
415-306-4791

# Congratulations Dan & Anne!

From all of us at Equistone Partners, Inc.

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Advisory Services | Brokerage Services  
*michael.harrison@equistone.com*

To this year's distinguished honorees:

Dan Siegel, Anne Weills, Zahra Billoo  
Prison Hunger Strikers and the  
Prison Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition

We salute you!



**national lawyers guild**

national office

132 Nassau Street, Rm. 922

p. 212.679.5100

[www.nlg.org](http://www.nlg.org)

**Dear Dan & Anne,**

Thank you both very much for your wonderful contribution to the people of our community!

Your philanthropy is a true testament to the great people that you are.

**Congratulations  
from Aiken Welch Court Reporters!**



The Thomas Steel Committee would like to recognize our 2014 summer intern, **Kristina Dolgin.**

Kristina will continue the work of past interns who, since 2001, have carried on the legacy of Guild stalwart Thomas Steel.

See <http://www.nlgf.org/committees/steel.php> for more information.

# Siegel & Yee Congratulates the NLG and all its honorees.

Jane Brunner

Kevin Brunner

Micah Clatterbaugh

Barbra Frank

Jose Luis Fuentes

Elizabeth Johnson

Clare Lacey

Sonya Mehta

Dean Royer

Neil Satterlund

Dan Siegel

Michael Siegel

Anne Weills

Alan Yee



NATIONAL UNION OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS

[www.nuhw.org](http://www.nuhw.org)

---

**We are proud to join  
the Lawyers Guild  
in honoring  
Anne Weills  
&  
Dan Siegel**

---



NUHW is a 10,000-strong member-led movement  
for democracy, quality patient care, and a stronger voice  
at work for healthcare workers.



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[/NUHW](https://twitter.com/NUHW)



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CALIFORNIA  
NURSES  
ASSOCIATION



**Dan, Anne and Zahra -**

**If our next generation walks the walk  
like you, we will be ok.**

**Thanks for the inspiration.**

**NextGen/Mentorship Project**

David Weintraub

Derek McDonald

Lisa Weissman-Ward

Jordan Ashe

Jessica Arena

Hannah Labaree

Alyssa Huff

Jose Luis Fuentes

Kristina Dolgin

Sonya Mehta

Laura Kent-Monning

**And the hundreds of mentors, mentees and  
incredible Mentorship Committee members  
over the years.**

**Dan,**

**From Campus Draft  
Opposition to Occupy,  
what a hecka good ride it's  
been!**

**Thanks for always being  
there.**

**David Weintraub  
Matt Ross**

# **CONGRATULATIONS TO DAN AND ANNE**

Fifty years (at least!)  
of comforting the afflicted  
and afflicting the comfortable

*Here's to Fifty More!*



**From your loving Siegel Clan,**

David, Nancy, Ben, Juanita, Lucio, Paloma,  
Sam, Samantha, Murray, Gilad & Leon

Jonathan, Aixa, Marisol & Lea

Jesse, Tori, Hannah, Leeann & Jack

Michael, Hindatu & Malik

# Congratulations To Dan & Anne

**Fearless Fighters for Justice –**  
In the Courts  
In the Workplace  
In the Streets!

*Keep up the Struggle,  
Brother & Sister (in law)*

---

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Kathleen Keenaghan

[kkeenaghan@tsgreporting.com](mailto:kkeenaghan@tsgreporting.com)

Congratulations to the National Lawyers Guild;  
for its now 8th decade of dedication to the  
Defense of Civil Rights and, in particular, its work on  
behalf of Immigrants' Rights.

And special congratulations to:

**Dan and Anne:** Thank you for your years of work on behalf of the Guild  
and on behalf of the countless people in struggle you have worked tirelessly for  
over the years!

**Zahra:** You are one of the new shining lights in our organization! Thank you  
for your dedication and determination in protecting and advancing the rights  
of immigrants and so many others!

And a heartfelt salute to the **California Prison Hunger Strikers**  
and all who have worked so hard to end the outrageous solitary confinement  
in California prisons!!

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# City National

CONGRATULATES

**Anne Weills & Dan Siegel  
and Zahra Billoo**

AND PROUDLY SUPPORTS

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# Dan Siegel & Anne Weills



*for your continued Commitment to the Working Class*

**Zahra Billoo**

*Unsung Hero Award*

**California Prison Hunger Strikers &  
The California Prison Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition**

*Partners in Liberation Award*



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## **Goldstein Borgen Dardarian & Ho**

**Congratulates  
NLG's 2014 Award Winners:**

Dan Siegel & Anne Weills, *Champions of Justice*

Zahra Billoo, *Unsung Hero*

California Prison Hunger Strikers &

The California Prison Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition,  
*Partners in Liberation*



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Dardarian & Ho**

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environmental justice complex and class action cases**



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The **National Lawyers Guild** is 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 the people, to the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests.

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter has a number of active committees working in a variety of fields on the social justice front. To learn more or to join, please visit [nlgsf.org](http://nlgsf.org).

