

## Louisiana CURE Monthly Meeting Minutes July 14, 2020

**PARTICIPATING (11):** Checo Yancy, Kelly Garrett, Jay Jackson, Betty Carter, Avis Henderson, Carmonesia Hill, Marianne Fisher Giolando, Kevin Harris, Shametria Gonzales, Chester Self, Dan Krutz

President Checo Yancy opened the meeting by requesting a moment of silence. Vice-President Kelly Garrett then asked everyone that was participating in the ZOOM meeting to introduce themselves.

### **LEGISLATURE:**

Kelly gave a summary of some state bills that were signed into law:

- HB 77 now Act 98 – Probation supervisory and reporting
- HB 729 now Act 284 – Council of Children Advocacy
- HB 643 now Act 203 – Probation time reduction
- HB 344 now Act 140 – Solitary confinement restrictions
- HB 338 now Act 103 -Physical and mental health
- HB 173 now Act 99 – Juvenile offenders
- HB 129 now Act 132 -Expungement
- HB 178 now Act 70 – Suspension of sentence
- HB 179 now Act 71 - Conditions to expunge a record
- SB 32 now Act 32 – Second degree rape

Kelly gave an update on the Covid-19 virus situation at Angola where Camp J was housing only one inmate two weeks earlier and that the current hot temperatures inside the dorms are posing a real problem. Avis Henderson mentioned that the Police Barracks in Zachary, LA had a few cases of the Covid-19 virus.

### **ELECTIONS:**

The most recent election (July 11<sup>th</sup>) had a low turnout at most precincts. Approximately 30, 000 formerly incarcerated men and women in Louisiana should be eligible to register to vote.

The next election in November will be an important one! Betty Carter mentioned that voters need to know what party they are registered with so they will know who they are eligible to vote for during PRIMARY ELECTIONS! Democrats can only vote for Democratic candidates; Republicans can only vote for Republican candidates and Independents and No-Party members cannot participate in party primaries.

Kelly suggested that everyone refer to the GEAUX VOTE app. Tammy Jones mentioned the difficulty that some handicapped or mentally challenged voters have.

### **LA CURE:**

NOMINATIONS for Vice-President and Treasurer will be accepted at the August 11th meeting.

**Other Business:**

- Shametria Gonzales spoke about recent pardons signed (and not signed) by Governor Edwards and also spoke about HB 344 (Act 140).
- Marianne mentioned the names of the 6 people receiving pardons signed by Governor Edwards.
- Covid-19...Checo spoke about the low number of inmates released by Governor Edwards who were “vetted” meaning a low risk, soon to be released inmates who were susceptible to the virus.
- A suggestion was made to bring up the “No-Action” proposal to get it introduced in the legislature. This proposal would allow the Governor 90 days to sign a pardon or commutation.
- Kevin Harris spoke about the danger of contacting the Covid-19 virus and strongly urged everyone to take all precautions to avoid getting it.

Respectfully submitted,



Jay Jackson  
LA CURE Secretary