



The Deuce Club

Volume I, Issue 5

July 2010

Special Point of Interest

- In the last ten years, the Parole population has shifted to a greater percentage of people convicted of violent crimes. At the end of 2009, there 16,684 people convicted of violent crimes under supervision.

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The Legislature passes "good" reentry bills

The Legislature has passed some good bills this session and the Governor has already signed eight of them into law. The eight are reentry bills and there are still some other bills pending, such as the prison gerrymandering bill, which has passed the Assembly and awaits its vote in the Senate. If the Senate passes it, then on to the Governor. In the meantime, here is a summary of recent legislative activity including the eight bills that were signed into law in June:

ABC Bill: This law now permits the formerly incarcerated to work at alcohol-serving establishments such as catering businesses, hotels, res-

taurants, clubs and recreational facilities (think sports arenas and country clubs) or at a place with a liquor license that sells alcoholic beverages at retail to be consumed off-premise. The full detail of the changes can be found in the Alcohol and Beverage Control Law Section 102(2).

DOCS' Inmate Lookup: This law now requires removal of information from the DOCS' website (inmate lookup screen) for certain offenders after five years released from prison and after completion of any parole or post-release supervision. If you re-offend, it'll all be put back on. Certain offenders are those whose offenses were/are merit

time eligible. Sex offenders are excluded. See new Section 9 of Corrections Law.

Free Rap Sheet: Persons in prison or local jails may now receive a free copy of their rap sheet upon request to the Division of Criminal Justice Services. See new subdivision 6a in Executive Law Section 837.

Pre-Sentence Report (PSR): Upon request to the sentencing court, the court shall make a copy of the PSR available to a person in anticipation of a parole board appearance or appeal. The court must respond within 20 days of receipt of the written request. It may still be redacted in accor-

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Four New Parole Commissioners Appointed to New York State Board of Parole

Four new parole commissioners were nominated by Governor Paterson and confirmed by the Senate.

Edward M. Sharkey was nominated and confirmed. He is a former

District Attorney from Cattaraugus County.

Lynn Anne Tabbott was nominated and confirmed. She is a former Assistant Attorney General and also served as an ADA in Kings County and

Orange County. She's also been a town court judge.

Seny Taveras was nominated and confirmed. She was a special counsel to Governor Paterson.

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From the Editor — Let's Shoot Down Lame Ducks

In a so-called “Exclusive,” the *Daily News* (July 13, 2010, pp. 4-5) published perhaps what it thinks is an expose — “Dave Puts His Cronies on Parole Board” — about the New York State Board of Parole. Companion pieces, “Nice work if you can get it,” and “Meet the \$101G Club,” flesh out this “Exclusive.”

As anyone in New York who follows Parole knows, appointment to the Board of Parole has been, since it came under the Executive office in 1980, a patronage “job.” Often-times, the people who become parole commissioners seek out the position. Through political connections, their names end up on a short list of candidates. They are more often than not confirmed by the Senate because they are friends or friends of friends of someone with a political connection. When the Republicans controlled the State Senate, when the Conference also held the Governor’s office, the appointments to the Board of Parole were blatantly political patronage. Under former Governor George Pataki,

the whole process of parole became political, from appointments to the Board of Parole to the decision whether or not to release an individual to parole supervision. Indeed, under Mr. Pataki, political patronage as far as the Board of Parole was concerned took on new meaning. Yet there was nothing from the *Daily News* on how the Pataki administration handled Parole. Nothing from the *Daily News* when parole was allegedly being “sold” during the Pataki administration. Indeed, nothing from the *Daily News* concerning the previous two governors and their appointments to the Board of Parole. Perhaps Governor Paterson, a lame duck, is easy to shoot down, so the *Daily News* set its sights on him.

In any event, if any of the five ap-

pointments to the Board of Parole can be considered a “crony” of Gov. Paterson, it would be Seny Taveras. According to the article, “She is a special assistant to Gov. Paterson’s deputy secretary for public safety. Previously served as a senior policy adviser to Paterson in the lieutenant governor’s office and as a special counsel when he was a state senator.” Interestingly, the other four have backgrounds in law enforcement: Henry Lemons, deputy chief investigator for the state attorney general’s office and worked in the Brooklyn district attorney’s office; Richard Clarke, NYPD patrol officer, investigator, detective and sergeant of special anti-crack unit; Edward Sharkey, Cattaraugus County’s district attorney; Lynne Anne Tabbott, assistant attorney general, senior district attorney in Orange County.

