

indybay.org “make media make trouble”

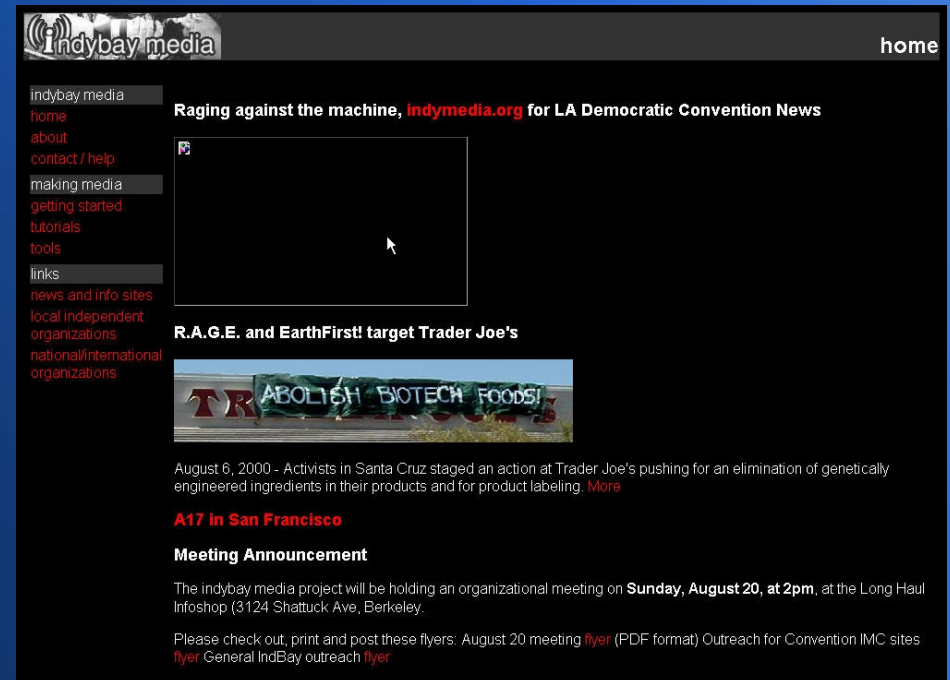
San Francisco Bay Area Independent Media Center

The screenshot shows the indybay.org website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links for About, Contact, Subscribe, Calendar, Publish, Print, and Donate. Below this is a main content area with several sections:

- Topics:** A vertical list of categories including animal lib, anti-war, arts + action, drug war, education, en español, environment, global justice, government, health/housing, immigrant, media, labor, LGBTI / queer, police state, racial justice, womyn, and More.
- Regional Pages:** A map of the San Francisco Bay Area with labels for North Coast, Central Valley, North Bay, East Bay, South Bay, SF • Peninsula, Santa Cruz IMC, California • US, and International: AMERICAS • HAITI, IRAQ • PALESTINE, AFGHANISTAN.
- Calendar Events:** A section listing events for Friday Nov 13 and Saturday Nov 14. Friday events include Simon Sedillo's talk, Chairman Fred Hampton Jr. speaking tour, a crisis in Honduras account, and a rock paper scissors library. Saturday events include a Northern California Socialism Conference, Los Angeles IMC anniversary party, a traditional California Native event, a Big Mountain event, and a Gay Shame Meeting.
- Local News:** A section with a "Global | Breaking" header, featuring a story about Hoods Unite, a repost about San Jose Police Chief Rob Davis, and a story about La Colectiva's billboard.
- Main Article:** A large article titled "Indymedia.us and EFF Successfully Fight Back Against Bogus FBI Subpoena" dated Fri Nov 13 2009. The article discusses a police fishing expedition and a federal grand jury subpoena against Indymedia.us sysadmin Kristina Clair. It mentions that EFF argued that the subpoena violated federal privacy law and Clair's First Amendment rights. A "Read more" link is provided.
- Footer:** A section titled "SF Event Focuses on Three Innocent Men Who May Be Executed Soon" dated Thu Nov 12 2009, with a sub-headline "SF Demands A Civil Rights Investigation For Mumia Abu-Jamal".

