

Louisiana CURE

Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2020

The meeting was opened with a Moment of Silence. Kelly Garrett went over Housekeeping for a Zoom Meeting

Introductions of LA CURE Members and/or people on this Zoom Meeting—everyone was invited to identify themselves and any connection with CURE or other organizations.

Participating (12): Checo Yancy, Kelly Garrett, , Kristen Antoine-Morse, Dan Krutz, Marianne Fisher Giolando, Danielle Doussan, Betty Carter, Michael Naquin, Carolyn Washington, Trent Garrett, Carmonesia Hill, Patricia Smith, Keneth Frasier, Trent Garret,, Chester Self, Guests: Vanessa Spinazola and Sarah Whittington.

Checo introduced our Guest Presenters: JAC Executive Dir. Vanessa Spinazola & Staff Atty. SarahWhittington with the Justice & Accountability Center of La (They will explain what their work entails as to their Expungement Clinic's & LA Stop Solitary Issues across the State.)

See below 2020 Louisiana Legislation related to expungement.

Act 71 (formerly HB-179): Signed by Governor John Bel Edwards Act 71 removes the 10 year of employment documentation for specific convictions. This is particularly helpful for those individuals who struggle to find work or find barriers to employment. It passed 92-0 in the House and 31-0 in the Senate.

ACT 78 (formerly HB-241): Signed by Governor John Bel Edwards Act 78 will have a far reaching positive impact for those waiting for their expungement. The Act eliminates the secondary waiting period for those who are ALREADY eligible for multiple expungements. It will allow for greater reentry success sooner. Act 78 passed the House by a 73-19 vote and in the Senate 28-3.

HR 67: Sent to the Secretary of State, HR 67 will continue the important work of the Clean Slate Task Force which aims to study the impact that an automatic expungement process will have for the state of Louisiana. The research, reports, and meetings this task force will have will continue to shed light on the importance of automatic expungements and the common sense solution it provides to keep Louisianans safe and employed.

Video Presentations

Sarah Whittington provided a video explaining how to file for an expungement.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXFRET2Vnf8&t=4s>

This video goes into details to answer questions related to the expungement process.

Participants viewed the video *I can Celebrate and I am Free* (<https://youtu.be/eeqtgavLrxo>) which tells the story of Rogsbert King, a formerly incarcerated person, and her efforts leading to the passage of the Connecticut Clean Slate Act that that can give people a Second Chance. This provides for the automatic expungement of criminal records. Discussion of Louisiana Clean Slate bills passed in the 2020 Legislation were also noted. Please follow the link <https://www.jaclouisiana.org/clean-slate> to see the legislation.

Participants took part in a Q&A following the presentations.

Meeting participants were invited to place any questions in our chat for Kelly to ask at the end of presentation.

It was announced that the LA State Supreme Court make Ruling on removing the words (Sex Offender) from State ID's (Currently, pending if the State Atty Gen will appeal ruling) Checo provided details.

Those attending were reminded that by going to DOC's website , notice of parole meetings are published. It is also possible to view Parole Hearings: doc.louisiana.gov/about-the-dpsc/

Checo mentioned that articles are needed for the end of Year Newsletter

It's also that time of year again for Membership Renewals.

Christmas Meeting Suggestions were requested; The meeting will likely be via Zoom.