“Under former Governor George Pataki, the whole process of parole became political, from appointments to the Board of Parole to the decision whether or not to release an individual to parole supervision.”

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Parole Board Members Prior to Recent Appointments

Name	Originally Appointed By	Date of Original Confirmation	Term Expires
Evans, Andrea W.	Hon. David Paterson	June 8, 2009	February 6, 2013
Smith, Walter Wm., Jr.	Hon. George Pataki	December 17, 1996	July 6, 2011
Loomis, Debra J.	Hon. George Pataki	March 30, 2000	June 18, 2010
Grant, Thomas P.	Hon. George Pataki	May 3, 2004	June 18, 2010
Ferguson, James	Hon. George Pataki	April 12, 2005	July 6, 2011
Gallivan, Patrick	Hon. George Pataki	June 22, 2005	July 6, 2011

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DCJS Releases Report: "2009 Crimestat Report"

In June 2010, the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) released its: "2009 Crimestat Report," 4th Edition.

The Report presents system indicator and performance measurement data for criminal justice activities within New York State. Compiled by DCJS, the report includes information from DCJS and the following state agencies: Board of Examiners of Sex Offenders; State Commission of Correction; Department of Correctional Services; Crime Victims Board; Division of Parole; Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence; Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives; and Division of State Police. The FBI, the Federal Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the New York/New Jersey High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, and local police and law enforcement agencies throughout New York State also provided data.

The following data about "Parolee Population":

- The number of offenders under supervision in New York City fell 33% since 2000, from 33,250 to 22,280 in 2009. This decrease followed a decline in new commitments from New York City. In December 2009, 56% of the parolee population was in New York City as compared to 66% in 2000.
- The number of offenders under supervision outside of New York City stayed about the same from 17,424 in 2000 to 17,506 on December 31, 2009. Given that fewer than 50% of prison commitments have come from New York

City during the past five years, the parolee population will continue to shift regionally. For the first time in 2009, the number of releases to parole from counties outside of New York City (12,247) were greater than the releases to parole within New York City (12,0678).

- There were 16,684 violent offenders under supervision at the end of 2009.
- As of December 2009, there were 13,390 drug offenders under supervision.
- In December 2009, 42% of the parolee population was under supervision for a violent felony offense, as compared to only 29% in the first part of the decade.
- In 2000, 26,629 parolees were under supervision for drug offenses, representing 52% of the parolee population. At the end of 2009, drug offenders represented only 34% of the parolee population.

Explanations for the above "Criminal Justice Population Trends": With fewer crimes being committed and fewer offenders going to prison, the number of parolees also declined. The parolee population peaked in 1997, with 53,634 offenders under supervision; at the end of 2009, there were 39,786. Offenders are released to parole supervision through a variety of mechanisms, including discretionary release by the parole Board, presumptive release authorized by the Department of Correctional Services, release after serving a fixed sen-

tence and conditional release by operation of law....

While the overall parolee population has decreased steadily since 1998, this decrease was due mainly to fewer parolees released to, and residing in, New York City....

In the last 10 years, the Parole population has shifted to a greater percentage of violent offenders. At the end of 2009, there were 16,684 violent offenders under supervision. This is an increase of 15% since 2000. During the same period of time, the number of drug offenders on parole decreased by 50% due to fewer drug offenders entering prison, reformed statutes that allow drug offenders with successful supervision histories to be discharged prior to the maximum expiration of their sentence, and shorter periods of post-release supervision for determinately sentenced drug offenders.

The Report is available on the DCJS website at www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us.



New Parole Commissioners

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Richard J. Clarke was nominated and confirmed. He is a retired NYPD Lieutenant.

Reconfirmed was **Henry Lemons** whose term had expired in 2008.



The Legislature passes “good” reentry bills

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dance with other sections of law. See CPL Section 390.50(2)(a).

Free Birth Certificates: DOCS, local jails and Office of Children and Family Services may now request free birth certificates to provide to incarcerated persons upon their release, at no cost to the agency or the recipient of the birth certificate. See Public Health Law Section 4174(4) and section 4179.