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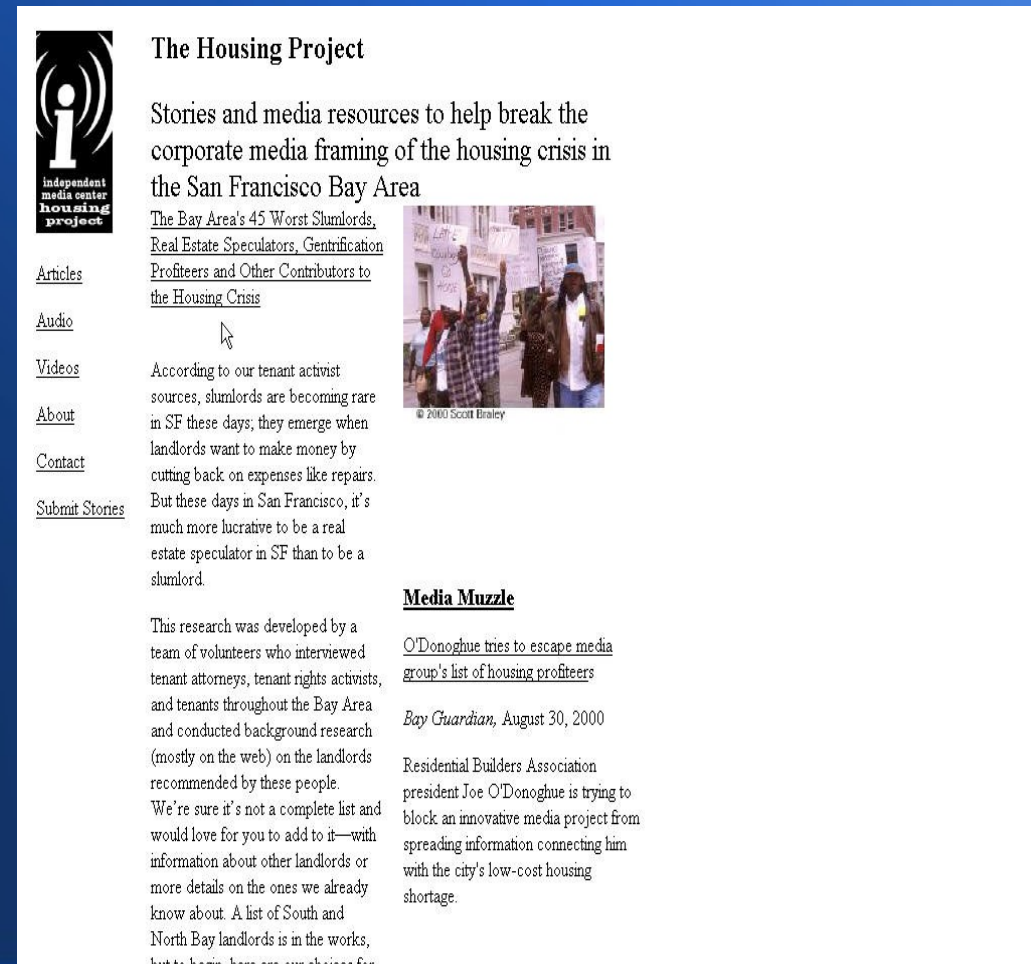
- Initial meetings and indybay.org domain registered in early 2000
- Site launched after the LA DNC
- SF-active codebase forked from LA-active code



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- One of the initial features was “The Housing Project” covering housing crisis/gentrification (AKA dot-com boom, AKA dot-com bubble)
- Users were initially allowed to create account and rate articles.



The screenshot shows the website's layout. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with links: [Articles](#), [Audio](#), [Videos](#), [About](#), [Contact](#), and [Submit Stories](#). The main content area features a logo for the 'Independent Media Center Housing Project' (a stylized 'i' with signal waves) and the title 'The Housing Project'. Below the title is a sub-header: 'Stories and media resources to help break the corporate media framing of the housing crisis in the San Francisco Bay Area'. A link points to an article: 'The Bay Area's 45 Worst Slumlords, Real Estate Speculators, Gentrification Profiteers and Other Contributors to the Housing Crisis'. A mouse cursor is over the link. To the right of the link is a photo of a group of people protesting, with a caption '© 2000 Scott Braley'. Below the article link is a paragraph of text: 'According to our tenant activist sources, slumlords are becoming rare in SF these days; they emerge when landlords want to make money by cutting back on expenses like repairs. But these days in San Francisco, it's much more lucrative to be a real estate speculator in SF than to be a slumlord.' Below this is another paragraph: 'This research was developed by a team of volunteers who interviewed tenant attorneys, tenant rights activists, and tenants throughout the Bay Area and conducted background research (mostly on the web) on the landlords recommended by these people. We're sure it's not a complete list and would love for you to add to it—with information about other landlords or more details on the ones we already know about. A list of South and North Bay landlords is in the works, but to begin, here are our choices for'. To the right of this text is a section titled 'Media Muzzle' with a link: 'O'Donoghue tries to escape media group's list of housing profiteers' and a citation: 'Bay Guardian, August 30, 2000'. Below this is another paragraph: 'Residential Builders Association president Joe O'Donoghue is trying to block an innovative media project from spreading information connecting him with the city's low-cost housing shortage.'

