

**Transparency & Integrity Fund and National Security & Human Rights Campaign
Docket I – 2011 Grant Recommendation Blurbs
Circulated February 28, 2011 for April 11, 2011 Docket Meeting**

The Transparency & Integrity Fund continues to support groups working to promote access to information, and to support a vibrant and credible news media, an impartial and diverse judiciary, and broad and equal access to the ballot -- cornerstones of an open society. We will present 16 grants for approval on our first docket of 2011 – for a rough total of \$8,342,000 - and expect to present roughly another 30 grants for approval on later dockets this year. In this docket, we present recommendations that include renewal of two U.S. Programs anchor grants; three grants to further develop our ‘money in politics work;’ one grant that explores the connection between newly released government data and job creation; two grants to key organizations working in U.S. Programs priority state Texas; 3 grants that will begin to see the judicial independence field begin implement a carefully conceived 5-year strategic plan; and a tie-off grant in the federal judicial nominations area, where we are scaling back our work.

The fund includes a portfolio of 78 grantees with a 2011 grantmaking budget of \$13.75 million. Of this, roughly \$1.65 million will support grantee partners that work at the local and state levels in New Orleans, Baltimore, and Wisconsin and Texas, the fund’s priority cities and states, and 88% will support national organizations, including some with networks of local or state-based affiliates, chapters, or partner organizations.

The NSHR Campaign plans to recommend ten grants on the April 11, 2011 docket, along with 3 grants that will be put forth by other funds with co-funding from NSHR. These recommendations total approximately \$3,545,000 in NSHR Campaign funds. In addition to these grant recommendations, NSHR is in the early stages of exploring one or two additional grants of modest size that would capitalize on the 10th year anniversary of September 11th this fall.

Transparency & Integrity Fund

U.S. Programs Anchor Grantees

Brennan Center for Justice

General support, \$2,000,000 over two years (contingent)

The Brennan Center is an anchor grantee of U.S. Programs. Its work on national security, criminal justice reform, judicial independence, and electoral reform is considered a vital contribution to those fields. Brennan is a leader in the field of money in politics efforts post-*Citizens United*, pursuing litigation and research on campaign regulations and corporate governance, and it remains a core member of the Justice at Stake coalition, leading litigation efforts to defend the courts from undue political influence.

New America Media

General support, \$1,000,000 over two years (renewal)

New America Media (NAM) is the country's first and largest national collaboration of - and advocate for - 2000 ethnic news organizations. Over 51 million ethnic adults connect to each other, to home countries and to America through 3000+ ethnic media organizations – the fastest

growing sector of American journalism. NAM is dedicated to bringing the voices of ethnic communities, immigrants, young people, and the elderly into the national discourse so that people will be better informed, better connected to one another, and better able to influence policy makers. NAM maintains a national AP-style ethnic media news exchange that integrates the ethnic media sector into more mainstream American journalism. The model is collaborative, linking ethnic media outlets to one another to develop a media grid connecting otherwise isolated and fragmented communities, building inter-ethnic, inter-racial and inter-generational communications and understanding.

Access to Information

Open the Government.org

General support, \$200,000 over two years (TIF: \$150,000; NSHR: \$50,000) (*renewal; contingent*)

To provide general support to the coalition, which seeks to further information-sharing, consensus-building, and advocacy coordination among partner organizations on a number of federal government transparency and oversight issues, including efforts to reform classification and state secrets policy. TIF and NSHR Campaign grantees that are active members of the coalition include the National Security Archive Fund, OMB Watch, Project on Government Oversight, Federation of American Scientists, and Electronic Frontier Foundation. In 2010, OTG coordinated efforts to shape and evaluate implementation of the Open Government Directive. It also played a key role in shaping reforms of government classification standards. We are working with OTG leadership to improve its financial position through restructuring its expenses. With a new coalition chair, we believe OTG will be better run and even more of a coordinating force for groups working in the field.

