

# Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://ijpcincinnati.org/featured/winter-2017-newsletter/>

### Newsletters

IJPC just published our Winter 2017 newsletter. In it, read about death penalty updates regarding the death penalty, an immigration program fundraiser, our Dialogue Facilitator Training, the Coalition for Immigrant Dignity, and our volunteer needs! Click the picture below to open up the PDF.

Winter 2017



# Issues

A Newsletter of the Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center

### Love of Justice, Love of Neighbor

IJPC is hosting a fundraiser on February 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 11:30 AM for IJPC's immigration program. The event will provide a space for newly trained YES (Youth Educating Society) members to share their story of immigration. The event will be held at St. Monica – St. George (328 W. McMillan). Sharing personal narratives is a foundation of YES and these members will be able to practice the art of storytelling to a kind, supportive audience before sharing to an unknown group or elected official. IJPC will provide a light breakfast and a chance to socialize and reenergize with friends and community members. Seating is limited so reserve your seat by emailing [mel@IJPCcincinnati.org](mailto:mel@IJPCcincinnati.org) or call 513.579.8547. For a profile on speakers, go to page 3 of this newsletter.



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### A Time of Uncertainty: Death Penalty Updates

With the expiration of the moratorium on executions coinciding with the end of 2016, there has been a flurry of activity on both sides of the death penalty issue as the dates of the impending executions loom large. The state of Ohio assigned dates for the executions of eight men in 2017, the first of which is for Ronald Phillips. He was set to be executed on January 12<sup>th</sup>, but on December 19<sup>th</sup>, Federal Magistrate Judge Merz issued a stay for him as well as for Raymond Tibbetts and Gary Otte, whose execution dates were the 15<sup>th</sup> of February and March, respectively. The stay was put in place to allow the federal appeals court to hear testimony and announce a ruling on a challenge filed by Ronald Phillips and other death row inmates. The challenge is two-fold addressing both the constitutionality of procuring lethal injection drugs from an anonymous source as well as a possible violation of the Eighth Amendment clause prohibiting cruel and unusual punishment. European companies will no longer sell lethal injection drugs to the United States based on objections to capital punishment, and the replacement "drug cocktail" has resulted in botched executions in which the inmates showed observable signs of pain and physical distress during the prolonged periods of time it took for them to die. To date, the court has ruled that it is not unconstitutional to protect with anonymity the individuals and companies involved in developing, supplying or administering combinations of lethal drugs, but it has yet to reach a decision as to whether it constitutes cruel or unusual punishment. It very well may be that the new procedure is deemed the "new normal" and therefore not unusual, and would certainly be further challenged. A plea for mercy and clemency



IJPC joined several other organizations for a January 12<sup>th</sup> press conference at the State Capitol voicing urging legislators regarding the death penalty, "Fix it or end it."

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Sign up for issue-specific emails and important updates from IJPC!

The Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center educates and advocates for peace, challenges unjust local, national and global systems, and promotes the creation of a nonviolent society. IJPC is supported by faith-based organizations and individuals who work together to educate around justice issues, take collaborative action and do public witness. We address local, national and international concerns focusing on the death penalty, immigration, human trafficking and peace and nonviolence.