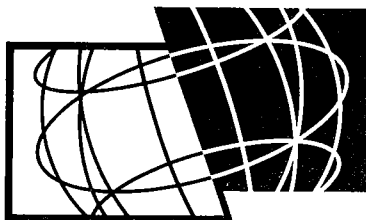


HUMAN RIGHTS



FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

OBSERVER

Volume VI, Number 9
November/December 1993

Mexican Human Rights Investigation Expands to Judiciary

Minnesota Advocates Legal Fellow Sarah DeCosse and Legal Intern Andres Sanfuentes recently returned from Mexico where they conducted field research on the Mexican judiciary and its role in protecting human rights. To date, no international human rights organizations or Mexican groups have published any report about the responsibility of the judiciary for human rights violations. Given the enormous numbers of Mexican human rights violations (some 9,000 of which have been reported to the National Human Rights Commission), MAHR identified the judiciary as a fundamental element in greater human rights protections.

To carry out the mission, Sanfuentes was based in Mexico for four weeks and DeCosse for two weeks. They worked with fifteen human rights organizations in Mexico City and in the states of Tamaulipas, Morelos, San Luis Potosi, Oaxaca and Chiapas.

The foundation of the project was a set of 47 human rights cases in which misconduct of the judiciary was present. With 64 human rights organizations and lawyers as contacts, in August Sanfuentes and DeCosse began sending letters requesting information on the cases and additional background on the judiciary. The team then selected sites where information was accessible

thanks to the collaboration of local human rights organizations.

Sanfuentes, a Chilean lawyer and intern at Minnesota Advocates since June of 1993, conducted extensive legal research on the judiciary. He reviewed the Mexican Constitution, Mexican Criminal Procedural Codes, the Organic Laws of the Judiciary and the Attorney's General Office, the Statute of the Responsibility of Civil Servants, and the Amparo Law (amparo is the only mechanism for constitutional review provided by Mexican law). He also studied relevant international human rights standards regarding the independence of the judiciary. His draft statement of the pertinent law was reviewed by several prominent Mexican jurists during the mission.

With the assistance of local human rights groups, the team collected information on approximately forty cases where judicial dependence or misconduct was explicitly or implicitly present. In addition, DeCosse and Sanfuentes obtained interviews with eight judges, at both the local and federal level, with several attorneys at the Federal Attorney General's office, and with public defenders and prosecutors. They also visited five prisons, where they were able to conduct interviews with inmates and observe conditions.

This latest mission to Mexico was successful not only in allowing the team to collect an abundance of information and deepen their understanding of the Mexican judicial system and criminal procedure, but also in strengthening the ties between Minnesota Advocates and several Mexican human rights organizations. The Mexican groups were extremely welcoming and helpful, and expressed their interest in continued collaboration with Minnesota Advocates.

Sanfuentes and DeCosse are presently drafting a report on the judiciary and the protection of human rights, which will be printed in January in Spanish and then translated into English. ■

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Newsnotes

Legal Fellow **Jim Coy** and Board member **Peggy Hicks** provided a background briefing on their Minnesota Advocates mission to Kosovo for Professor **Rudiger Wolfrum**, who recently spent six weeks as a visiting professor at the University of Minnesota Law School. Professor Wolfrum is a member of the United Nations Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), and will be a member of a three-person CERD mediation delegation that will be sent to Kosovo later this month.

The Mansfield Foundation in Minneapolis has approved a grant of \$10,000 to support the work of the War Crimes Project at Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. This is the first grant awarded to Minnesota Advocates by the Mansfield Foundation.

The Human Rights Observer is a publication of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, an independent organization of lawyers and other advocates committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights. The organization advocates against individual human rights abuses, investigates human rights conditions in other countries, works to strengthen laws and institutions that protect human rights, and educates the public about human rights.

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Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights
612-341-3302, Phone or 612-341-2971, Fax

The General Service Foundation has approved a grant of \$25,000 to support the Mexico Project at Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. This grant renews the partnership between General Service Foundation and Minnesota Advocates.

Deputy Director Nancy Arnison participated in a workshop on anti-immigrant bias which was held in Fargo, North Dakota.

Legal Fellow Sarah DeCosse was the keynote speaker on the topic of human rights in Haiti at the Amnesty International Regional Meeting on October 23. At the same meeting, Jim Coy served on a panel which discussed Bosnia and Jim Volling, Death Penalty Defense Project Steering Committee member, addressed capital punishment issues. Coy also served as a moderator for a forum on indigenous rights sponsored by the Centre for Global Environmental Education at Hamline University in St. Paul.

