

Advocates For Change



THE ADVOCATE

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AFC MISSION STATEMENT

AFC supports those with a sex offense and their families by:

- Advocating for change in sex offense laws and policies, and for the adherence to constitutional rights;
- Educating the public, lawmakers, and the judiciary;
- Promoting the successful treatment and reintegration of those with an offense into the community, thus reducing victimization and enhancing the safety of all.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE AFC CHAIR

This year is going so fast and for those of you incarcerated, I hope it's doing the same. So much has happened this year. Changes aren't happening as readily as we'd like but AFC is having an impact on the judicial scene.

As we've reported before, the state audit of the SOMB is continuing. Our data analyst continues to add information to the state audit committee to keep them updated on any new materials that could assist in the audit. The audit began in the Spring and we expect the report later this fall. Hopefully, the findings of the audit team will translate into positive changes within the SOMB and how their policies affect all who are impacted by the SOMB.

The Sunset Review of the SOMB by the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) is wrapping up. The Sunset Review is set by the Judiciary depending on their interest in what is happening on that board. This review comes three years from the last. The first Sunset Review which was several years ago was done after ten years so the Judiciary is taking a closer look at the activities of the board.

This Summer, Rep Leslie Herod is the committee chair studying the reasons for the very large prison populations. The committee includes individuals who are legislators, the executive director of DoC, CCJRC, Director of Public Safety, Parole Board and others. There are five all day sessions to look at such topics as: Prison Population Forecasts, Drivers of Recidivism, Women Population in the Prison System, Mental and Addiction Treatment Needs, and others. This study covers topics of real interest to AFC and allows an opportunity to participate in the conversation.

As fall kicks in, the work of AFC continues with more and more opportunities to help create the change that is so very needed. We have made some really good headway, are coordinating with other advocacy groups and working to be a visible force with the credibility to get the attention of our state leaders who ultimately have to make the change.

Pat Harris, Chair, Advocates for Change

AFC is all volunteer; no one receives a salary. In fact, our core BAG (Breakfast Action Group) members cover many of our expenses out of pocket; expenses which keep growing. We at AFC appreciate your support and renewing your memberships or donating on a timely basis. New members are always welcome to attend our monthly meetings or our weekly Breakfast Action Group Meetings. Volunteers are always needed and welcome.

AFC July 2019 General Meeting

Our guest speaker for July was DOC Executive Director Dean Williams. The meeting was extremely well attended. Director Williams is a very personable individual and very open to making productive changes. His direction to us was to build up our membership and to build coalitions so that we can increase our strength to help him make change. This battle isn't just a fight while you or your loved ones are in prison, on parole or on probation but needs to be an ongoing fight to change the system for everyone. It's understandable to want to move on when the sentence is completed but if support of the various groups meant anything to you while you were in custody, your understanding of the system can be a great benefit to those who are left behind or that follow you. You and your family need to be involved in an ongoing basis or someone else you know or love could wind up where you have been.

Even while you are in prison you can support AFC with financial support if you or your family are able or send stamps so that we can send out newsletters to members. Director Williams grew up in rural Bellville, Ohio and moved to Alaska after graduating from Ohio University with a bachelor's degree in communications. Director Williams spent 35 years in the justice and public safety sector. He led Alaska's unified correctional system that includes small community jails, large prisons, probation, parole, and a pre-trial enforcement division. He was hired to make extensive reforms within the prison system and initiate major changes to improve safety.

There are many areas of interest to Director Williams but reducing recidivism seems to be one of his main focuses. He's very interested in why the recidivism rate is so high. He's looking at the overuse of technical violations as one reason for so many returns to prison. His thinking is that the percentage is far too high and is taking a critical look at this. Among his many innovative ideas Director Williams wants to slow the revolving door between prison and society and help drive down the state's swelling prison population.

He is also interested in offering opportunities for some inmates to work outside the prison for the last six months of their sentence so that can have a better start upon release. His first attempt at this met with backlash from the community he was working with but plans to work with communities to build cooperation.

