

To: Alison Bodine Defense Committee

I have recently been informed that Alison Bodine, a recent graduate of the University of British Columbia and a well-known social justice advocate and anti-war war activist, has faced unjust arrest, detention in an immigration detention centre in Vancouver and other forms of harassment simply for exercising her right to conscience.

From what I have read and heard in the media, Alison had traveled many times between the U.S. and Canada with no problem. It was not until leaflets, newspapers, posters etc dealing with the most pressing national and international political issues of our times were confiscated from her car that Alison became a target for arbitrary and unjust arrest and possible restrictions on her ability to travel freely between Canada and the U.S.

Every person living in Canada, regardless of their status has the right and responsibility to organize for rights. Alison's treatment is shameful and as far as I am concerned all charges should be dropped against Alison Bodine and all her rights must be restored and respected enabling her to travel freely between the U.S. and Canada. It is intolerable that politically and socially responsible activists are being targeted. This is a clear-cut case of criminalization of dissent and a violation of Alison's right to conscience. It is also outrageous that an environment is being created in this country where immigrants, refugees, workers with temporary work permits and residents and non-residents can be targeted unjustly while defending their rights and defending the rights of all. These kinds of actions by the state must be stopped immediately! Drop all charges against Alison Bodine!

Sincerely,

Louis Lang

President, Ottawa Local, Canadian Union of Postal Workers

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