Minnesota Advocates co-sponsored an event honoring Dith Pran. Pran received a Minnesota Advocates Human Rights Award in 1990.

Nancy Arnison and Jim Coy presented a seminar, "Human Rights: Local and International Intervention," to a group of 15 Bosnian health professionals visiting the Twin Cities.

Sarah DeCosse accompanied Father Pablo Romo, a Mexican human rights activist, when he testified before the House Small Business Committee on human rights conditions in Mexico. The two also met with members of Congress, Senate staffers and State Department officials. While in Washington, DeCosse and Father Romo also spoke at an event jointly sponsored by Minnesota Advocates and the Washington Office on Latin America. ■

Legal Positions Available in Albania

Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights has been asked by the American Bar Association's Central and East European Law Initiative (CEELI) to suggest names of attorneys who are interested in working as country liaisons in Albania. Two positions need to be filled: a criminal law specialist (prosecutorial or criminal defense experience preferred) who would work with the Albanian Attorney General's Office and a commercial law specialist (experience in general business law including background in areas such as joint ventures and privatization) who would work with the Ministry of Trade.

Each position requires a minimum stay of six months, with commitments of up to one year. Applicants should have a minimum of five years experience in the field. CEELI covers travel and living expenses, but does not pay an additional salary. As explained, the placements are intended to be "break-even" propositions. Please contact Cynthia Breslauer at 612-341-3302 or Peggy Hicks at 612-625-1868 if you would like further information. ■

Thank You!

Minnesota Advocates would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this year's Membership Campaign, and to encourage those people who haven't yet to send in their 1993 tax-deductible contributions before December 31.

We greatly appreciate your generous support now and throughout the year. Remember, Minnesota Advocates memberships also make wonderful gifts for family, friends and colleagues.

If you have questions about membership, please call Cynthia Breslauer at 612-341-3302. ■

New Project to Study Domestic Violence in Eastern Europe

Domestic violence, increasingly recognized as a devastating human rights abuse, occurs at astounding rates all over the world. A recent United Nations publication, Strategies for Confronting Domestic Violence: A Resource Manual focuses attention on this insidious type of abuse. Minnesota Advocates is working to confront domestic abuse with its project, **Domestic Violence in Eastern Europe**. The project focuses on Romania and Albania where Minnesota Advocates has extensive experience and many contacts. Former staff member, Elizabeth Bruch, currently teaches human rights law in Romania and works with Minnesota Advocates on the project. In a recent letter from Elizabeth, she reports that domestic violence is "quite widespread, but seldom discussed, much less acknowledged or addressed publicly". One Romanian woman on the committee reports that every Romanian woman she knows has suffered some kind of abuse in her home. Yet we have been unable to locate one shelter or hotline in all of Romania or Albania.

We are pleased to have Ligia Vilcu, a Romanian judge now studying at the Humphrey Institute, and many local experts on domestic violence, working with Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights on the project. Minnesota has been at the forefront of the battle against domestic violence. It is our plan to bring this local expertise to bear on the problem in Eastern Europe. We welcome input from all Minnesota Advocates members and others. Call Cheryl Thomas at 612-341-3302 for more information about the Domestic Violence Project. ■

Death Penalty Defense Project Update

The Death Penalty Defense Project Steering Committee met throughout the summer to develop plans for the expansion of the Project. After meeting with Bryan Stevenson, Director of the Alabama Capital Representation Resource Center, the Project has begun efforts to recruit attorneys to handle capital appeals in Alabama. Volunteers are also working to produce a Death Penalty Defense Project newsletter. Persons interested in receiving this newsletter should contact Jim Coy at 612-341-3302.

The Project provided Wisconsin State Senator Lynn Adelman's office with recent cost benefit analyses showing the ineffectiveness of the death penalty both as a deterrent and as effective punishment. Adelman quoted the materials extensively in committee, and the death penalty bill was tabled before it reached the floor. Some of the materials sent were also quoted in an article Adelman authored for the Wisconsin Lawyer, November '93.