People Convicted of a Sex Offense By Laurie Rose Kepros

Editor's Note: The below article was excerpted from the GO Guide (5th Edition)

"This information is intended as an introduction to current requirements for people living in the community with a sex

offense history. It is not legal advice and individuals should consult a lawyer for case-specific guidance. Indigent clients who wish to seek legal representation by the Office of the State Public Defender may apply to the regional office in the jurisdiction where their charges were filed. The Public Defender cannot provide legal representation on (a) matters before the Parole Board including parole revocation proceedings, (b) petitions to discontinue registration, or (c) classification decisions by the department of corrections."

Registration:

There are several federal laws that require states to have a registration and notification process for people convicted of a sexual offense but these laws are different in every state. In Colorado, the sex offense registration laws are set forth in CRS 16-22-101 *et seq.* In Colorado, a person may not legally stop registering without a court order allowing him/her to do so. You can read more about registration in DOC Administrative Regulation 550-06.

If you're required to register, around six months before you're released from prison, your case manager will have you read and sign the Sex Offender Registration Information form. You should be given a copy of this form. The form explains more about who must register, the penalties for not registering, where to register, etc.

Several weeks before you're released to parole or you discharge your sentence, you will need to read and sign the Notice to Register as a Sex Offender form. You will be given a copy of this form as well. Approximately ten days before you're released, your case manager must have the address where you intend to live after you're released. If you refuse to provide this address or provide false information, you can be charged with a new crime. If you're discharging your sentence and fail to provide an address, you will be taken to jail immediately after release by the DOC. If you can't provide an address because you don't know where you will live, and you will be on parole, the DOC should refer you to a community re-entry specialist.

Although Colorado does not have a statewide law governing where registrants can live, some cities and counties have residency restrictions that don't allow people who have to register to live within their boundaries or within a specific distance (for example "300 feet") from places like schools or parks, or that may restrict the number of registered people who can live at one address. Where they exist, these laws are different for every city and county. It's important for you to know whether such restrictions exist where you plan to live. It may be useful to contact the police or sheriff agency where you would be required to register to learn if there are any restrictions on registrants and, if so, how they interpret them.

If you are required to register, you must register with the local law enforcement agency where you live, even if it's on a temporary basis and you must register in multiple places if you are residing in multiple places. Depending on the crime triggering the duty to register, people either have to register at least every three months or once per year. Additionally, whenever there are changes, the registrant must correct and update the information. If you live within city limits, register at the police station. If you live outside of city or town limits, register with the county sheriff's department. You may want to call first to confirm the jurisdiction, the time(s) that they are open to accept registration paperwork (some require an appointment), and whether there is a fee.

If you can't find a stable place to live, you still must register but you will do so under "lacks a fixed residence" status in the community where you are staying. People who register as "lacks a fixed residence" are required to do extra check-ins with the law enforcement agency where they are registered. Failure to comply with this check-in requirement is a separate misdemeanor crime called **Failure to Verify Location as a Sex Offender, CRS 18-3-412.6.**

Registration fees vary by jurisdiction, with some cities and counties requiring a fee of up to \$75 for the initial registration and up to \$25 for every subsequent annual or quarterly registration. The local law enforcement agency has discretion to waive the fee for an indigent person. For all other persons, the local law enforcement agency may pursue payment of the fee through a civil collection process or any other lawful means if the person is unable to pay at the time of registration. A local law enforcement agency shall accept a timely registration in all circumstances even if the person is unable to pay the fee at the time of registration. *See* CRS 16-22-108(7).

If you move and you need to register with a different law enforcement agency, it's a good idea to let the prior jurisdiction know that you have moved so they do not think you are failing to register. The new law enforcement agency is supposed to do that but, unfortunately, they do not always communicate well so it's good to do it yourself too. That way, if the new jurisdiction doesn't notify the prior jurisdiction, the prior jurisdiction doesn't mistakenly think that you've absconded and seek an arrest warrant.

