

ACORNS	Background	Incidents	Recent Information
Founder			
Wade Rathke	Founded ACORN and served as Chief Organizer for ACORN from 1970 to 2008. [4]	"The brother, Dale Rathke, embezzled nearly \$1 million from ACORN and affiliated charitable organizations in 1999 and 2000, ACORN officials said, but a small group of executives decided to keep the information from almost all of the group's board members and not to alert law enforcement." [1] "Wade Rathke stepped down as Acorn's chief organizer on June 2, the same day his brother left, but he remains chief organizer for Acorn International L.L.C." [1]	"Founder and Chief Organizer of Community Organizations International / ACORN International and Local 100 United Labor Unions (formerly SEIU Local 100)" [4]
Organizer			
Gary Delgado	Initial ACORN Organizer [10]		Executive Director and Founder of Applied Research Center. [10]
Staff			
Brian Kettenring	Head organizer for ACORN in Florida. [16]		Deputy Director of National Operations for ACORN [11]
Zena Crenshaw Logal	Engaged in a general civil law practice. It consisted primarily of her prosecuting complex, personal injury claims and advising small to medium, for profit as well as nonprofit entities. [7]		Chair of the ACORN 8 Legal Affairs Committee. [7] Organizer of NFOJA - National Forum On Judicial Accountability. [5] Executive Director of POPULAR. [6]
Maude Hurd	ACORN Board Chairwoman [29]	"An internal document from the ACORN executive board, obtained by CNN, shows that members Karen Inman and Marcel Reid were "removed from any office or committee position you may have held." A separate document says that "the memberships of Karen Inman and Marcel Reid in ACORN is canceled, and they are removed from the Association Board." The documents, dated November 11, are signed by Maude Hurd, president of the ACORN Association Board." [23]	
Karen Inman	Member of ACORN Interim Management Committee. [23]	"When an ACORN affiliate that acts as the group's accounting firm denied the committee members access to the books, Inman said, she, Reid and several others filed a lawsuit to have the court order ACORN to preserve the books and give them access to all accounting matters." [23]	Part of ACORN 8. [23]
Michael McCray	Former National Board Delegate for Georgia ACORN. [3]	"Michael McCray, a member of a breakaway group of ACORN leaders now based in Washington, said plans are still evolving. "Most of the people I deal with are saddened by the loss. But they're looking forward to replacing ACORN with something that's an effective advocate for low- and moderate-income members," McCray said." [32]	ACORN 8 Spokesperson. [35]
Bertha Lewis	Chief Executive Officer and Chief Organizer of ACORN. [15]	"A state Supreme Court judge threw out 33 absentee ballots in the Sept. 15 Working Families Party primary and found that "testimony and affidavits reveal significant election law violations that have compromised the rights of numerous voters and the integrity of the election process ..."" [17] Bertha Lewis is a former founding co-chair of the New York WFP [15]	A Former Founding Co-Chair of the New York Working Families Party. [15]
Steve Kest	National Executive Director of ACORN. [21]		Sits on the Board of Directors for Progressive States Network [21]
Alton Bennet	ACORN Housing President [25]	Alton Bennet has worked for ACORN Housing [25] and Affordable Housing Centers of America [31] "One of the latest groups to adopt a new name is ACORN Housing, long one of the best-funded affiliates. Now, the group is calling itself the Affordable Housing Centers of America." [24]	President of Affordable Housing Centers of America [31]
Michael Shea	Former Executive Director of ACORN Housing [25]	Michael Shea has worked for ACORN Housing [25] and Affordable Housing Centers of America [20] "One of the latest groups to adopt a new name is ACORN Housing, long one of the best-funded affiliates. Now, the group is calling itself the Affordable Housing Centers of America." [24]	Executive Director of Affordable Housing Centers of America. [20]
Nathan Henderson-James	Former Director of ACORN's Online Campaigns. [27]	"The truth is that it is hard for us to foresee [sic] any scenario where ACORN continues beyond the end of 2010 and some of us think it might not last that long," writes Nathan Henderson-James, director of ACORN's online campaigns, in an apparently authentic Feb. 22 email. "Last one to leave turn out the lights and wipe the server," he writes at the end of the message. [27]	
Bruce Dorpalen	National Director of Housing Counseling for Acorn Housing [33]		
City Leaders			
Chicago			
Madeline Talbot	Former Director of Chicago ACORN. [8]	"Key pioneer of ACORN's subprime-loan shakedown racket." [8]	Lead Organizer of Action Now. [9]
Las Vegas			
Christopher Edwards	Former ACORN Las Vegas field director. [12]	"Pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiracy to commit a crime of compensation for registration of voters, a gross misdemeanor, received a suspended jail sentence and a \$500 fine." [12]	
Amy Busefink	ACORN's Deputy Regional - Law Vegas - Director. [12]	"The Nevada attorney general's office has accused ACORN and Busefink of operating an illegal bonus system." [12]	Busefink is the Field Director for Project Vote National Voter Registration. [18]
Washington DC			
Marcel Reid	Chair of DC ACORN. [2] Member of ACORN Interim Management Committee. [23]	"When an ACORN affiliate that acts as the group's accounting firm denied the committee members access to the books, Inman said, she, Reid and several others filed a lawsuit to have the court order ACORN to preserve the books and give them access to all accounting matters." [23]	Part of ACORN 8. [23]
Maryland			
Gloria Sweiringa	Maryland ACORN Chairwoman [34]		
Sonja Merchant-Jones	Former Co-Chairwoman of Acorn's Maryland Chapter [30]		
New Orleans			
Charles D. Jackson	Communications Director [14]		
Stephen Bradbury	Temporary Administer [22]		