Recently, the Project provided background material for a forum on capital punishment held at Macalester College in St. Paul in November. The forum featured a debate between Minnesota Advocates board member and former Hennepin County Attorney Tom Johnson and former Minneapolis Police Chief Tony Bouza. ■

Philippines Environmental Project

A group of volunteers is looking at environmental contamination left at two U.S. bases in the Philippines (Clark Air Force Base and Subic Naval base). The group is working with U.S. and Philippines human rights and environmental organizations to look at ways of ensuring speedy and complete cleanup of environmental contamination at these sites. Volunteer attorneys are needed for this project.

If you are interested in participating in the Philippines Environmental Project, please attend a meeting on December 8 at 4 p.m. at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road North in St. Paul. If you cannot attend the meeting, please call David MacDonald 612-291-1215, Paul Bloom 612-625-4711, or Placida Venegas 612-297-8370. ■

Refugee & Asylum Project News

Project Celebrates Three Asylum Victories

Liberian Woman Granted Asylum

On July 27, 1993, the INS granted asylum to a Minnesota Advocates client from Liberia who was represented by the University of Minnesota Law School Human Rights Clinic. Student attorneys Tony Fernandes and Sarah DeCosse handled the case, with Peggy Hicks serving as supervising attorney.

K and her family fled Liberia during the advance of Charles Taylor's rebel forces on Monrovia. The family feared persecution from Taylor's forces based both on their ethnicity and political opinion. K's husband, a doctor, held a prominent position as a medical administrator in the government of Samuel Doe. He is also a member of one of the two ethnic groups commonly associated with the Doe government, the Mandingos. For four months, the K family travelled through areas of Liberia controlled by Taylor's army. During this time, despite efforts to hide their identities, the family was brutally persecuted. At one point, K's husband was detained and kept for two days awaiting execution. He was able to escape only because of the attack of a rival army. K was also nearly executed when rebel forces mistook her for a Krahn supporter of the Doe government. K's parents and siblings also faced grave danger in Liberia (her father had also worked in the Doe government) and fled to refugee camps in Sierra Leone. The camps, however, provided no "refuge" at all for K's family. While in Sierra Leone, K's father was executed by Taylor's forces, her mother was brutally assaulted, and one brother was killed by Doe's forces who believed him to be a member of the Mano or Gio ethnic groups from which Taylor draws his support.

After perilous stays in both Cote d'Ivoire and Sierra Leone, K and her two sons came to the United States. K's husband was eventually able to leave Sierra Leone for the United Kingdom. K's asylee relative petition on behalf of her husband was approved on October 22, 1993 and the family hopes to be reunited soon.

Bosnian Refugee Granted Asylum

Minnesota Advocates' first Bosnian Muslim clients were recently granted asylum. The case was handled by student attorney Dev Kayal, with assistance from student director Sarah DeCosse, and supervising attorney Peggy Hicks, of the University of Minnesota Law School's Human Rights Clinic.

W escaped her native city of Tuzla, Bosnia with her husband and infant son in May 1992, as the city became increasingly embroiled in the Yugoslav ethnic conflict. As a Bosnian Muslim woman, W feared persecution by Serbian forces based on her ethnicity, religion, and political opinion. The situation of W's family was doubly precarious, however, because they also feared persecution by Muslim authorities based on W's husband's Serbian ethnicity. As Bosnians involved in a "mixed" marriage, the W family was among the most unfortunate victims of a conflict which has devastated the lives of many. The tragedy of the current situation in former Yugoslavia is that families like W's are in danger wherever they may reside. Recognizing that fact, W and her young son fled to the United States in August 1992, arriving in the United States shortly after the eligibility cutoff date for Temporary Protected Status. W has filed an asylee relative petition on behalf of her husband, who remains in danger in Belgrade.

Student from Zaire Granted Asylum

J is from Zaire and was an outspoken critic of the Mobutu regime. As a result of this criticism, he was taken into custody by security forces in March, 1984. He was abducted from his home and was detained for five months in a house used for detaining political prisoners. He was interrogated by a member of the security forces and accused of being a subversive agent. He was brutally beaten and did not receive medical care for his wounds. He was given contaminated food and was deprived of adequate food, water, and exercise.

In August, 1984, he was moved to a different detention house until a member of the security forces intervened on his behalf and arranged for his release. After his release, he remained under surveillance by security forces.

In 1989, J received a scholarship from U.S. AID to study in the United States. A warrant was issued for his arrest in Zaire in January 1992. The warrant and the deteriorating political situation in Zaire prompted him to seek help from Minnesota Advocates.