Make sure to keep good records when you register or interact with law enforcement concerning your registration, write down the date, time and name/title of the person you talked to and keep a copy of all official documents. TIP: If your registration is refused for some reason, contact the Colorado Bureau of Investigation Sex Offender Registry at 303.239.4222 so that it is clear that you are doing everything you can to be properly registered.

For some convictions, when a certain amount of time has passed since the day you completed the sentence in the case triggering the duty to register, you may be eligible to file a petition to terminate your registration requirement. *See* CRS 16-22-113. These waiting periods can be up to 20 years and do not begin to run until you have completely discharged your sentence, including finishing any period of parole. Even when a person is not otherwise eligible to petition to discontinue registration, a registrant or his or her legal representative may file a petition if the registrant suffers from "a severe physical or intellectual disability to the extent that he or she is permanently incapacitated and does not present an unreasonable risk to public safety." CRS 16-22-113(2.5). A person may need to get off the registry to become eligible for nursing home, hospice care, and federal (including VA) housing.

If you are required to register because of a conviction in Colorado, you can file the petition in your original case. If you are required to register because of an out-of-state conviction, you must file a new civil case in Colorado and ask the court to terminate your duty to register. There is a filing fee in civil cases that may be waived for indigent people. The public defender cannot file petitions to discontinue registration so you will either have to hire a lawyer or do it yourself. The petition process typically requires you to file proof with the court that you have sent notice of your petition to specific entities. If you have successfully completed sex offense treatment, it is very helpful to the petition if you have saved documents showing your successful termination from treatment. Since many years may pass between treatment completion and the time when you are eligible to petition to discontinue registration, you may want to consider identifying a safe place or safe person with whom to store these documents. For Colorado convictions, there is also a form that treatment providers can file with the court confirming your successful termination from treatment in an Appendix to the Sex Offender Management Board's *Standards and Guidelines for the Assessment, Evaluation, Treatment and Behavioral Monitoring of Adult Sex Offenders.*

If you're required to register and you don't, you can be charged with failure to register, which is a felony if the crime triggering your duty to register involved a felony conviction, adjudication, or deferred judgement. There are many ways to commit the crime of Failure to Register, CRS 18-3-412.5, including providing false information and leaving the state of Colorado and not telling the state that you are leaving. Failure to register is also a parole violation. Depending on the situation, you may also be charged with federal failure to register crimes. The federal government also requires 21-day advance notice to your local registration agency if you want to travel outside of the United States. Some countries have denied entry when the registrant reaches the foreign airport and the State Department is now requiring some registrants to obtain a

new passport that identifies them as a registered sex offender so it is a good idea to investigate the policy of any foreign country to which you wish to travel.

Registry information will be released to any person living within the jurisdiction of that law enforcement agency. This registry information includes your name, address, any alias, date of birth, photo (if available and requested), the conviction that requires you to register, and other information in the discretion of law enforcement.

Some people required to register may have their names, photos, and other information posted on the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's Sex Offender Registry website (which also populates a mobile phone application called Gov2Go) or on the websites of the local law enforcement agency where you are registered. Certain crimes also require people to register email accounts, their vehicles, and their work and/or school addresses. For more information about registration, see CRS 16-22-108.

If you have been identified by the court or parole board as a sexually violent predator (SVP), you will have to register quarterly and will be posted on the Sex Offender Registry website. Special community notification procedures, including public meetings, may be held every time you move. If you are considered a SVP, you are not eligible to petition the court to terminate the registration requirement. If you believe you have been wrongly labeled an SVP, you may be able to challenge this designation by filing a motion under Colorado Rule of Criminal Procedure 35(c). If you are indigent, you can ask the court in the case where you were labeled an SVP to appoint the public defender to help you challenge this label. You can also contact the public defender's office in that jurisdiction to apply for representation directly.

For more information, you can check the Sex Offender Registry website for Colorado at www.sor.state.co.us or Colorado Revised Statute §16-22-113.

