

FOR FREE SPEECH PEOPLE

●ORG

DEFENDING OUR DEMOCRACY IN 2026 & BEYOND

**Our democracy is
worth saving.**

OUR APPROACH

Since our founding in January 2010, on the day of the US Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. FEC, Free Speech For People (FSFP) has waged a determined and fearless fight to defend our democracy. We work every day to uphold the fundamental promise of our democracy for we, the people.

Free Speech For People combines a powerful in-house legal and campaign organizing team with an expansive network of partnering organizations and law firms with the ability to adapt and respond quickly to emerging threats to our republic. We intend to meet the difficult challenges for our democracy ahead with the tenacity, innovation, and bold action required.

Free Speech For People specializes in the following areas:

- **Protecting the Right to Vote and our Elections**
 - **Challenging Big Money in Politics**
 - **Taking on Corporate Abuse of Power**
- **Confronting Corruption at the Highest Levels of Government**

Money in Politics: Ending Foreign Corporate Money in Elections

According to polling from Data for Progress,
82% of voters agree
that there should be new limits on U.S.
corporations spending money in our elections
if the corporations have any foreign ownership.

“

Free Speech For People is not afraid to take on the tough challenges facing our democracy. In my work alongside Free Speech For People, I saw firsthand how its bold and innovative legal advocacy, grassroots engagement, and public education work serves to restore and protect democracy for we, the people.”

M. Lorena González
Former Seattle City Council President

Free Speech For People has developed pathbreaking model legislation to prohibit campaign spending by foreign-influenced corporations in US elections. Our legislation addresses some of the worst abuses of the Citizens United decision, reducing the flood of corporate money in politics and helping to reclaim our democracy for everyday people. **This bold reform is now in effect as law in the cities of San Jose, California, Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Maine,** and is advancing in Hawaii, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York, and Pennsylvania.



Congressman Jamie Raskin and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse will soon re-introduce The Get Foreign Money Out of US Elections Act, our model legislation at the federal level. FSFP is proud to have provided legal expertise to Congressman Raskin's office to assist with drafting the bill.

Ian Simmons
Co-Founder & Principal of Blue Haven Initiative

”

“When I first learned of Free Speech For People fifteen years ago, I was immediately impressed by their courage and integrity in taking on big money in politics. In particular, I have been impressed with the strong strategy, action, and determination of their work to end multinational corporate spending in elections. This approach is why I have supported their work and invested in their vision and impact for over a decade, notching critical wins at the local, state, and federal levels along the way. Our democracy is made better by the bold work of Free Speech For People and I am proud to be a supporter.”

Money in Politics: Abolishing Super PACS



FIGHTING TO ABOLISH SUPER PACS

Since the emergence of super PACs in 2010, the nation has witnessed a new explosion of campaign spending, fueled largely by unlimited donations from billionaires and corporate interests. From questions of climate change to economic justice and healthcare to a sustainable economy, big money forces are dominating the discussion and undermining the promise of political equality for all. Free Speech For People is fighting back against this threat to our democracy by bringing innovative legal challenges before the courts and by advancing legislation in the states and in Congress to abolish super PACs.

In 2024, we endorsed a citizen initiative to abolish super PAC spending in state elections in Maine. The ballot measure was passed by 74% of the Maine electorate in November 2024. Following the passage of the bill, two super PACs filed a lawsuit in federal court challenging the law. FSFP submitted an amicus brief on behalf of Mainers for Working Families in defense of the law. In July 2025, a permanent injunction to block the law was granted. FSFP and local counsel Peter J. Brann, on behalf of Mainers For Working Families, filed a new amicus brief asking the First Circuit to reverse that decision, correct legal errors within that decision, and allow this important law to go into effect.

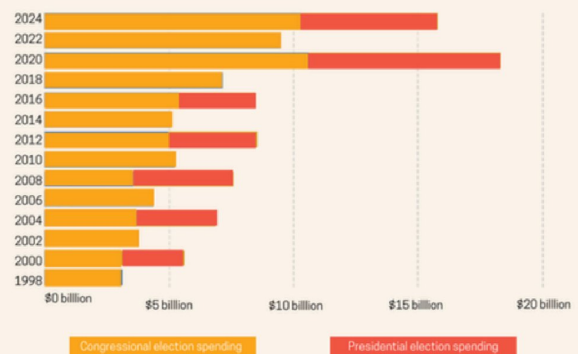
Further, in March 2025, we advanced this campaign following the introduction of a new bill, the Abolish Super PACs Act, by Congresswoman Summer Lee, Congressman Ro Khanna, and additional Members of Congress. FSFP was honored to work with Congresswoman Lee's office in drafting this bill. In addition to FSFP, the Abolish Super PACs Act is endorsed by over twenty national allied organizations.



