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NEWS BULLETIN NO. 27

FBI/LEAA JAILS USLP CANDIDATE FOR U.S. SENATE

RICHMOND, VA., FEB. 12 (IPS)--IN KANGAROO COURT PROCEEDINGS HERE THIS MORNING, ALAN OGDEN, U.S. LABOR PARTY CANDIDATE FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM VIRGINIA, WAS SENTENCED TO 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$500 FINE ON CHARGES OF TRESPASSING AT A PUBLIC MEETING AND RESISTING ARREST. JUDGE TUCKER OF RICHMOND CIRCUIT COURT DIVISION ONE SET BAIL FOR OGDEN AT \$2,000, RAISING IT FROM THE ORIGINAL \$100 SET AT THE TIME OF THE ARREST, AND ORDERED HIM IMMEDIATELY THROWN IN JAIL. AS OF TONIGHT, OGDEN HAS STILL NOT BEEN FREED.

THE INCARCERATION OF OGDEN--WHO HAS RECEIVED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF VOTES IN PREVIOUS ELECTORAL RACES HERE--IS PART OF A NATION-WIDE CAMPAIGN COORDINATED BY THE FBI TO HARASS AND DISRUPT USLP ELECTION RACES. OGDEN HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MORE THAN 30 ARRESTS IN THE PAST YEAR.

THE LABOR PARTY IS PRESENTLY ON FULL MOBILIZATION THROUGHOUT MARYLAND, VIRGINIA AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TO SECURE OGDEN'S IMMEDIATE RELEASE AND TO RAISE MONEY FOR BAIL. USLP MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS NATIONALLY ARE CONTACTING CONGRESSMEN, PRESS AND CIVIL LIBERTARIANS TO HAVE THEM CALL JUDGE TUCKER (804-780-4534) AND DEMAND THAT HE IMMEDIATELY HOLD A BAIL REDUCTION HEARING AND RELEASE OGDEN.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE USLP WILL GO INTO A COURT HEARING ON ANOTHER TRESPASSING CHARGE AGAINST OGDEN TOMORROW AND DEMAND THAT THE HEARING BE MOVED INTO FEDERAL COURT BECAUSE OF PREJUDICE IN THE STATE COURT. THE USLP IS ALSO MOVING FOR AN IMMEDIATE BAIL REDUCTION HEARING AND EXPECTS TO HAVE FILED A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS IN STATE SUPREME COURT BY TOMORROW AFTERNOON.

THE CHARGES ON WHICH OGDEN WAS JAILED TODAY STEMMED FROM A TRESPASS ARREST ORCHESTRATED BY THE RICHMOND LEAA APPARATUS DURING AN LEAA-SPONSORED MEETING LAST FALL. THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETING, CALLED TO PROMOTE VARIOUS LEAA "COMMUNITY CONTROL" PROJECTS, WAS PREDOMINANTLY FILLED WITH LEAA OPERATIVES IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. AFTER OGDEN SPOKE AT THE MEETING, AS IT WAS NEARING ITS END, POLICE USHERED EVERYONE OUT OF THE MEETING, ISOLATED AND ASSAULTED OGDEN, AND THEN ARRESTED HIM.