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- Indybay expands to cover prison industrial complex, forest defense, other issues and surrounding region.
- *Photo by Jeff Paterson*

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- Global Indymedia gathering held at SF State in April 2001: Indymedia Principles of Unity

PRINCIPLES OF UNITY

1. The Independent Media Center Network (IMCN) is based upon principles of equality, decentralization and local autonomy. The IMCN is not derived from a centralized bureaucratic process, but from the self-organization of autonomous collectives that recognize the importance in developing a union of networks.
2. All IMC's consider open exchange of and open access to information a prerequisite to the building of a more free and just society.
- [3. All IMC's respect the right of activists who choose not to be photographed or filmed.]
4. All IMC's, based upon the trust of their contributors and readers, shall utilize open web based publishing, allowing individuals, groups and organizations to express their views, anonymously if desired. **see appendix: Open Publishing document --> still in proposal phase, at this address: <http://lists.indymedia.org/mailman/public/imc-communication/2001-April/001707.html> <http://lists.indymedia.org/mailman/public/imc-communication/2001-April/000874.html>
5. The IMC Network and all local IMC collectives shall be not-for-profit.
6. All IMC's recognize the importance of process to social change and are committed to the development of non-hierarchical and anti-authoritarian relationships, from interpersonal relationships to group dynamics. Therefore, shall organize themselves collectively and be committed to the principle of consensus decision making and the development of a direct, participatory democratic process] that is transparent to its membership.
7. [All IMC's recognize that a prerequisite for participation in the decision making process of each local group is the contribution of an individual's labor to the group.]
8. All IMC's are committed to caring for one another and our respective communities both collectively and as individuals and will promote the sharing of resources including knowledge, skills and equipment.
9. All IMC's shall be committed to the use of free source code, whenever possible, in order to develop the digital infrastructure, and to increase the independence of the network by not relying on proprietary software.
10. All IMC's shall be committed to the principle of human equality, and shall not discriminate, including discrimination based upon race, gender, age, class or sexual orientation. Recognizing the vast cultural traditions within the network, we are committed to building [diversity] within our localities.

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- Sept. 2001: SF IMC space opened in historic Redstone Building: public computer lab, video editing, meeting space.

Emergency Action Against Racism and War (Oakland)

by gkt

Thursday Sep 13th, 2001 2:38 AM

One summary of tonight's rally in oakland

Community Gathers in Oakland to Mourn and Organize Against Racist Violence Committed by US Government

Oakland, CA (September 13) - Hundreds of people gathered at Snow Park in Oakland tonight to mourn, provide support for each other, and speak out against violent United States policies at home and abroad, which they say are the underlying reasons for unprecedented terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington DC. Organizing against a growing climate of racism, nationalism and anti-Arab bigotry was a focus of the rally.

Organized by youth and people of color in Oakland and San Francisco, solidarity speakers included supporters of Palestine, people returning from the [WCAR](#) in South Africa, police brutality activists, anarchists and socialists, anti-gentrification activists and other people representing dozens of cultures and ethnicities. International solidarity was the theme as community and activist groups stood together against the threat of more US violence. Michael Franti of Spearhead also spoke, saying that "we need to be in a war against war."

In addition to an open mic, people at the rally talked with friends and strangers, cried, and began coming to terms with the events of the last three days. Many people who attended have family members still missing on the east coast. And many others have



And Indybay is one of few outlets covering anti-war movement..

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- January 2003: Aerial photos by Indymedia photographer Peter Maiden showed that the Jan. 18 anti-war march numbered 250,000 -- far more than the 55,000 police estimate.