In 2024, over \$10 billion was spent on Congressional elections.

In 2010 - the year Citizens United was decided - it was \$5.2 billion

In just 15 years, the cost of running for Congress has *doubled*.



Graphic credit: Money in Elections, Open Secrets



Free Speech For People serves as a trusted partner for the League in our litigation to protect the right to vote and our elections. Their talent, litigation prowess, and focus on centering the client are top-notch, and they have delivered WINS multiple times for the League. We are unequivocally grateful for their outstanding service."

Celina Stewart

CEO, League of Women Voters of the US



Voter intimidation presents a real and growing threat to the safety and security of the right to vote. Underrepresented voters, including voters of color, are most often the target of such dangerous voter intimidation schemes.

Free Speech For People is leading the fight in the courts to defend voters from intimidation and to provide safe access to the ballot.

Recent Voting Rights Cases 2022 - Present



CHALLENGING THE USE OF A.I. IN U.S. ELECTIONS TO UNDERMINE VOTING RIGHTS

League of Women Voters of New Hampshire and Others v. Kramer

Two days before the 2024 New Hampshire presidential primary, Steve Kramer, a political operative, paid to create a recorded message using artificial intelligence to mimic President Joe Biden's voice. The messages falsely implied that voters could not vote in both the primary and general elections and urged voters to "save" their vote for November. Corporate entities enlisted by Kramer then distributed the message via robocalls to thousands of New Hampshire voters.

Free Speech For People, on behalf of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWV-US), the League of Women Voters of New Hampshire (LWV-NH), and several individual New Hampshire voters filed a lawsuit against Steve Kramer and the corporate entities, arguing that the robocalls violated federal and state laws that protect voters from intimidation, threats, coercion, and deception. In July 2024, the US Department of Justice submitted a Statement of Interest in this case defending the legal entitlement of our clients to file a challenge to enforce their rights under the law. FSFP served as co-counsel in this lawsuit with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP and local counsel Preti, Flaherty, Beliveau, & Pachios, Chartered, LLP.

In May 2025, in a major victory for this case, the court **approved a landmark consent judgment** against the corporate defendants. The companies have agreed to refrain from intimidating voters in connection with U.S. elections and will implement a compliance plan to prevent the transmission of such messages in the future. In addition, in November 2025, the court entered a **default judgment** against Steve Kramer, permanently blocking Kramer from orchestrating robocall campaigns that intimidate, threaten, or coerce lawfully registered voters to cause them to be fearful or reluctant to vote in any US election and from disseminating misrepresentative AI-generated political robocalls.

CHALLENGING VOTER INTIMIDATION IN COLORADO

COLORADO

Recent Voting Rights Cases 2022 - Present

Colorado NAACP, League of Women Voters of Colorado, and Mi Familia Vota v. USEIP

United States Election Integrity Plan (USEIP), an extremist organization with ties to QAnon and the January 6th Capitol Insurrection, used voter lists in Colorado to identify and target voters on their own doorsteps to interrogate them regarding how they cast their ballot in the 2020 election. USEIP agents questioned voters about their method of vote, interrogated them about so-called fraudulent ballots, levied baseless accusations of fraud against voters, took photographs of voters' homes, encouraged armed members to join their door-to-door campaign, and reported their purported findings to local prosecutors.

In March 2022, Free Speech For People filed a federal lawsuit against USEIP, seeking to stop USEIP's illegal voter intimidation campaign in Colorado. FSFP is honored to represent the NAACP of Colorado, Mi Familia Vota, and the League of Women Voters of Colorado in this case. We were joined on the legal team for this lawsuit at the federal district court level by our pro bono partner law firm partner, Lathrop GPM. On January 3, 2023, the US Department of Justice submitted a legal brief, known as a "Statement of Interest," declaring support for our legal arguments in the case.