Footnotes

[1] http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/09/us/09embezzle.html?_r=1

[2] <http://www.njcdp.org/files/MReid.bio.pdf>

[3] <http://directorblue.blogspot.com/2009/07/interview-with-michael-mccray-of-acorn.html>

[4] <http://chieforganizer.org/biography/>

[5] <http://www.meetup.com/NFOJA-meetup/members/10112835/>

[6] http://www.popular4people.org/Association_Members.html

[7] <http://biggovernment.com/author/zrenshaw/>

[8] http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/item_cvq7dCHfKwJyLacFPQK?sessionid=22F4139EC7D8006852D3D97068EA9A2E

[9] http://actionnow.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=55%3Astaff&catid=21%3Aabout-us&Itemid=30

[10] <http://www.arc.org/content/view/37/43/>

[11] <http://www.capitalresearch.org/blog/2009/06/08/acorn-involved-in-global-warming-hysteria/>

[12] <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/nov/23/ex-acorn-official-gets-probation-voter-registration/>

[14] <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/charles-d-jackson/5/373/81a>

[15] http://www.politico.com/arena/bio/bertha_lewis.html

[16] <http://www.shelterforce.org/members/44/>

[17] <http://www.troyrecord.com/articles/2009/10/02/news/doc4ac6536ba37ec309586780.txt>

[18] <http://www.projectvote.org/our-staff.html>

[20] <https://secure.ahcoa.org/>

[21] http://www.progressivestates.org/inside_psn/board

[22] http://www.nola.com/crime/index.ssf/2009/11/attorney_general_serves_search.html

[23] <http://www.cnn.com/2008/POLITICS/11/13/acorn.investigation/>

[24] <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2010/03/15/acorn-branches-rename-rebrand-video-scandal/>

[25] <http://biggovernment.com/publics/2009/09/11/official-statement-from-acorn-housing-president-alton-bennett-executive-director-mike-shea/>

[27] <http://biggovernment.com/mvadam/2010/02/24/acorn-official-gangster-group-will-be-bankrupt-soon-but-fake-spinoff-groups-will-carry-on-the-corruption/#more-79438>

[29] <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2009/09/22/acorns-internal-investigation-draws-skepticism-hill/>

[30] <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/20/us/politics/20acorn.html>

[31] <http://www.ahcoa.org/about/leadership.cfm>

[32] <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/24/AR2010032402947.html>

[33] http://www.philly.com/philly/classifieds/real_estate/20090622_Q__A_with_Acorn_Housing_Corp_s_Bruce_Dorpalen.html

[34] <http://www6.lexisnexis.com/publisher/EndUser?Action=UserDisplayFullDocument&OrgId=574&topicId=100007214&docId=1:1097694133&start=4>

[35] <http://biggovernment.com/author/mccray/>

"The chart is based on the sources cited in the footnotes. The chart is only to provide accurate information about ACORN, its leaders and successor organizations." If you have corrections or additional information, please contact us.