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Referring Site Report

Listing the top 40 referring sites by the number of requests for pages in t

pages	7-day pages	site
480949	62522	http://www.indybay.org/
103557	13659	http://www.google.com/
71723	12491	http://images.google.com/
21082	2577	http://news.google.com/
11166	2267	http://images.google.co.uk/
12971	1886	http://search.yahoo.com/
7046	1213	http://www.bing.com/
4669	1189	http://pipes.yahoo.com/
5948	1106	http://images.google.ca/
1881	1048	http://indymedia.us/
1814	883	http://indybay.org/
4041	881	http://images.google.de/
3706	646	http://www.indymedia.org/
2672	561	http://images.google.fr/
2811	557	http://images.google.com.au/
4984	487	http://www.facebook.com/

- Google delivers huge number of page views to Indymedia sites.
- May 2003: Indybay removed from Google News index; hate speech controversy.
- Finally restored in 2004.

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http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/07/18628088.php	No	Article too short	Nov 7, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/08/18628117.php	No	Article too short	Nov 8, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628168.php	No	No sentences found	Nov 9, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628179.php	No	Article disproportionately short	Nov 9, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628186.php	No	Article too short	Nov 9, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628188.php	No	Article too short	Nov 9, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628189.php	No	Article too short	Nov 9, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628191.php	No	Article fragmented	Nov 9, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628218.php	No	Date too old	Nov 9, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/09/18628221.php	No	Article too short	Nov 10, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/10/18628307.php	No	Article fragmented	Nov 10, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/11/18628349.php	No	Article fragmented	Nov 11, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/11/18628402.php	No	Article too short	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628408.php	No	Date too old	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628446.php	No	Date too old	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628449.php	No	Date too old	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628457.php	No	Article disproportionately short	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628460.php	No	Date too old	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628464.php	No	No sentences found	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628494.php	No	Article too long	Nov 12, 2009
http://www.indvbav.org/newsitems/2009/11/12/18628504.php	No	Article too short	Nov 12, 2009

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We Interrupt This Empire

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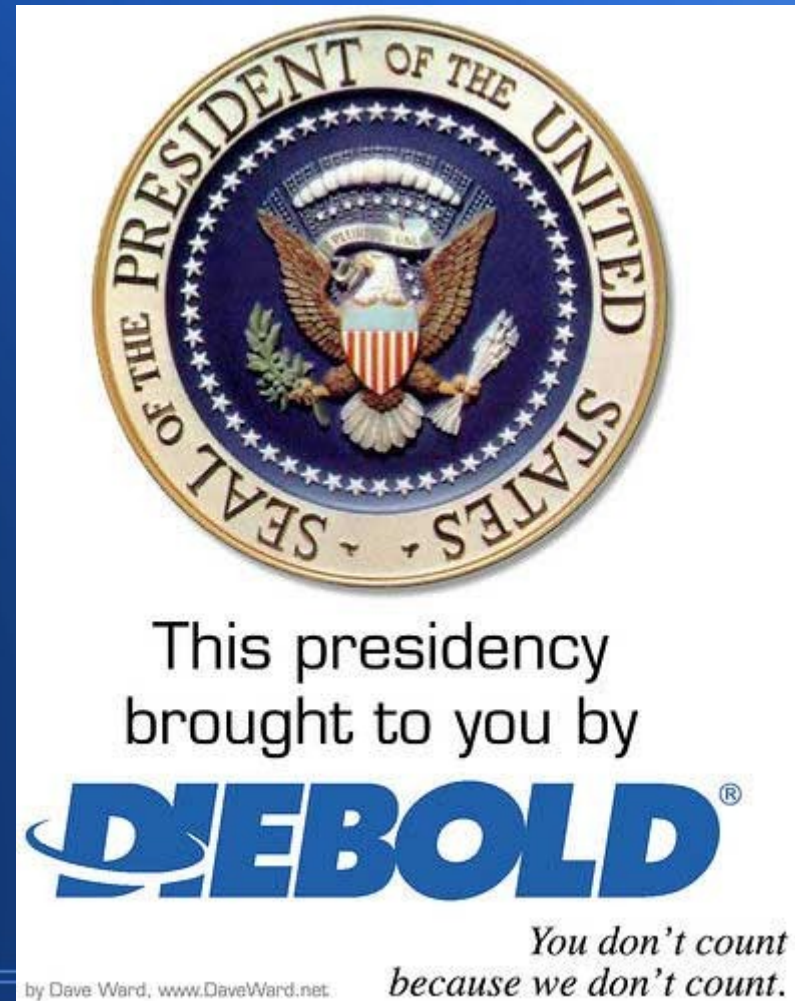
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We Interrupt This Empire

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- Diebold: Electronic voting systems. CEO promised to get Bush elected (?!)
- Sept 29, 2003: Diebold memos reposted to web from public (oops) FTP server and link published to Indybay.