J was represented by volunteer attorney Kate Brennan of the Minnesota Attorney General's office, who was assisted by consulting attorney Leo Pritschet.

J's asylum application was filed on September 18, 1992. His interview was conducted on September 14, 1993, by Dorothy Bracey. He was granted asylum on October 19, 1993.

J's family has suffered severe deprivation since his leaving Zaire, and one of his sons, in particular, needs medical attention. His application for derivative asylum status for his wife and three children is currently pending. ■

Star Tribune

Sunday/November 7/1993

NEWSPAPER OF THE TWIN CITIES

Minnesotans track Balkan atrocities Group collects information for possible war crimes trials

By Eric Black
Staff Writer

If those responsible for rape camps, terror squads and other ethnic-cleansing techniques in the former Yugoslavia ever face a Nuremberg-type war crimes tribunal, a Minneapolis-based human rights organization will be ready to do its bit.

Working through a key member of the U.N. effort to prosecute Balkan war criminals, Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights has assembled a voluminous catalog of alleged

atrocities, as reported by the media.

If a war crimes prosecution is launched, the advocates will offer their data to the prosecutors. If not, says Jim Coy, who has supervised the research, the findings will not go completely to waste.

The United Nations and the United States, under both the Bush and Clinton administrations, have threatened to seek international prosecution for the perpetrators of war crimes in the former Yugoslavia.

As recently as last month, when Croatian nationalist forces allegedly killed dozens of Muslim civilians in central Bosnia, spokesman Michael McCurry said the State Department wanted to "remind all those involved in this conflict that war crimes must not and will not go unpunished."

Perhaps that sounds like hollow rhetoric, born of U.N. and U.S. frustration at the inability to end the fighting. But the United Nations has invested a substantial effort in establishing a war crimes

War crimes continued on page 30A

War crimes/ Volunteers scoured 30,000 news articles for evidence

Continued from page 27A

tribunal for criminal behavior in the former Yugoslavia.

A year ago, the U.N. Security Council appointed a Commission of Experts to guide the prosecution effort. This summer, the Security Council chose 11 judges, including one U.S. jurist, a retired federal judge from Texas. In October, the council appointed Venezuela's attorney general as the chief prosecutor. The war crimes tribunal is scheduled for its first meeting Nov. 17 at The Hague, the Dutch city where the World Court is based. The early meetings will deal only with organizational and procedural questions.

Coy said the Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights (formerly known as the Minneapolis Lawyers Committee for International Human Rights) entered the picture through the relationship it had established with Sharif Bassiouni, who now heads the Commission of Experts.

Bassiouni, an Egyptian-American professor of criminal law at DePaul University in Chicago, was a member of the commission when the advocates met with him in March. They talked to him about findings of a delegation it had sent to Kosovo. That beleaguered territory is controlled by Serbia but inhabited mostly by ethnic Albanians, and many fear it could be a new Balkan flashpoint. At the meeting, the advocates also asked whether their organization could help in the war crimes tribunal.

Bassiouni, who had hoped to be the chief prosecutor of the war crimes tribunal, suggested that the advocates prepare a data base on war crimes as reflected in printed news accounts. They agreed.

Coy, 32, is an attorney who was formerly with a big Minneapolis firm. His title now is legal fellow with the Minnesota Advocates. Mead Data Services donated the use of Nexis, the computerized information service that contains the text of articles from thousands of news publications.

About 130 volunteers worked this summer and fall sifting through about 30,000 articles on the fighting to find about 5,000 that contained information that might be helpful to the tribunal.

Coy said the volunteers are finishing organizing and analyzing the articles and hope to pass the entire data base on to Bassiouni before the end of November.

The volunteers were organized into teams that specialized in rapes and other sexual crimes; extra-judicial killings and executions; torture, detention and destruction of property; and a fourth team that looked for clues into the structure of command and control that might be held responsible for some of the atrocities.

The fourth team had a particular challenge because, while eyewitnesses might have told reporters about an alleged massacre, they would have no knowledge of who might have organized the atrocity. Yet a war crimes tribunal would presumably be more interested in prosecuting those who gave the orders than those who carried them out.

In analyzing the data, Coy said, "Patterns emerge suggesting some kind of organized control. That's one of the advantages of looking at the data as a whole. You can detect patterns that allow you to see the organized nature of some of the campaigns of rape, torture and murder. You get a sense that there is centralized planning and control, but the mechanism would need to be filled in" by investigative methods that would go far beyond the reach of published news accounts.