Following trial in July 2024, the federal district court ruled in favor of the defendants, making incorrect legal conclusions and erroneous factual findings. In November 2024, we filed an appeal brief before the US Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, challenging the district court's ruling that USEIP's leaders should not be held responsible for voter intimidation and that USEIP could not be held liable as an unincorporated organization. FSFP is joined on the legal team for this appellate

work by Bryan Sells, a longtime and respected voting rights lawyer. On November 14, 2024, the U.S. Department of Justice filed an amicus brief in support of our appeal. We have now filed our reply brief and we are awaiting a decision by the appellate court.



The NAACP values Free Speech For People's bold legal actions, grassroots organizing efforts, and public education work to protect the right to vote and our elections and to fight for the rights of communities that have been historically underrepresented in our democracy. Free Speech For People is a steadfast partner to the NAACP, as we work to advance political equality for all."

Janette McCarthy Wallace
General Counsel, NAACP





Recent Voting Rights Cases 2022 - Present

CHALLENGING VOTER SUPPRESSION LAW IN TEXAS

Mi Familia Vota v. Abbott II

Texas has a history of discriminating against Latino and Black voters. In 2021, the Texas Legislature passed SB 1, a voter suppression law, in response to the increased voter turnout by these communities in the 2020 election. FSFP represents Mi Familia Vota in a legal challenge to SB 1 to protect the right to vote in Texas. FSFP is pleased to partner with the law firms of Stoel Rives and Lyons & Lyons in this litigation. In September 2024, we won a great victory in this case with the court striking down a law that criminalized canvassing by voter education organizations across Texas. And, in October 2024, the court issued another ruling to protect Texas voters, striking down laws that prevent voters with disabilities, with low literacy, and with limited-English-proficiency from receiving help from assisters they choose and trust. The US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, unfortunately, reversed these decisions. We are still awaiting a decision from the federal district court regarding additional pending claims in the case.



Mi Familia Vota is a proud long-time partner of **Free Speech For People** on initiatives critical to our democracy. We see firsthand the impact of Free Speech For People's innovative legal advocacy, actions to safeguard access to the ballot, and bold movement building on the communities served and empowered by Mi Familia Vota.

As with all of Free Speech For People's collaborations, together, we are working to create a stronger and more equitable democracy for all."

Héctor Sánchez Barba
President and CEO, Mi Familia Vota



CHALLENGING VOTER SUPPRESSION IN ARIZONA

Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA) v. Hobbs

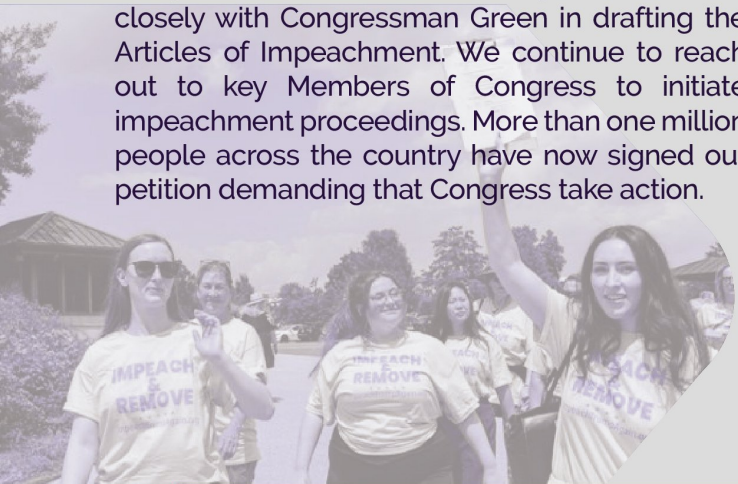


In August 2021, Free Speech For People filed a **federal lawsuit** to challenge two voter suppression laws passed in Arizona, which disproportionately impact and disenfranchise Black, Native American, and Latine voters in the state. We are proud to represent Mi Familia Vota and others in this litigation. This case is currently in expert discovery phase. And, in July 2022, we joined with **The Campaign Legal Center in challenging two additional voter suppression laws** in Arizona, which impose discriminatory burdens on voters with new documentary proof of residence and citizenship requirements. Through two powerful decisions that represented majority victories for Arizona voters, the federal district court struck down key discriminatory provisions of the voter suppression laws. The US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit heard oral argument in September 2024 and then in February 2025 rejected the defendants' appeal, **affirmed** the voters' previous victory, and **ruled** that the voter suppression provisions of both laws should remain blocked.

