



Florida Press Association

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www.flpress.com

February 16, 2026

Literature Review Committee c/o Saritza Legault/Melvin Herring
Library Services Administrator Florida Department of Corrections
501 South Calhoun Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2500

Re: Impoundment of *The Militant*, Vol. 90, No. 4, Feb. 2, 2026
DC 143824
Melvin.Herring@fdc.myflorida.com
Saritza.Legault@fdc.myflorida.com
VIA E-MAIL

Dear Literature Review Committee:

The Florida Press Association, established in 1879, represents all the daily and most of the weekly newspapers in Florida and its mission includes working to defend First Amendment rights and press access to information of concern to citizens.

We write to request that you reverse the ban by Florida prison authorities at Taylor Correctional Institution of the following publication: vol. 90, issue no. 4., Feb. 2, 2026, of *The Militant*, entitled "Amnesty for immigrants, to unify the working class!" We believe this action infringes upon the First Amendment rights of both *The Militant's* publisher and its incarcerated subscribers. Prison officials claim the article is "dangerously inflammatory in that it advocates or encourages riot, insurrection, rebellion, organized prison protest, disruption of the institution ... " etc., and that it "presents a threat to the security, order" of the institution. However, the justifications offered for the ban are unsupported by the article's content. The news article strongly condemns "ultraleft actions aimed at disrupting ICE" as well as any "provocations leading to violent clashes." It explains the need for large, peaceful, disciplined protests calling for amnesty for undocumented immigrant workers.

Nothing in the article can rationally be considered to meet the criteria cited. The U.S. Supreme Court's test that there be a rational connection to safety and security and as contained in a long line of federal court precedent has not been met. Rather, the decision appears to be arbitrary and irrational.

We, therefore, request that you reverse the ban by Florida prison authorities and that all impounded copies of *The Militant* Vol. 90, Issue No. 4, be delivered to *The Militant's* subscribers at Taylor C.I.

Sincerely,

Samuel J. Morley, General Counsel



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cc: Carolyn Nolte, President & CEO, FPA; Seth Galinsky, *The Militant* newspaper
(themilitant@mac.com)