Project on Government Oversight

General support, \$800,000 over two years (\$600,000 from TIF; \$200,000 from NSHR) (*renewal*)

This grant would provide renewed general support to the Project on Government Oversight (POGO). Founded in 1981, POGO is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that champions good government reforms in a number of areas. POGO's investigations into corruption, misconduct, and conflicts of interest achieve a more effective, accountable, open, and ethical federal government. POGO is an active collaborator with other OSF grantees such as the Sunlight Foundation, OMB-Watch, and the Center for Public Integrity.

New York Law School, Institute for Information Law and Policy

Project support, \$100,000 over one year (*new*)

This grant would support research that would demonstrate empirically that transparency translates into economic opportunity, and must be pursued because it generates jobs for Americans. Since President Obama signed the Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government calling for unprecedented openness and declaring that "information maintained by the Federal Government is a national asset," the federal government has launched data.gov, a national platform for publishing public sector data, and made hundreds of thousands of data sets available in raw formats at no charge to the public. Half a dozen federal agencies have created their own data inventories and are pushing out a wide variety of information. The Open Government Directive, the government-wide policy instructing federal agencies to create open

government plans, directs agencies to inventory their “high value” data, where high value goes beyond traditional accountability data about government spending to include information that creates economic and entrepreneurial opportunity. For example, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency in the United States has a billion dollar annual budget. Through the open release of data, NOAA is catalyzing a \$1.5 billion private sector market in weather services such as weather.com. Hidden within the troves of public data is information that can translate into the next GPS or genomics industry. Demonstrating the economic value of open government will also help to foster a more collaborative relationship between government and citizens. The principal investigator is Beth Simone Noveck, Professor of Law and former United States Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Open Government.

Public Justice Foundation of Texas

General Support, \$150,000 over two years (renewal)

PJFT is the 501(c)(3) arm of Texans for Public Justice (TPJ). TPJ is part of a community of government watchdog and investigative journalism groups in Texas, and has done important work to track and publicize political corruption and corporate influence in Texas government. TPS’ work has uncovered evidence that led to the resignation of Tom DeLay and revealed the existence of pay-to-play justice in Texas’s Supreme Court. One of TPJ’s current projects, “Watch Your Assets,” tracks the impact of the privatization of government functions, as well as other government giveaways to the private sector.

Public Knowledge

General support, \$300,000 over two years (renewal)

This grant would provide renewed general support for Public Knowledge, a public-interest organization dedicated to fortifying and defending a vibrant information commons. It works with a wide spectrum of stakeholders – libraries, educators, scientists, artists, musicians, journalists, consumers, software programmers, civic groups and enlightened businesses – to promote the core conviction that some fundamental democratic principles and cultural values – openness, access, and the capacity to create and compete – must be given new embodiment in the digital age. Public Knowledge looks for common ground between industry and the public-interest, and builds issue related coalitions among disparate groups that have the same views on the issues. Public Knowledge seeks to fulfill four broad goals: (1) Preserving an Internet that is built upon open standards and protocols, thereby fostering innovation and user control; (2) Protecting consumers of digital technology from market practices designed to erode competition, choice and fairness; (3) Ensuring that U.S. intellectual property law and policy reflect the “cultural bargain” intended by the framers of the Constitution: providing an incentive to creators and innovators while benefiting the public through the free flow of information and ideas; (4) Ensuring that international intellectual property policies are adopted through democratic processes and with public interest participation.

Sunlight Foundation

Project support, \$300,000 over two years (renewal)

The Sunlight Foundation is in the vanguard of groups developing user-friendly technical tools that serve watchdog organizations, investigative journalists and citizens seeking to better understand the impact of money in politics. Sunlight is committed to improving access to government information by making it available online, and by creating new tools and websites to enable individuals and communities to better access that information and put it to use. Sunlight’s

work focuses at three levels of government — Congress, the Executive Branch, and the states. This grant would support Sunlight’s efforts on lobbying reform in the wake of the *Citizens United* decision. It would also support Sunlight’s efforts to ensure the full implementation of the Open Government Directive, which requires agencies to release new information and datasets, and to invigorate their standards for openness. Sunlight is actively shaping these new policies, and is becoming a leading source for transparency policy guidance for officials throughout government. Sunlight will work with the agencies on their open government plans, defining data transparency, review and rewrite outdated policies like the Paperwork Reduction Act, and push for affirmative disclosure practices that move beyond the old model of FOIA. Sunlight will also be focusing on issues relating to establishing a system of unique government identifiers.

