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the ACLU LUNCH

tuesday, april 21, 2026

event host

Edwin Yohnka, Director of Communications and Public Policy, ACLU-IL

land acknowledgement

Andrew Johnson, Board Member, ACLU-IL

featured conversation

Melissa Murray, Scholar and Legal Analyst

with **Edwin Yohnka**, Director of Communications and Public Policy, ACLU-IL

fighting for all of us

Kevin Fee, Legal Director, ACLU-IL

we the people

Colleen K. Connell, Executive Director, ACLU-IL



MELISSA MURRAY

2026 featured speaker

Melissa Murray is the Frederick I. and Grace Stokes Professor of Law at the New York University School of Law, and Faculty Director of the Birnbaum Women's Leadership Network. Murray brings her work as a leading scholar of constitutional law and reproductive rights and justice to the public through her role as the co-host of the popular Supreme Court podcast, *Strict Scrutiny*, and as a legal analyst for *MS NOW*. Previously, she was the Alexander F. and May T. Morrison Professor of Law and Interim Dean of Berkeley Law, the first Black woman to lead a top ten law school. Murray's articles have appeared in leading law journals, including the *Harvard Law Review*, the *Yale Law Journal*, and the *Columbia Law Review*.

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