"We understand that media reports are not primary evidence that could be used at a trial," Coy said. Most of the information in such articles would be classified as hearsay. None of it was given under oath. A lot of it has anonymous sources and the sources must be viewed with some suspicion because most of them have ethnically based axes to grind.

But Coy said he believes a great deal of the data his teams have assembled could help a prosecutor. If media reports say that atrocities occurred at a particular place and gives the names of people who say it occurred and who say they know who committed the atrocities, the prosecution team could go and interview the witnesses and potentially turn their accounts into usable evidence.

All of that, of course, assumes that internationally sanctioned war crimes trials will go forward, a proposition that still seems a long shot. No such trials have been held since the victorious Allies prosecuted German and Japanese war criminals at Nuremberg and Tokyo in the aftermath of World War II.

In those cases, Germany and Japan were supine and occupied by the Allied forces, who could arrest and prosecute whomever they chose.

In the former Yugoslavia, the fighting continues and the United Nations is unlikely to fight its way into a position to make arrests.

Would-be U.N. peacemakers are trying to prevail on the governments of Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia, and the leaders of the self-declared ethnic enclaves, to stop the killing. Those leaders are unlikely to agree to a permanent settlement if part of the deal is that they themselves have to stand trial for war crimes.

"We've done our work on the assumption that it might be helpful to the prosecution of war crimes," said Coy. "When you have the organized rape, torture and murder of civilians being committed because one group wants to gain territory inhabited by another group, that's a war crime. That's something that should be prosecuted."

"But we know there's always a chance that the war crimes tribunal might be dropped as part of a peace settlement. If that happens, we still think it's important that the information get out."

If the war crimes tribunal doesn't materialize, Coy said, the Minnesota advocates would probably release the data they have assembled and their analysis of it. "We could serve as something of a truth commission," Coy said.

"Our feeling is: This stuff went on. We were aware of it. We can't pretend that it didn't happen."

Haiti

Haiti Mission Highlights Deepening Human Rights Crisis

Minnesota Advocates Legal Fellow Sarah DeCosse traveled to Haiti from October 10 to October 18, 1993. As the political crisis in Haiti heightened, DeCosse met with human rights and women's rights organizations and interviewed Haitians seeking refugee status from the U.S. Embassy. She also spoke to U.N. and O.A.S. representatives in the hours before they were withdrawn from the country and had fruitful meetings with the international press corps.

Since DeCosse's departure, the military government failed to satisfy the Governor's Island Accord and allow President Aristide's return on October 30, 1993. Both General Raoul Cedras, the head of the military dictatorship, and Police Chief Michel Francois have refused to resign and the constitutional government's Prime Minister Robert Malval has been forced to work from his home due to persistent death threats. In ever more brazen attempts to terrorize the population, frequent shooting erupts in Port-au-Prince nightly and dead, often mutilated, bodies are found in the streets in the morning.

The assassination of Justice Minister Guy Malary occurred during DeCosse's trip, in broad daylight and reportedly in the presence of police officers. Her meetings with human rights and women's rights organizations revealed an advocacy community crippled by constant fear of reprisals. The groups have shortened their hours, many leaders are in hiding, and others have been forced repeatedly to flee their offices or even homes due to threats. Unfortunately, while human rights organizations are too frightened to speak publicly about the violence, the "attaches" and General Cedras have dominated the international press coverage with



Statue of the "Neg Marron" (the Unknown Fugitive Slave), in front of the Presidential Palace in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

misstatements about amnesties and other elements of the Governor's Island Accord.

DeCosse presented detailed information about the human rights crisis in Haiti and the perspective of Haitian human rights organizations during several interviews upon her return from Haiti. An interview conducted in Haiti was broadcast on MacNeil Lehrer and DeCosse subsequently appeared on Minnesota Public Radio, Pacifica Radio, the Channel Nine News, the Minneapolis TV Network, and at local speaking engagements. The Haiti Subcommittee continues to urge broader public and governmental recognition of Haiti's critical situation.

The mission also confirmed the need for a project documenting the violations of Haitian women's human rights since the coup d'etat. Human rights organizations in Haiti were very pleased with Minnesota Advocates' interest in documenting political violence against women. They reported that women

have frequently been the targets of violent acts committed by the military and police since the coup d'etat. DeCosse was able to meet with several human rights organizations addressing these issues and lay the groundwork for further investigations. These resources revealed that Haitian women have suffered rapes, beating, torture and death for their political and social involvement during the military dictatorship. The Haiti Subcommittee is presently undertaking background research for the project on Haitian women's human rights and plans to conduct field research in the spring of 1994.