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- Diebold sends DMCA take-down notice to Indybay's upstream host, a non-profit called Online Policy Group.
- Judge ruled that Diebold had misused DMCA; awarded \$150,000 damages.

I'm sorry Dave. That information is protected under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.



**Diebold technology:
It's a secret. Get over it.**

DIEBOLD
We won't rest.

©2004 salamander.eps

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- Other legally problematic posts:
 - Threats
 - Claims of responsibility
 - Other “illegal” content?

Proud and Insolent Youth Incorporated

by Andrew McCrae

Monday Nov 25th, 2002 7:37 PM

The man who killed a Police Officer in Red Bluff, CA claims immunity because he was incorporated.

Hello Everyone, my name's Andy. I killed a Police Officer in Red Bluff, California in a motion to bring attention to, and halt, the police-state tactics that have come to be used throughout our country.

Now I'm coming forward, to explain that this killing was also an action against corporate irresponsibility.

All of the major problems in America and throughout the world today are caused by corporate irresponsibility.

The very concept behind corporations is to protect their owners from taking responsibility for their actions. This means that directors within corporations can dump waste chemicals in our drinking water, or keep our work environments in fatally dangerous conditions without any personal liability. Corporations murder thousands of people each year this way and are never held accountable.

As a statement against this practice, prior to my action in Red Bluff, I formed a corporation under the name "Proud and Insolent Youth Incorporated," so that I could use the destructive immunity of corporations and turn it on something that actually should be destroyed.

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- CHP revokes Indybay press passes after Humboldt County Sheriff complains.
- CHP gave up on its entire press pass program after Indybay and First Amendment Project attorneys intervene.

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- Fault Lines newspaper
- 10,000 circulation
- monthly/bi-monthly
- Supported by subscribers
- and ads from local coops, small businesses

The image shows the cover of the Summer 2007 issue of Fault Lines newspaper. At the top right, a red box contains the number '021' and the text 'VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3'. Below this, a 'SUMMER 2007 TABLE OF CONTENTS:' lists various articles with their page numbers. The cover features three main images: a woman holding a rifle with the word 'RESISTENCIA' above her, a person in a crowd with a 'STOP GLOBAL WORSHIP' sign, and a landscape of a river valley. Below these images are three columns of text: 'GUATEMALA FROM UPRISING TO RESISTANCE', 'GERMANY & SF THE G8 & THE POLICE STATE', and 'WORLDWIDE GOLD'S GLOBAL DESTRUCTION'. The title 'FAULT LINES' is prominently displayed in red, with a stylized antenna symbol between the words. Below the title, it says 'NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA INDEPENDENT MEDIA CENTER' and 'indybay.org'. A 'free' badge is in the bottom right. At the bottom, there is a line drawing of a street scene with signs for 'NO GUNS', 'STOP THE BOMB', and 'COMMUNITY'. Text on the right side of the drawing lists 'BAY AREA & BEYOND FOOD SHELTER COMMUNICATION' and 'MICRO-RADIO, HOUSING JUSTICE, & GUERRILLA GARDENS'. A small credit 'BOTTOM ILLUSTRATION BY REZ' is at the very bottom.

021
VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3

SUMMER 2007 TABLE OF CONTENTS:
2: Letters to the Editors 3: Stamps, Torture Taxis, Environmental Justice
4: Biodiesel Hot Rod 5: Microradio vs. the FCC 6: Biojustice in Boston
7: Gold Mining's Legacy of Exploitation 8: Indigenous Uprising in Guatemala
10: Protesting the G8 in Germany 12: Interview with Josh Wolf
13: Interview with Gabe Meyers 14: Housing Justice
16: Guerrilla Gardens in SF and Beyond 20: Arts in Action

RESISTENCIA
GUATEMALA
FROM UPRISING TO RESISTANCE

STOP GLOBAL WORSHIP
GERMANY & SF
THE G8 & THE POLICE STATE

WORLDWIDE
GOLD'S GLOBAL DESTRUCTION

FAULT LINES
NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA INDEPENDENT MEDIA CENTER
indybay.org
free

BAY AREA & BEYOND
FOOD SHELTER COMMUNICATION
MICRO-RADIO, HOUSING JUSTICE, & GUERRILLA GARDENS

BOTTOM ILLUSTRATION BY REZ

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- Street Level TV: womyn-run community TV

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- Enemy Combatant Radio
- Internet radio; relayed on FM microradio in SF, East Bay, Modesto...
- Took calls from the streets, coordinated information exchange with other sources.