Lifetime Supervision Act

Colorado's Sex Offender Lifetime Supervision Act applies to certain sex crimes committed after November 1, 1998. People sentenced under the Lifetime Supervision Act receive indeterminate parole or probation terms of either 10-years-to-life or 20-years-to-life. The parole board or court is allowed to terminate parole or probation after the person completes the minimum term of years and, in making its decision, will consider whether the person has met the Lifetime criteria found in an Appendix to the Sex Offender Management Board's *Standards and Guidelines for the Assessment, Evaluation, Treatment and Behavioral Monitoring of Adult Sex Offenders*.

Community Resources

Several community groups specifically help people convicted of a sex offense.

Advocates for Change (AFC) • 720.329.9096 • PO Box 103392, Denver CO 80250
advocates4changeafc@gmail.com

AFC provides support to people convicted of a sex offense -- and their friends and family -- by holding a variety of weekly and monthly meetings in Denver and publishes a quarterly newsletter called The Advocate that comes with membership.

Coalition for Sexual Offense Restoration (CSOR) • 720.690.7125 • P.O. Box 27051, Denver, CO 80227
www.csor-home.org

CSOR seeks total restoration of persons who have committed sexual offenses, including social, psychological, emotional, physical and spiritual. CSOR is committed to reducing victimization and increasing the safety of the public through the restoration/rehabilitation of the person who has sexually offended. CSOR hosts quarterly luncheon meetings in Denver on topics related to Colorado sex offense policy including community / reentry issues and maintains a list of landlords in metro Denver willing to rent to people on the registry and their families. CSOR is Colorado's NARSOL Affiliate.

Colorado-CURE-SORT • <https://www.cure-sort.org/>

Specific focus on people convicted of a sex offense.

Editor's Note: Ms Kepros is the Director of Sexual Litigation for the Colorado State Public Defender's Office. They provide assistance and counseling to defense attorneys throughout the state defending persons charged with a sexual offense. She is also a professor at Metro State University.

Drug Tests and Background Checks are Becoming Less Important to Employers. Here's Why

Reprinted from CNN Business Aug 13, 2019
It's brutal out there [for employers looking to hire](#).

"America has a talent crunch," said Steven Lindner, CEO of The WorkPlace Group. "This one, unlike past ones, is across all age groups. We also see it across all industries." So some companies are reducing hiring requirements -- like drug testing, background checks and the amount of experience and education wanted.

When Bob Camire started working at New England Document Systems in 2010 he had no problem finding workers for the document management company -- even for the entry-level production positions that paid \$8 an hour.

We had people beating down our door to get in at the low rate we were offering at the time," said Camire, who is the director of human resources and operations. "We had one

person coming in for an \$8-an-hour job who was earning \$60,000. Today, the total opposite is true."

To help expand its applicant pool, the company is more lenient on what it will let pass in a background check, according to Camire. Previous blue-collar crimes, like drug or alcohol-related offenses and motor vehicle issues, aren't automatic disqualifiers unless the position is for a driver or safety-related position.

However, because of the sensitive nature of many of the documents it handles from clients, the company is still strict on white collar crimes, like fraud and identity theft.

Paying more and asking for less to attract talent

Close to 40% of employers say they have loosened job requirements in order to recruit workers, according to a recent report from recruitment and staffing firm Adecco USA.

"It's an indicator of where we are and how hard it is to find talent," said Bill Ravenscroft, senior vice president at Adecco, adding that it's taking 10-15 candidates to find one who is qualified and wants the job.

The job market is so good, candidates aren't even showing up for interviews

"A lot of these companies are also in a situation where they can't compete on wages ... they are finding more creative ways to still get access to talent."

Document Systems increased its starting salaries for production jobs to \$10.50 an hour, but it's still having a hard time attracting candidates. "If we bumped up the starting rate to \$12, that would open the pool up for us, but the problem is we have long-tenured employees we would also have to bump up and it would cost the company an awful lot of money," said Camire.

Companies are also shedding their education requirements. The number of jobs listed on ZipRecruiter requiring an associate's or bachelor's degree or an MBA has dropped in the last two years, according to the company.

