



Poor People's Guide to Fighting City Hall Now Available

The Auris Project, Inc., September 20, 2004

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This unique reference book for community groups and citizen activists shares little-known strategies investigative journalists use when dealing with some of America's most frustrating bureaucracies.

PR9.NET September 20, 2004 - The Auris Project is pleased to announce the release of Power Plays: The Poor People's Guide to Fighting City Hall. This unique reference guide, written by advocacy journalist Denise McVea, provides activists, US citizens, residents and others with key tips, strategies and knowledge about some of the U.S.'s most frustrating bureaucracies.

In Power Plays, McVea combines ample experience as an investigative reporter with exhaustive research to provide readers with an engaging guide that gives effective strategies for managing -and winning against- bad actors in government and big business.

"A great resource for anyone at odds with the tangles of bureaucracy," states writer David Weedmark. "This book includes many real-life examples of various government departments with an insight into how they work, and how they sometimes do not. As well, you will find tips on such things as how to find the right people, the right phone numbers, and much, much more."

Written primarily for community groups, The Poor People's Guide to Fighting City Hall is also ideal for families, seniors, new immigrants, and young adults.

Power Plays reveals:

MAPS. How you can successfully navigate key government offices and departments.

ALLIES. How and when to contact oversight agencies and watchdog groups that can help you.

MONEY. What you should know about your credit protections and other financial dealings.

THE PAPER TRAIL. How to use open records laws to defend your rights.

SECRETS. How to successfully negotiate at work, in the hospital, in court, etc.

"It's all about information," says McVea. "The less information citizens have, the more likely it is that they will be abused by bad actors in government and business. I wrote the guide so that people will have vital information about their rights, their options and their power."

McVea, executive director of the Auris Project, is an award-winning investigative journalist. Her investigative articles have over the years forced important reforms in some of the U.S.'s most intractable bureaucracies, including immigration, penal and housing agencies.

Power Plays is the first in a series of planned Poor People's Guides to be published by Auris Books, a partner of the Auris Project, Inc. The Auris Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing marginalized communities in America with key rights and development information.

All of the proceeds (100 percent) from sales of the first edition of Power Plays and subsequent Poor People's Guide projects will go to Auris Project community development programs, currently focusing on the much-abused Altiplano Potosino region of rural Central Mexico. Future Poor People's Guide projects include 15 Minutes: The Poor People's Guide to Managing the Media, and What You See: The Poor People's Guide to the Internet.

Power Plays can be ordered through the Auris Project website: www.aurisproject.org/poorpeople1.htm.

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About The Auris Project, Inc.

The Auris Project helps targeted communities access key information, build tools that make best use of the information, and gain the experience needed to affect lasting change.

Auris combines information access with community activity, providing an environment that fosters leadership, creativity and voice.

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