



## ACLU's New Leader A Dedicated Advocate for Civil Liberties

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Contact: Terri Baur  
(304) 345-9246

CHARLESTON, WV – The American Civil Liberties Union of West Virginia today announced the selection of Franklin G. Crabtree as its new executive director.

The announcement follows an exhaustive search for “just the right candidate,” according to ACLU Board of Directors President Bill Denman. “Frank Crabtree’s background and experience, particularly in state government, make him an excellent choice to lead the ACLU,” said Denman. “He’s a West Virginia native who brings to the position a commitment both to our state and to the advancement of the civil liberties of its residents. We look forward to continued growth and influence under Frank’s leadership.”



A long-time member of the ACLU, Crabtree grew up in Monroe County and is a graduate of Marshall University and the West Virginia University College of Law. He joins the ACLU after a 30-year career with the West Virginia Public Service Commission where he served as director of both the Motor Carrier Division and the Transportation Division. In addition to his oversight of the implementation of major state and national safety initiatives, he has been a staunch advocate of safety and regulatory issues at the federal and state levels.

“West Virginians have rallied to the cause of freedom since 1863, jealously guarding the liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and its Bill of Rights,” says Crabtree. “The ACLU of West Virginia shares these values and in its 40 years in the Mountain State has challenged their infringement on both the state and federal level.” Crabtree says he is looking forward to assuming leadership of the ACLU of West Virginia. “As a sixth generation West Virginian, I fully appreciate the ACLU’s legacy as a defender of our liberties and now, more than ever, I anticipate advancing this mission.”

Crabtree replaces former executive director Andrew Schneider, who now heads the ACLU’s Connecticut affiliate.

The ACLU is a nationwide, non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to defending and preserving the principles of the Bill of Rights through litigation, advocacy, and public education. The ACLU of West Virginia Foundation works to protect the rights of all West Virginians.