Certain sectors have seen big reductions. For instance, 13% of food service sector jobs posted required a high school diploma or equivalent compared to 21% in 2017, ZipRecruiter found.

Hanover Co-op Food Stores, the second largest food co-op in the country, currently has around 30 open positions. To help get more applicants, the company has relaxed its education and experience requirements and increased wages for new employees.

While all hires still go through a background check, the food cooperative has also relaxed its stance on past convictions, according to Lori Hildbrand, director of administrative operations.

"Before I got here, there was a rule we would never hire someone who had a felony conviction," she said. "We now look at the length of time since things have happened and their history since then."

If an applicant has had a clean history for about seven to 10 years since the conviction, then they would still be in the running. However, if someone applied for a cashier job with a larceny conviction, the applicant would instead be

considered for a position in another department, such as food prep or grocery.

The company said it will not hire anyone with a history of child molestation.

How to know what it's really like to work at a company

The co-op has also sped up its hiring process. The HR department used to pre-screen candidates before a hiring manager reached out. Now, those pre-screening questions are incorporated into the application process and candidates are passed straight to the hiring manager.

"The delay was up to two weeks and we would lose people," said Hildbrand. The co-op also works to get offers made within 24 hours.

Opening Up the Pool

Some companies have also stopped drug testing candidates or have relaxed which results are flagged.

"Clients are saying that is no longer the most important criteria and are eliminating drug screening for certain positions," said Ravenscroft.

And for companies who still drug test, they aren't as strict with what they're looking for.

"A lot of clients are saying even if we drug test, we've dropped marijuana from the panel," said attorney Jim Reidy, with the lawfirm Sheehan Phinney Bass & Green.

Some companies are targeting older workers, who might not be ready for full retirement. The average number of job postings with language aimed at candidates who are retirement age more than doubled from 2017 to 2019 on ZipRecruiter.

"They are including language in job postings saying 'retirees welcome' or 'perfect jobs for retirees' and saying how they will work with them to provide things like flexible schedules," said Julia Pollak, labor economist at ZipRecruiter.

Sample Parole Plan

Editor's Note: Below is a sample parole plan submitted by one of our membership. It has been condensed to fit in these pages. We feel it is an effective tool for building what you want the parole board to hear and know about the offender requesting parole. This is only a SAMPLE. Offenders and their families should use this as a GUIDE and add to or delete as necessary.

At the top, one could include a picture of the offender and/or the offender's family. NO CHILDREN should be in the picture.

Parole Plan for

Offender Name: _____

DOC No.: _____

Parole Hearing Date: _____

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Section	Topic
A	Personal Information
B	Health
C	During My Incarceration
D	Recreation
E	Institutional Behavior

F	Risk Factors
G	Future Plans
H	Personal Statement

Section A: Personal Information

- Name:
- Date of Birth:
- D.O.C. No.:
- Charge:
- Original Sentence:
- Final Sentence:
- Parole Eligibility Date:
- Parole Hearings:
- Time Incarcerated:
- Parole Hearing Attendees:

List all people who will attend and their relationship to inmate.

Section B: Health

My physical health is good. I have taken the opportunity while in prison to address some minor health issues. I have also participated in recreational activities offered at [name of facility] in order to improve my general health and well-being. I plan to continue this activity in the community upon my release, if approved.

Section C: During My Incarceration

- I have worked hard to develop open and honest relationships with my family and friends.
- I have learned how to honestly and effectively express my emotions.
- I have learned to be more assertive and less passive.
- I have continued to develop empathy for those I have victimized in the past.
- I have learned the true value of what it means to help others by not having my own agenda.
- I continue to strive to learn more about my behaviors to keep myself not just safe, but accountable for my actions.
- I have maintained a positive attitude in the prison environment that has transferred to the offenders around me in many ways.
- I have developed a strong work ethic that I did not previously have in the community.
- I do not now, nor have I ever, had problems with drugs or alcohol.

