



A Conversation with  
Transgender Prisoners'  
Rights Activist and  
Litigator

## Dee Farmer

moderated by  
Shannon Minter

Friday, March 5th

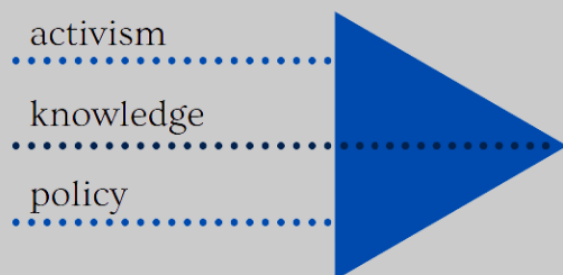
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to register, email  
bcwgstchair@gmail.com

Dee Farmer is a legal expert and consultant for the National Center for Lesbian Rights. A legend in the transgender rights movement, she was the first transgender plaintiff to bring a case before the United States Supreme Court. In 1994, her landmark case, the unanimous *Farmer v. Brennan* decision, established that prisoners have a right to be protected from harm and that prisons are responsible for their safety. The case stems from the sexual assault she suffered at an Indiana federal prison where she had been placed among male inmates, a transfer levied upon her as punishment while in a minimum-security facility. In 1986, she was given an exceptionally harsh consecutive sentence of 20 years in federal prison and 30 years in state prison for non-violent crimes. Cited by thousands of courts *Farmer v. Brennan* was also foundational to the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003.

Shannon Minter is the Legal Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

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