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- Breaking news via SMS text message.
- Utilized TXTmob.com
- Automatically syndicate breaking news items from Indybay to TXTmob.com to phones.

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- Josh Wolf ordered to turn over video in Grand Jury investigation of July 2005 anti-G8 protest.
- Jailed for 226 days, a record for a journalist refusing to divulge source materials.
- *Photo by Bill Carpenter*

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- Can journalists refuse to comply with grand jury subpoenas?
- Definition of journalist (professional vs. participatory)
- Does Fed. Govt. have standing?

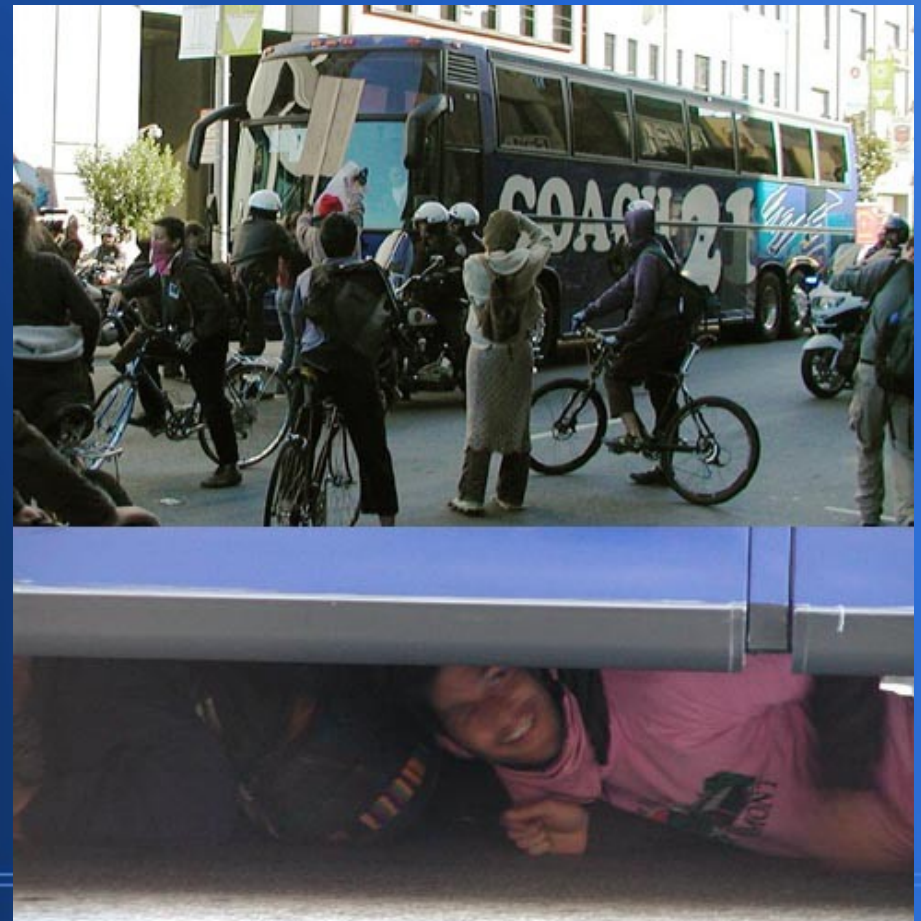
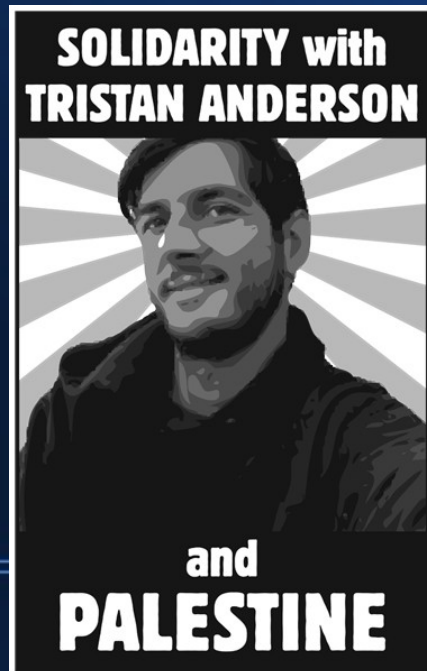
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- International solidarity in Lebanon, Oaxaca
*Photos by Calamity
(Barucha Peller)*



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- Tristan Anderson
- Prolific contributor of photographs and written reports to Indybay



