



Fund for  
Investigative  
Journalism

MARCH 2018

# FIJ awards \$58K in grants for 8 investigative projects

The Fund for Investigative Journalism has awarded \$58,535 in reporting grants for eight projects that will help shine light on potential abuses of power, expose significant shortcomings in social institutions and give voice to people who seldom have the platform to share their stories.

Among the grant recipients:

**Katti Gray**, a veteran journalist who mainly covers health and criminal justice issues;

**Christina Goldbaum**, an independent investigative journalist based in East Africa;

**InvestigateWest**, a Seattle-based journalism nonprofit;

**James McNair**, a Cincinnati-based investigative reporter;

**Aly Pachter** and the staff of the Georgetown University newspaper, **The Hoya**;

**Jenni Monet**, an independent journalist who reports extensively on the country's indigenous people;

**Alisa Partlan** and **Hella Winston**, two New York-

based investigative journalists; and **Robin Urevich**, a Los Angeles-based reporter.

Applications are now being accepted at [investigate.submittable.com](http://investigate.submittable.com) for the next round of grants. The deadline is **Monday, May 7, 2018**.

Earlier this year, FIJ and the **Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism** announced four new diversity fellows: **Danielle Mackey**, **Johnny Magdaleno**, **Luis Trelles** and **Chandra Whitfield**.

The fellows are focusing on a broad spectrum of social justice issues, including racial disparities in domestic violence cases, treatment for opioid addiction, Central American gangs, and the government's handling of natural disasters.

The **Ford Foundation** is underwriting the reporting fellowships for a second year.

In other news: **The Park Foundation** has renewed its support for FIJ's mission by awarding a \$50,000 grant for the next funding year.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

### *FIJ/Schuster Institute diversity fellow delves into anti-gang policies in Central America*

In her first installment of a series of stories focused on anti-gang security policies in El Salvador, FIJ/Schuster Institute fellow Danielle Mackey reports on the rising number of *enfrentamientos* — or “shoot-outs” — that have taken the lives of young El Salvadorans. The number of civilian victims in these *enfrentamientos* has jumped from 39 in 2013 to 591 in 2016. But as Mackey reports for World Politics Review, the killings of many suspected



A soldier performs a stop-and-search on a young father in Mejicanos, San Salvador. (2010 photo by Oscar Leiva)

gang members may not have been the result of shoot-outs, as police claim, but were extra-judicial executions carried out under a zero-tolerance policy put in place by national police.

Ken Armstrong and T. Christian Miller have expanded their Pulitzer Prize-winning story into a book, “A False Report: A True Story of Rape in America,” published by Crown in February. The book tells the story of Marie, an 18-year-old near Seattle who reported being raped, only to be branded a liar by police. Miller and Armstrong first wrote about the case for ProPublica and The Marshall Project. The story was also a “This American Life” episode and will soon be an eight-part series on Netflix.