For more information about the Haiti Project, please contact Sarah DeCosse at 612-341-3302. ■

Letterwriting: Haitian Refugees

U.S. Continues Forcible Repatriation of Haitian Asylum-Seekers

The United States has continued to enforce a policy of automatic repatriation of Haitian asylum-seekers despite severe repression in Haiti at the hands of the military government. Under the present U.S. policy, Haitians attempting to flee their country are interdicted by the U.S. Coast Guard and forcibly taken to a Port-au-Prince dock (the same one where the U.S.S. Harlan County and U.S. Embassy officials were violently threatened in October), and turned over to the Haitian authorities. The Coast Guard does not evaluate the asylum-seekers refugee status before bringing them to Port-au-Prince.

Haitian authorities then question each individual and record his or her name and fingerprints. Despite the failure of the military government to comply with the Governor's Island Accord and permit President Aristide's return, the assassinations of Justice Minister Guy Malary and Aristide supporter Antoine Izmyery, and an on-going brutal repres-

sion of the Haitian population, the U.S. policy continues to entrust the security of asylum-seekers to the very authorities whom the refugees charge with persecution.

Write letters which urge the immediate suspension of the policy of automatic repatriation of Haitian asylum-seekers to Haiti and recommend the granting of a temporary safe haven and the opportunity to state cases for asylum outside of Haiti. Send letters to:

Janet Reno, U.S. Attorney General
U.S. Dept. of Justice, Room 5111
10th & Constitution Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

President Bill Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500
Fax: 202-456-2461

bcc: Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights ■

U.N. Volunteer Opportunities in Former Yugoslavia

The United Nations Commission of Experts is seeking volunteer lawyers, psychologists, psychiatrists, medical doctors and professional investigators to investigate certain categories of violations of international humanitarian law in former Yugoslavia. The commission plans to have five teams of two persons. The teams will work in former Yugoslavia and in other European countries where refugees have resettled, with some of the work being done in Geneva.

The investigations will commence after January 10, 1994. The Commission will cover travel expenses from Geneva to the investigation areas and a per diem for lodging and meals. All volunteers will be under a special service agreement with the United Nations.

Interested persons should contact Jim Coy at Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights at 612-341-3302. ■

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I would like to join Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. Enclosed is my check or money order for membership at the following level:

- \$ 15 student
- \$35 low income
- \$60 basic
- \$100
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Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization

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Fax _____

I'd like to receive information about:

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- Publications
- Other _____

My employer has a matching gift program.

Please return this form to:

Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights
400 Second Avenue South, Suite 1050
Minneapolis, MN 55401 U.S.A.

Phone : 612-341-3302

Fax: 612-341-3302

Calendar

Wednesday, December 8: Philippines Environmental Project meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul. For more information call Dave McDonald at 612-291-1215.

Wednesday, December 15: Board of Directors meeting, 7:30 a.m., 514 Nicollet Mall, lower level, Minneapolis.

Friday, December 31: Last chance to return your tax-deductible contributions to Minnesota Advocates for tax year 1993!

Thursday January 6: Haiti Subcommittee Meeting at 12:00 noon at the office of Minnesota Advocates. Call Sarah DeCosse at 612-341-3302 for more information.

Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights is offering a Human Rights Legal Fellowship and a Death Penalty Defense Project Legal Fellowship to recent law school graduates. The positions will commence in September 1994. Interested persons should contact the Minnesota Advocates office at 612-341-3302 for job descriptions. Deadline for application is January 7, 1994.

Volunteer Opportunities

For more information about volunteering on the following projects please contact the staff member listed at the Minnesota Advocates office, 612-341-3302.

Administrative Assistance: Cynthia Breslauer
Combating Anti-Immigrant Bias: Nancy Arnison
Haiti Project: Sarah DeCosse
Mexico Project: Sarah DeCosse
War Crimes Project: Jim Coy
Partners in Human Rights Education: Kristi Rudelius-Palmer, 612-626-0041

Amicus Briefs: Barbara Frey
Death Penalty Defense Project: Jim Coy
Letterwriting: Barbara Frey
Pro Bono Asylum Cases: Rich Thomas
Women's Rights Projects: Cheryl Thomas

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