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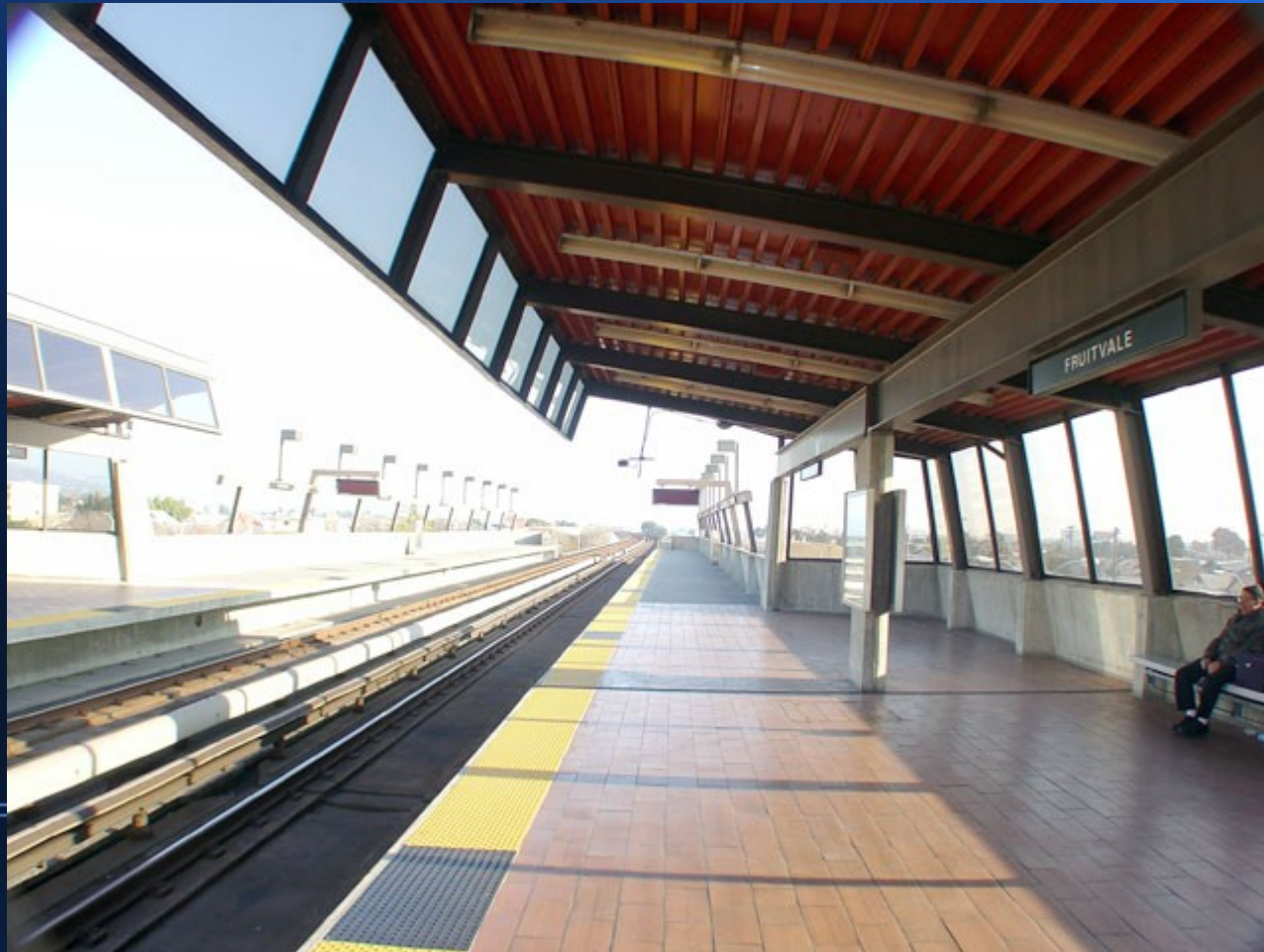
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- Indymedia vs. Racist Police Violence



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Fruitvale BART station in Oakland, Oscar Grant murdered January 1st, 2009.



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Video surfaced publicly a few days later.

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Video surfaced publicly a few days later.

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Rebellions on Jan. 7th...

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...and Jan 14th...

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- ...Lead to first ever murder charge against California cop for on-duty shooting.



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- Corporate media coverage biased towards police and ignored key points.