Journalism

Texas Democracy Foundation (Texas Observer)

General support, \$350,000 over two years (renewal)

This grant would provide renewed and increased general support for the *Texas Observer*. A highly respected state-based publication, the *Texas Observer* has built its reputation on hard-hitting investigative reporting. The *Observer* has pursued investigations on privatization, vote suppression, prison policy, and poverty in Texas. The *Observer* has written on cross-cutting themes such as the treatment of women in immigration detention centers. A general support grant would allow the *Observer* to broaden its coverage and its reach at a time when the mainstream daily media across Texas are scaling back. The *Observer* now has one of the largest reporting staffs covering the Texas Legislature and state government, bigger than most of the state’s daily newspapers. This grant and that to the Public Justice Foundation of Texas would be connected to the broader U.S. Programs work in Texas.

Fair & Equal Access to the Ballot

Campaign Legal Center

General support, \$125,000 over one year (renewal); Project support, \$25,000 over one year (new)

The Campaign Legal Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that establishes and defends the legal basis for meaningful reform of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying, and political communications. CLC offers nonpartisan legal advice and assistance in litigation and the legislative process. CLC is active in litigation either as counsel or as ‘friend of the court’ defending strong campaign finance laws, and works with state and national reform organizations and state attorneys general on these matters. CLC provides advice and drafting assistance to state and local officials on ethics, redistricting, voter registration modernization judicial elections and campaign finance matters. More broadly, CLC helps shape our nation’s policy debate about money in politics, disclosure, lobbying reform, political advertising, and enforcement by testifying and submitting written comments to Congress, the Federal Communications Commission, Federal Election Commission and the Internal Revenue Service. Finally, CLC also works diligently to be a resource to the national media. TIF would like to also recommend a project grant to CLC for technical assistance related to strategic planning and development.

The Fund for Public Advocacy

Project support, \$400,000 over two years (new; contingent)

As part of our work on money in politics concerns, we recommend this grant to the New York City Public Advocate's Fund for Public Advocacy. Currently, corporate managers have no duty to disclose to investors, including government pension funds, how funds from the corporate treasury are being spent. After *Citizens United*, companies can spend from their treasuries with impunity. Corporations, shareholders and engaged consumers can reduce the impact of the decision. The Fund proposes one way to do this: to establish a Coalition for Accountability in Political Spending that will serve as an umbrella for a 'triad' of work: pension fund, shareholder and consumer efforts. It will specifically focus on working with pension funds, institutional investors, and other interested parties nationwide to enhance transparency among corporations in which pension funds are invested or that seek government contracts. This work complements the work TIF grantees the Center for Economic Development and the Center for Political Accountability, who are working initially to persuade corporations to end or refrain from political giving, and where persuasion fails, supporting shareholders develop proxy resolutions.

Independent & Diverse Judiciary

Justice at Stake

General support, \$1,200,000 over two years (renewal; contingent)

Justice at Stake remains TIF's primary grantee in the judicial independence field, coordinating a nationwide coalition of legal, good government, business, and grassroots groups. The need for JAS' work has become increasingly acute in the wake of two recent landmark Supreme Court decisions: *Caperton* and *Citizens United*. In 2010, JAS led a field-wide five-year strategic planning process that has just concluded. Now JAS will take the lead in implementing and coordinating that plan. General support to JAS will allow it to play that role while having flexible resources to support other groups working in the field on various projects related to judicial selection reform; litigation; and judicial diversity efforts.