Section D: Recreation

I enjoy listening to music, participating in sports such as _____ and _____. I also enjoy _____ and would like to continue that interest in the future. While in prison I have learned to _____ that I now sell as a way to support myself and take some of the burden off of my family. I plan to continue this in the community as a way to supplement my income. I also enjoy reading and have read many books during my incarceration including, but not limited to, self-help, educational and many fiction and non-fiction books.

Section E: Institutional Record

Part One: Work Assignments

- I have worked in the _____ with a satisfactory job rating.
- I have worked for _____ in housekeeping for approximately [time you have worked at this position] and have a good work record at that position.
- I have also worked [in this should be a supervisor name and what department] at [facility name] and I am currently employed as _____.
- I have remained gainfully employed for over [months/years] consecutively.

Part Two: Certificates/Awards

- I have received certificates for: _____
- I have also received college credit for _____.
- I am currently working on _____

Part Three: Behaviors

- I have received ____ COPD convictions while incarcerated. [Explain]
- The write-ups occurred [timeframe].
- The write-ups were [explain situation]
- I feel that I have taken responsibility for my actions and have learned a lot in the process.
- I have not had any COPD convictions since [date].
- I have not been a management issue for cell house staff or facility staff during this time.

Section F: Factors that Mitigate My Risk to the Community

Part One: History of a Responsible Citizen

- I have no other criminal history other than the crime I am currently incarcerated for. [IF THIS STATEMENT IS NOT TRUE FOR YOU THEN EXPLAIN]
- I have completed over _____ sessions of sex offense specific treatment in the Department of Corrections
- I have completed over _____ sessions of sex offense specific treatment in the community at [name program]
- I have completed a total of over _____ sessions for _____ hours.
- I have a large support network of family and friends including, but not limited to, those in attendance today. [CHANGE TO FIT YOUR SITUATION]

Part Two: Treatment

- It has been shown in study after study that sex offense specific treatment reduces the rate of recidivism greatly.
- I [have/have not] completed Phase I at [facility] on _____ and am currently [attending or awaiting] Phase II.
 - Through treatment I have come to understand my offense cycle as well as the triggers and appropriate exits for that cycle.
 - Many of my issues revolve around acceptance and stress.
 - I am willing to work with my treatment team to develop safety plans for all situations that occur commonly in the community as well as other activities that I may be allowed to participate in.
 - My sex offense specific evaluation, completed in [DATE] which places me in the low risk to reoffend category and I have worked diligently to lower that risk further.
 - I am not a sexually violent predator as cited in court records. My evaluation and my pre-sentence investigation report.
 - My [family member or friend] has completed _____ [months/classes] of informed supervisor training through [list program if separate from SOTMP program] as well as attended the SOTMP program by Ann Greenwood. [List any other parties that have attended such programs on your behalf]
 - I rate low on the Colorado actuarial risk assessment scale.
 - I have no anger management or domestic violence issues.
 - While I can never guarantee that I will never reoffend, I know that treatment and honesty with my support system are vital to my goal of no further victims. I present the following studies as further proof of my low chance to reoffend.
 - According to a 1994 Meta Analysis, 359 treatment outcome research studies were analyzed using a data pool of 10,998 sex offenders. The results showed the percent of offenders who returned to prison based on the amount of treatment they received.
 - Offenders that were released to the community with NO treatment had been returned to prison 34% of the time.

◦ Offenders with fewer than 50 sessions were returned to prison 7% of the time.

◦ Offenders with more than 50 sessions came back to prison 2% of the time. Having had over _____ total sessions of treatment, I figure my risk to reoffend to be less than 1%.

I offer the following further evidence:

• During my time in the community while on probation (4 years) I never reoffended.

• I held jobs in the community that placed me in direct contact with potential victims but did not reoffend.

• After being revoked from probation I was out of jail on bond and have never attempted to flee and not face punishment.

Part Three: Letters of Support

• The following are letters of support I have received from my support system

Part Four: Education and Work History

• I have a G.E.D. obtained in [list year and school]

• List any other degrees you may have, when received and what schools.