The screenshot shows the indybay.org website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for About, Contact, Subscribe, Calendar, Publish, Print, and Donate. Below this is a header section with the text "East Bay | Police State and Prisons". The main content area features a large headline: "report from inside court room" followed by "Oscar Grant Report". Below the headline, there is a sub-headline: "Killer Cop Preliminary Hearing Update from Week Three: Murder Charge Should Stand!" by Community Council for Justice (wecangetitdone[at]gmail.com) on Saturday Jun 6th, 2009 2:40 AM. The article text begins with "NEXT IMPORTANT COURT DATE: 9am THURSDAY, JUNE 18th - MEHSERLE ARRAIGNMENT" and "Oakland Court House 1225 Fallon St at 12th and Oak". The article content is divided into sections for Day 6 and Day 7, detailing court proceedings and witness testimony.

East Bay | Police State and Prisons

Killer Cop Preliminary Hearing Update from Week Three: Murder Charge Should Stand!
by Community Council for Justice ([wecangetitdone \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:wecangetitdone[at]gmail.com))
Saturday Jun 6th, 2009 2:40 AM

report from inside court room

Oscar Grant Report

NEXT IMPORTANT COURT DATE: 9am THURSDAY, JUNE 18th - MEHSERLE ARRAIGNMENT

Oakland Court House 1225 Fallon St at 12th and Oak

Day 6: Court began where it had left off the week before: defense witness and BART Officer Tony Pirone being questioned by defense attorney Michael Rains. Rains began the day with a verbal complaint about court starting at 8:00 AM because he claimed he was not ready. Judge C. Don Clay told Rains the prosecutor was ready and that court would start on time. Pirone began his testimony ... [full June 3rd hearing notes below]

Day 7: The final day of the preliminary hearing began with a motion by defense attorney Michael Rains to be able to call two further witnesses: Jackie Bryson, one of Oscar Grant's friend who was on the platform with him the night he was murdered and a "taser expert" who was meant to testify to Johannes Mehserle's state of mind at the time of the incident and his training previously with the taser. Judge C. Don Clay did not allow ... [full June 4th hearing notes below]

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21 the BART system to remind the public about the case. The group posted fliers throughout the
22 BART system picturing the BART police logo, with the words, "Police Murder. BART lies.
23 We die." (Exhibit 14) The flier also pictures an officer shooting a man who is clearly restrained
24 by the police. Members of the group spoke on BART trains throughout the system, making
25 various (and often patently false) factual claims about the evidence in the case. Videos of the
26 speeches, as well as an article describing the groups efforts to publicize the case, were posted
27 to the hybrid news/advocacy website indybay.org. See <http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/09/06/18621071.p>

Another similar passage continues:

4 Also in the wake of the Grant shooting, a series of websites began closely to cover the
5 case, which coverage amounts to a highly prejudicial marriage of advocacy and reporting.

6 So, for example, a site called indybay.org describes its purpose this way: "We strive to
7 provide an information infrastructure for people and opinions who do not have access to the
8 airwaves, tools and resources of corporate media. This includes audio, video, photography,
9 internet distribution and any other communication medium. We support local, regional and
10 global struggles against exploitation and oppression. We function as a non-commercial, non-
11 corporate, anti-capitalist collective."

12 <http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2003/12/08/16643971.php>.

13 Indybay.org has provided regular coverage of the Grant shooting and its aftermath, with
14 a strong and not particularly concealed view that Grant was killed because he is black, that the
15 shooting is evidence of generalized police brutality against the black community, and that
16 Mehserle is guilty of murder. Indeed, the site always refers to the shooting as the "murder" of
17 Oscar Grant, a word not used by the Chronicle, Tribune, television stations and so forth. See
18 <http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2009/07/15/18608188.php>; see also <http://www.indybay.org/>;
19 <http://revcom.us>; <http://www.ruckus.org/>; <http://joincape.blogspot.com/>;
20 <http://uhurunews.com>; <http://nojusticenobart.blogspot.com/>.

21 The activities of CAPE, BAMN, Indybay.org, and the rest of the groups named above
22 and described in Exhibit 13 amount to yet another political factor that, under Maine and Powell
23 requires a change of venue. These groups impacted and heightened the political impact of the
24 shooting and the massive media attention that followed in four key ways.

25 First, the groups acted as a catalyst for that publicity: they spread information or in
26 many cases disinformation about the case; they distributed the shooting video; they distributed

- Change of Venue: defense blamed Indybay...

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- ... and community activists. Judge agreed.

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- LA or San Diego?
- Need media activists in courtroom and outside courthouse.
- Need housing for Bay Area activists.
- Solidarity for precedent-setting case.



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Questions?