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## Q&A on the News

COX NEWS SERVICE

**Question: How is the ACLU funded? By whom? What is its budget?**

**Answer:** The American Civil Liberties Union was founded in 1920 by a "roomful of civil liberties activists," according to the organization's Web site, [www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org). It describes itself as nonprofit and nonpartisan and has grown to an organization of more than 500,000 members and supporters. The ACLU handles nearly 6,000 court cases annually from its offices in almost every state.

The Web site says the ACLU is supported by annual dues and contributions from its members, plus grants from private foundations and individuals.

It receives no government funding.

According to another Web site, the informational [acluprocon.org](http://acluprocon.org), the organization had \$21.7 million in income in 2004. In addition, the affiliated ACLU Foundation had income of \$48.4 million. Of the money taken in by the organization itself, 91 percent came from members and the balance came from bequests, grants and other contributions, the Web site says.

• Do you have a question about the news? Joey Ledford will try to get an answer. Call 404-222-2002 or e-mail [q&a@ajc.com](mailto:q&a@ajc.com) (include your name and city). Sorry, individual responses are not possible.

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