National Center for State Courts

Project support, \$50,000 over three months (renewal)

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) has long been a core member of the Justice at Stake coalition, bringing to that group a deep connection to state court judges and administrators. NCSC coordinates the Conference of Chief Justices, which filed a key amicus brief in the *Caperton* case in 2009. With the conclusion of the Justice at Stake strategic planning process, TIF is restructuring its approach to funding groups working in the field. The restructuring is likely to affect NCSC's role in the field. As a result, in order to prevent a three month funding gap in the project, we must extend the current grant to NCSC so that it can continue its work to: 1) provide litigation assistance to states where judicial canons are under attack; 2) coordinate judicial campaign oversight committees in states with big money judicial elections; 3) help state judiciaries better defend themselves against attack; and 4) coordinate state court officials' participation in Justice at Stake activities.

American Bar Association Fund for Justice and Education

Project Support, \$42,000 over three months (renewal)

This grant would provide short-term project support for the Standing Committee on Judicial Independence (SCJI) to continue its work through July. Grantee the Justice at Stake Campaign

(JAS), of which SCJI is a member, has just concluded a 5-year strategic plan, and TIF is restructuring its approach to funding JAS groups based on that plan. SCJI's role will therefore be affected by the restructuring. As a result, we would like to extend the current grant to the ABA to prevent a three month funding gap which would disrupt the work while the restructuring takes place. The SCJI is a key asset to JAS' judicial independence work in the states, providing important support to many of its JAS allies.

Constitutional Accountability Center

General Support, \$850,000 over two years (renewal; contingent)

The Constitutional Accountability Center (CAC), now in its third year of existence after emerging from and taking over the Community Rights Counsel, is a think tank, law firm, and action center dedicated to fulfilling the promise of our Constitution's text and history. CAC works in our courts, through government, and with legal scholars to preserve the rights and freedoms of all Americans and to protect our judiciary from politics and special interests. CAC has become a leading voice in discussions about judicial nominations, the direction of the federal courts, and the constitutional questions related to such issues as money in politics, immigration, equality, and the powers of the federal government. CAC is also providing valuable analysis and critique of Tea Party uses of Constitutional rhetoric.

Defenders of Wildlife

Project support, \$150,000 over one year (tie-off)

This grant would provide a final year of funding for the "Judging the Environment" project. The project's primary output is a comprehensive, daily e-mail service compiling media mentions of judicial nominations issues from the mainstream media, blogs, the Congressional Record, etc. This may be the single most valuable resource available to the Coalition for Constitutional Values. It is also important to Senate staffers and members of the executive branch. It allows allies to keep on top of the key news on judicial nominations as well as better understand *how* the issue is being discussed. However, given shifting priorities in funding around the federal courts, we are giving the project one final year of funding while it secures alternative sources of support.

National Senior Citizens Law Center

Project support, \$500,000 over two years (renewal; contingent)

This recommendation would provide renewal funding to the National Senior Citizens Law Center's (NSCLC) Federal Rights Project. Over the past six years, the Project has been a critical if behind-the-scenes player in the effort to transform the conversation about the Constitution and the courts. Presently, NSCLC is the leading voice on the broader dangers of constitutional litigation to overturn the Affordable Care Act; specifically, the implications of conservative victory for core federal governmental regulatory and equality-enforcement powers. On judicial nominations and federal courts issues more broadly, NSCLC uses well-placed articles and op-eds, personal meetings with advocates, and trusted connections to the Senate Judiciary Committee (on non-lobbying matters), to help reshape thinking and messaging about the federal courts. The success of this work is evidenced most powerfully in how people such as President Obama, Senator Patrick Leahy, and others are now speaking out about the importance of the federal courts.

National Security & Human Rights Campaign

Active Voice

Project support; approximately \$100,000 over 1 year (\$50,000 from the NSHR Campaign and \$50,000 from the Equality and Opportunity Fund) (new)

To support Hawo's Dinner Party Project, a project that will build bridges between receiving communities and immigrant communities through three powerful, interlocking tools: storytelling, dialogue, and food. The centerpiece of the project will be a 20-minute video module derived from the new independent documentary, *Welcome to Shelbyville*, soon to be aired on PBS, that follows a handful of people – native-born African American and white residents, Mexican immigrants, and Somali refugees – as they make sense of the changing landscape in their small, economically shaky town in Tennessee. The San Francisco-based non-profit, Active Voice, uses film, television, and multimedia to spark social change from the grassroots to the grasstops. Its team of strategic communications specialists works with mediamakers, funders, advocates, and thought leaders to put a human face on social justice issues including immigration, criminal justice, healthcare, and sustainability.