### **Bay Area Military Law Panel**

Local working group of the Military Law Task Force - made up of lawyers, law students, legal workers, and "Barracks Lawyers" interested in draft, military and veterans issues.

### **Demonstrations Committee**

Provides legal support and trainings to progressive groups organizing demonstrations or direct actions; offers legal observer trainings to law students, lawyers and activists; works to respond to police misconduct and protect the right to dissent.

### **Immigration Committee**

Supports the rights of immigrants throughout the Bay Area. Works to improve the laws affecting immigrants and to inform the public about the rights all of us, including immigrants, retain.

### **Labor & Employment Committee**

Serves as a liaison between the Guild, organized labor and various labor and employment legal groups.

### **NextGen Committee (formerly Mentorship Committee)**

Seeks to serve as a catalyst for active communication between law school chapters, recent graduates, long-time Guild members and the various Board committees.

### **Committee on Police & Prisons**

Exists to challenge oppressive practices, policies and laws of law enforcement, prisons and jails used against communities of color, prisoners, and others.

### **State Bar Committee**

Participates in many Bar related activities throughout the year and initiates progressive resolutions for consideration and debate among delegates to the annual State Bar Convention.

### **The United People of Color Caucus - TUPOCC**

An alliance of law students, legal workers, attorneys and other people of color within the NLG community.

### **For questions, please contact:**

**Carlos Villarreal** | Executive Director  
[carlos@nlgsf.org](mailto:carlos@nlgsf.org) 415.285.5067 x304

**Alejandra Lopez** | Membership Coordinator  
[alex@nlgsf.org](mailto:alex@nlgsf.org) 415.285.5067 x302

# In memoriam

## **Barry Wildorf**

**1945 – 2014**

A life-long activist, Barry was born in New York on March 6, 1945. He attended Columbia Law School, where he was an active member of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). He and Bonnie Offner were married June 1968.

In 1971, he and Bonnie moved to San Francisco. Barry opened his law practice in San Francisco, practicing criminal, and eventually civil law. For many years, he practiced with his longtime legal partner, Laura Stevens. Over the course of several decades, he litigated hundreds of cases, representing employees, actors, artists, victims of investment and real estate fraud, and tenants. Barry often made headlines for the controversial cases he handled. In his last case, he and Laura won a multimillion dollar jury verdict against a Bay Area landlord who regularly cheated his tenants out of their security deposits.

Those who knew him remember him as a loyal friend, loving husband, father, and grandfather, a warm host and a fierce advocate, ready to take a case, defend the defenseless and comfort the afflicted. He was greatly valued by the NLG community.

## **Muriel Hoffman Brotsky**

**1925 – 2014**

Muriel Hoffman Brotsky was a loving partner to long-time Guild member, Allan Brotsky. She was also a mother, a talented social worker and progressive activist. She dedicated her career to improving the welfare of San Francisco children and families.

Muriel was born and raised in New York. She received her B.A. in sociology in 1947 at the University of Wisconsin, where she was active politically. It was during this time that she met her husband Allan, and they were married in 1946. She received her MSW in 1949 from UC Berkeley.

In 1961, she joined Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS), where she held a variety of positions, including Director of Family Services, until her retirement in 1990. She was influential in founding Parent's Place, the Joint Custody Project and many other projects at JFCS. She also maintained a private therapy practice.

Family was very important to Muriel; she and Allan enjoyed 67 years together. They loved traveling, tennis, the symphony, ballet, and theater, socializing with their many friends and spending time with their children.

# National Lawyers Guild Bay Area Chapter Testimonial Dinner Honorees

1979	Benjamin Dreyfus	2001	Tanya Neiman
1981	Doris Brin Walker	2002	Frances Schreiber
1983	Frank McTernan	2003	Marc Van Der Hout
1984	Ann Fagan Ginger	2004	Jennie Rhine & Tom Meyer
1985	Jessica Mitford & Bob Treuhaft	2005	Marilyn Waller
1986	Vincent Hallinan	2006	Abby Ginzberg
1987	Chapter Founders	2007	Dennis Cunningham
1988	Charles Garry	2008	David Borgen
1989	Ron Dellums	2009	Steve Bingham
1990	Allan Brotsky	2010	Matt Ross & David Weintraub
1991	Arthur Kinoy	2011	Brad Seligman
1992	Legal Workers & Evelyn Frank	2012	Alan Schlosser & Bobbie Stein
1993	Paul Harris	2013	Walter Riley
1994	Marvin Stender & Dru Ramey		
1995	Tom Steel		
1996	Susan B. Jordan		
1997	Gordon Gaines		
1998	Doron Weinberg		
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For more information, please contact Carlos Villarreal at 415.285.5067 ext. 304 or [carlos@nlgsf.org](mailto:carlos@nlgsf.org).



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We appreciate your dedication to the  
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We congratulate Dan Siegel, Anne Weills, Zahra Billoo and the Prison Hunger Strikers & Prison Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition for leading the way to a better tomorrow.



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