Challenging Corruption at the Highest Levels of Government

CALLING FOR IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP

On January 20, 2025, Free Speech For People launched **Impeach Trump Again**, a new non-partisan campaign which has documented over twenty-five abuses of power which President Trump has committed to date since assuming the office in January 2025. In December 2025, our campaign reached an important milestone with 140 Members of Congress voting to advance **Articles of Impeachment** introduced by Congressman Al Green. FSFP's legal team worked closely with Congressman Green in drafting the Articles of Impeachment. We continue to reach out to key Members of Congress to initiate impeachment proceedings. More than one million people across the country have now signed our petition demanding that Congress take action.



CALLING ON STATE OFFICIALS TO HOLD TRUMP AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LAW

FSFP is leading a campaign calling on state and local prosecutors in multiple states across the country to open criminal investigations into President Trump, senior Trump officials, and ICE agents for conspiring to unlawfully arrest, detain, assault, and terrorize residents, including U.S. citizens, in their states. FSFP has issued a series of detailed letters to state attorneys general and district attorneys urging them to carry out their duties to enforce state criminal laws against Trump and co-conspirators for crimes they have committed in their respective states. As the letters highlight, there is no federal immunity for Trump or other officials for committing such crimes. To date, we have demanded this action in California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Oregon. FSFP is working to identify new partners in these states to join us in challenging these unlawful actions. FSFP is also currently preparing similar filings for new jurisdictions across the country.

In addition, FSFP has filed formal requests with state officials in California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania to launch criminal investigations into Trump's extortion and coercion of nearly \$1 billion in free legal services from at least nine law firms.

And, we have **endorsed** the call to abolish ICE, and we have called for an end to immigration imprisonment. Detention—long rife with human rights and civil liberty abuses—has become a weapon in Trump's arsenal to harshly punish immigrants and those opposed to Trump's policies.

THE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS AMENDMENT

Since our founding in January 2010, Free Speech For People has helped to lead the movement calling for a **constitutional amendment** to overturn the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. FEC and reclaim our democracy. In September 2025, Congressman Jim McGovern reintroduced the Free and Fair Elections Amendment, drafted by FSFP, to end the big-money dominance of our political process.

HOLDING BIG TECH ACCOUNTABLE

Free Speech For People has developed a model federal bill, **the Big Tech Accountability Act**, designed to hold social media companies accountable when they engage in targeted amplification of disinformation and threats of violence on their platforms, placing profits over people and our democracy. FSFP is now contacting key allies and lawmakers to build support for the bill.

Free Speech For People's work to defend the Constitution and protect our democracy has never been more critical. We serve as a catalyzing leader moving forward innovative initiatives to:

- **Protect the Right to Vote and Free and Fair Elections**
- **Challenge Big Money in Politics**
- **Take on Unchecked Corporate Power**
- **Confront Corruption and Abuse of Power at the Highest Levels of Government**

Free Speech For People's Work Has Been Featured in the Following News Media Outlets and More:

The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, The Boston Globe, Associated Press, Reuters, Politico, ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, MSNBC, CNN, USA Today, The New Yorker, and The Guardian.

To check out our recent press coverage, visit www.freespeechforpeople.org/press.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

(For a full list of Free Speech For People's Partners, please visit www.freespeechforpeople.org/about)

Law Firm Partners

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
Emery Celli Brinckerhoff Abady Ward & Maazel
Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym
Leiff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein
Lichten & Liss-Riordan
Lockridge Grindal Nauen
Mayer Brown
Preti, Flaherty, Beliveau, & Pachios
Stoel Rives

Organizational Partners

Center for American Progress
Common Cause
Generation Vote
Indivisible
League of Women Voters
Mi Familia Vota
NAACP
Women's March
Young Feminist Party

Please consider making a special gift to support
Free Speech For People's work defending our democracy.

To learn more about how to support our programs, please visit us at
www.freespeechforpeople.org/support-us.

**Thank you for being a champion
for our democracy!**

www.freespeechforpeople.org