Arab Community Center for Economic & Social Services (ACCESS)

Project support; approximately \$300,000 over two years (\$200,000 from the NSHR Campaign and \$100,000 from the Equality and Opportunity Fund) (renewal)

To provide renewed support for the National Network for Arab American Communities (NNAAC), which works to strengthen member grassroots institutions serving Arab Americans in order to deepen civic participation, promote economic empowerment, and enhance the communities' ability to advocate on issues of concern, particularly in the areas of civil liberties, human rights, and immigrant rights. Founded in 1971 and based in Dearborn, Michigan, ACCESS is a human services and advocacy organization committed to the development of the Arab American community in all aspects of its economic, social, and cultural life. With eight locations and over 90 programs, ACCESS advocates for and provides an array of social, mental health, educational, cultural, employment, legal, and medical services to members of the Arab American community and others in Michigan and elsewhere in the U.S.

Asian Law Caucus

Project support; \$250,000 over two years (renewal)

To provide renewed support for the organization's litigation, policy advocacy, and elevation of community voices on the profiling and intrusive searches of Muslims, Asians, and South Asians by the FBI, Customs and Border Protection, and local law enforcement. The project will also provide direct legal services to impacted communities, conduct know-your-rights trainings, and work to build broad multiracial alliances that challenge national security policies that violate civil rights and civil liberties. Founded in 1972 and based in San Francisco, the Asian Law Caucus is the oldest Asian Pacific Islander civil rights organization in the country and is committed to the pursuit of equality and justice for all sectors of society with a specific focus on addressing the needs of low-income Asian and Pacific Islanders and building pan-Asian alliances with other communities of color to challenge the ways in which national security concerns are used to justify violations of the civil rights of API and other communities of color.

Center for Victims of Torture

Project support; \$135,000 over 18 months (renewal; contingent)

To renew support for the organization's project to coordinate advocacy efforts to create just and humane policies on detention and interrogation; secure accountability for torture committed post-9/11; and build a durable national consensus against torture. The Center provides multidisciplinary care and rehabilitative services to survivors of politically motivated torture, trains health care professionals to provide comprehensive care to torture survivors, researches the effects of torture, and conducts public education advocates for an end to the use of torture. The Center is based in Minnesota and has staff members in Washington, D.C., Jordan, and Africa.

Muslim Advocates

Project support; \$445,000 over two years (renewal)

To provide renewed core support for Muslim Advocates, an organization that works to end racial, religious, and national origin profiling and discriminatory law enforcement policies and practices; protect the First Amendment guarantees of freedom of association, free expression, and free exercise of religion; strengthen Muslim charitable institutions; and foster the civic engagement of Muslim Americans. Founded in 2005 and based in San Francisco, Muslim Advocates' mission is to promote freedom, justice, and equality for all, regardless of faith, through legal advocacy, policy engagement, and civic education, and by serving as a legal resource to promote the full and meaningful participation of Muslims in American public life.

National Religious Campaign Against Torture

Project support; approximately \$430,000 over two years (renewal)

To provide renewed project support to the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT) and the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good (NEP)'s work to end and seek accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment of post-9/11 detainees, as well as to support new work to end anti-Muslim bigotry. NRCAT and NEP will provide leadership and engage the religious community in public education and advocacy on these issues. Founded in 2006 and based in Washington, D.C., NRCAT has provided a platform for religious groups and people of faith to speak out against America's use of torture, and its membership now includes more than 300 national and regional religious organizations and individuals, including members from the Roman Catholic, Evangelical Christian, Protestant, Unitarian Universalist, Quaker, Orthodox Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Baha'I, and Sikh communities. The newly formed New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good merged with Evangelicals for Human Rights, which had been a NRCAT project until December 2009, in order to combine their forces for greater impact.