• I have completed some course studies in _____.

• I have a work history that includes jobs in many areas that will help me get a job in the community.

• See attached resume.

Section G: Future Plans

Part One: Goals

• No further victims or victimizing behaviors.

• To get placement in the community through parole or community corrections.

• Work toward eliminating my debt.

• Successfully complete parole.

• Eat healthier, exercise more.

• Restore contact with my _____.]

• Be a better person (father, son, brother, uncle, etc).

• Help others more.

• Live for the moment and use each day as a learning experience.

• Work toward self employment.

Part Two: Residence

I plan to begin parole living at _____.

My goal is to have a place of my own in [amount of time. I have been keeping up with prices of apartments and other rentals in the area and believe this to be a realistic goal. I will look for housing that is appropriate for my situation.

Part Three: Employment

• I have experience in _____ and while I do not anticipate having difficulties finding gainful employment, I also understand that the economy is troubled and this may prove to be difficult not only as a felon but as a person convicted of a sex offense as well.

• I have continued to watch the local job market and I am looking for job opportunities that will be appropriate in my situation.

• I have learned to make _____ in prison and I plan to continue this as a way to help supplement my income. (See attached photos)

• Before coming to prison, I made money as _____.

Once I am allowed to _____ I plan to _____ as a way

to add to my income. I have worked while in prison to continue my _____ knowledge by reading educational books on the subject.

I will utilize temporary agencies and day labor as needed to ensure my ability to pay for treatment and other bills.

• I plan to apply at _____ upon my release.

Part Four: To Do List Upon Release

• Go directly to my assigned parole office to meet with my parole officer.

• Register as a sex offender with the local police department.

• Begin treatment as soon as possible with a positive attitude.

• Begin employment search.

• Use skills learned in prison treatment program to succeed.

• Continue to be open and honest with my treatment team and my support system.

• Live a life I and my family can be proud of.

• Positively influence those around me.

Section H: Personal Statement

I come before you today for the _____ time having served _____ on my _____ sentence. I chose to commit

the sexual assault that I am incarcerated for and I will always accept the responsibility for my choice to do so. It hurt not only the victim and her family but my family and friends as well. I have not seen my daughter/son/children in _____

and I know in my heart that this has negatively effected her/him/them as well. I greatly miss her/him/them and everything she/he/they brought to my life. There is no way to change what I did but I can, and do, learn from the choices I've made.

I am committed to progressing in treatment and ensuring that my goal of no more victims is a part of my daily life. I look forward to re-entering the community and giving my full effort to being a productive and respected member of my community. I feel like I have, for the first time, worked hard enough to deserve a second chance and I understand that my efforts must continue each day no matter what my situation. I have a great support system, I always have. The difference is that I've learned that I can always turn to them to help me succeed through the hard times. I know now that I don't have to walk this path alone.

Thank you. I sincerely appreciate your consideration.

Need a Ride?

Barn-A-Bus visits most Colorado prisons monthly

303-300-3670

“Keeping Families Connected”

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Editorial Policy

The Advocate is published by Advocates for Change. We provide information on our efforts to affect change in legislation, treatment, and re-integration into the community, primarily for those who have been convicted of a sex offense. Nothing offered by AFC is intended to be legal advice, and any information provided should never be a substitute for obtaining counsel and/or conducting your own research.

Submissions from inmates/offenders, parolees, and members, are encouraged. Please limit articles to 300 words. The editor reserves the right to publish all, part or none of the contributions submitted. Send contributions for publication and/or comments on the newsletter to: Advocates for Change, Newsletter Editor, PO Box 103392, Denver, CO 80250.

PLEASE JOIN US

Membership Fee is \$25 for family membership, \$5 per year for returning citizens, and 8 stamps for those on the inside. Any additional donations are gratefully accepted.

Today's Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: (optional) _____

Newsletter preference: regular news letter
 plain newsletter in plain envelope
 email
 do not sent a newsletter

Please feel free to share an application with a friend or a family member. Call 720-329-9096, if you have any questions or comments.

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