



NEWS

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
OF ALASKA
1057 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 207
Anchorage, AK 99503
(907) 258-0044
(907) 258-0288 (fax)
WWW.AKCLU.ORG

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jeffrey Mittman, (907) 263-2002

Court Partially Grants Temporary Restraining Order of “Bail Bill”
Blocks Amendment Alleged Unconstitutional by Defense Lawyers

ANCHORAGE, AK, July 2, 2010 — The Court today partially granted a Temporary Restraining Order requested by the Alaska Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (AkACDL) in its lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of certain provisions of HB 324, the Governor’s “Bail Bill.”

The American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska Foundation (ACLU), attorneys for the AkACDL argued to the court that, as the Alaska Constitution guarantees the right to bail, allowing the Bail Bill to be implemented would have improperly denied Alaskans charged with certain crimes of their liberty, and that such a denial required emergency action.

The court agreed as to a provision mandating exclusion of those accused of domestic violence from homes or places of employment.

Tom Stenson, attorney with the ACLU, stated: “We are pleased that the court today recognized that a provision of the Bail Bill is so egregious that the State must be ordered not to enforce it. We feel that confident that, when the court has reviewed all of our claims at more length, we will prevail on all of them. In the meantime, the rights of some Alaskans accused of certain crimes will be protected against infringement by an unconstitutional law.”

The Complaint in the matter, *Alaska Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers v. State of Alaska, Sullivan*, 3AN-10-08699CI, along with the Memorandum in Support of Motion for Temporary Restraining Order, filed in the Superior Court in Anchorage, can be read online at www.akclu.org.

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