Proteus Fund

Project support; approximately \$1,000,000 over two years (renewal; contingent)

To provide renewed support for the Security and Rights Collaborative, a collaborative fund established in 2008 with support from OSI and Atlantic Philanthropies. The Collaborative seeks to leverage new funds for the NSHR field and support Campaign strategies that are particularly suited for collaborative grantmaking, including: (1) building the field, with a focus on building the capacity of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian organizations; (2) building and supporting the implementation of collaborative communications capacity for the field; and (3)

providing rapid response grants to support communications work. The Proteus Fund, founded in 1994 and based in Massachusetts, has since 1997 administered a number of donor collaborative structures in which OSF has participated, including the Piper Fund, Media Democracy Fund, State Strategies Fund, and Civil Marriage Collaborative Fund. Proteus also operates a Peace and Security Program and manages family foundations and projects in the broader peace and national security arena.

Rabbis for Human Rights

Project support; approximately \$135,000 over two years (renewal)

To renew support for the Honor the Image of God: A Return to Jewish and American Values on National Security Project. The project will mobilize North American rabbis, RHR-NA's primary constituency, to educate their communities, participate in national interfaith efforts, and engage in human rights advocacy on three issues: seeking accountability for U.S.-sponsored torture of detainees; ending the indefinite detention of terrorism suspects without charge; and standing up against anti-Muslim bigotry. Founded in 2002, RHR-NA is an organization of rabbis from all of the movements of Judaism who are dedicated to: (1) expanding support in North America for the work of Rabbis for Human Rights in Israel, and (2) education and advocacy on human rights issues in North America. The organization's U.S. education and advocacy is devoted to three project issues described above and a new campaign, launched in August 2009 against slavery and human trafficking.

South Asian Americans Leading Together

Project support; approximately \$350,000 over two years (\$250,000 from the National Security and Human Rights Campaign and \$100,000 from the Equality and Opportunity Fund)(renewal)

To support provide renewed core support for South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT) as it works to challenge racial, religious, and national origin profiling by law enforcement and national security agencies and to advance immigration reform through policy advocacy, community mobilization, media advocacy, alliance-building, and documentation. SAALT brings together South Asian community-based groups and advocates that are addressing national security and immigration issues affecting South Asians, and building alliances with communities of color and immigrant rights coalitions. Based in Washington, D.C., SAALT was founded in 2000 and expanded in 2004 to foster civic and political engagement by South Asians in America.

Sikh Coalition

Project support; \$300,000 over two years (renewal)

To provide expanded project support for the Sikh Coalition's public education, policy advocacy, grassroots mobilization, and litigation in the areas of national security and human rights, including its efforts to: combat racial, religious, and national origin profiling by law enforcement and national security agencies; prepare policymakers to protect rights and liberties in the event of another terrorist attack in the U.S.; combat rising xenophobia through anti-school bullying work; and build the capacity of Sikh leaders to advocate on these issues. The Sikh Coalition was founded in 2001 in New York City to address the violence and discrimination against Sikhs which followed the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and seek the realization of civil and human rights for all people. The organization advocates for laws and policies respectful of fundamental rights, promotes appreciation of diversity through education, fosters civic participation to promote

community empowerment, and provides direct legal services to protect the Sikh community's rights.

OneAmerica

General support; approximately \$200,000 over two years (\$100,000 from the NSHR Campaign and \$100,000 from the Equality and Opportunity Fund) (renewal; grant to be part of EOF's Docket I)

To provide renewed general support to OneAmerica (formerly Hate Free Zone Washington), which was founded in the wake of 9/11 to counter the backlash in Washington State directed against Middle Easterners, East Africans, South Asians, Muslims, Sikhs, and other immigrants and minorities, and has since grown to become the largest immigrant advocacy organization in Washington State and a national leader in its field. The organization trains and works with targeted immigrant and minority communities to increase collaboration, civic participation, and advocacy to advance policy reform and the principles of democracy, justice, and human rights at the local, state, and national levels.

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