Voting Rights Notification: There's a lot of confusion about voting rights. This law requires that upon discharge from maximum expiration or from parole or post-release supervision that such person will be provided notification of his or her voting rights and an application for such registration. People in prison and on parole cannot vote in New York State. Those with certificates of relief or certificates of good conduct however can vote even if they are still on parole. When you are off parole you are automatically eligible to vote. See new Section 75 of Correction Law and new Section 259-JJ of the Executive Law.

Federal Inmates' Certificates of Relief: New York State Parole does the footwork for former federal inmates residing in NYS who seek a Certificate of Relief from Disabilities. Parole will now have a more streamlined process working with Federal Probation and New York State Parole shall provide such Certificate to such former federal inmate unless the interests of justice would not be advanced by the issuance of the Certificate. See new subdivision 7 of Correction Law 703.

Certificate of Equivalency Bill: Many sections of law that mentioned only one certificate such as Good Conduct versus the other certificate, Relief from Disabilities,

have now been conformed to include both certificates. Previously if it only mentioned one certificate and you had the other, you were out of luck over such technicality. This has now been fixed. Too many sections of law amended to list.

In addition to the above reentry bills, DOCS and DMV have come to an agreement that prisoners discharged on maximum expiration may now get a non-drivers identification card from DMV using an unexpired DOCS release ID card, SS card, birth certificate and the Certificate of Discharge already given to prisoners released upon maximum expiration. Before this arrangement, only people on Parole could get DMV ID with the DOCS ID, birth certificate and social security card leaving maximum expiration prisoners scrambling for more proof of identification than parolees needed. DOCS will now provide such notice for maximum expiration releasees and said notice is good at DMV along with the unexpired DOCS ID and the three said documents (certificates of discharge, birth certificate and social security card). DOCS can arrange for you to receive your social security card and birth certificate before your release, at no cost, if you need them.

This non-drivers ID provision for maximum expiration releasees is an administrative arrangement between DOCS and DMV. This is not a law.

Yet to be signed by the Governor but passed by both the Senate and the Assembly are a couple more bills. First is a bill to expand LCTA eligible programs to include Puppies Behind Bars, Corcraft Asbestos program, Corcraft Optical program and the Sign Language Interpreter Program. See Bill S7864 or A10611. Second is a bill to expand Shock eligibility to second time non-

violent felony offenders. See Bill S8228 or A11391. The Governor's signature is all that's left for these two bills.

Other legislative news is that Lyon Mountain C/F and the minimum portion of Butler C/F will be closing this budget year. Ogdensburg and Moriah will not be closing next year. Another bill was passed to put the onus on the Commissioner of Economic Development for reuse plans for shuttered prisons, rather than the Commissioner of DOCS to come up with such plan. The reuse plan bill was part of a larger budget bill.

Last, and certainly not least, it remains to be seen what happens to a bill sponsored by Senator Schneiderman and Assemblyman Jeffries to require that for the purpose of setting legislative districts that prisoners be counted as residents of where they lived before incarceration, and not as residents of the county where they are incarcerated. This bill has already passed the Assembly and awaits the Senate's action, to be followed by the Governor either signing or vetoing. This change would not affect funding for the counties where the prisons are located; counties would not lose any money by not being able to include prisoners as part of their "resident" population. Rather, this is a civil rights issue more than anything else, and the sponsors of this bill fought hard to get it this far. Legislative districting comes once every ten years, so if not now, then not for another ten years. Hopefully the Senate will shortly pass this bill shortly (it's in one of the Governor's larger bills) and the Governor will sign it (he did put it in one of his bills after all but nothing is a done deal until he signs off on it).

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Looking Back: “The Eighth of July and Other Important Dates”

When you are in an American prison, the Fourth of July can be a very sobering experience. Whatever you are in prison for, you have had that most precious of rights, liberty, taken from you. This Fourth of July, when Americans celebrate the country’s liberation from England and its independence, all prisoners should vow to never again end up in prison or take their liberty for granted.

Right now, for me, as a prisoner, the Fourth of July does not hold any special significance. On that day I will not get drunk, go to barbecues or watch fireworks. If I’m lucky, the prison will give me an “Independence Day meal”: two hamburgers, two frankfurters, a serving each of potato and macaroni salad and a slice of watermelon. I can’t find the right words, but there is something un-American and downright sinister about this meal, especially the watermelon, which I will give to another prisoner. (It’s similar to the “last meal” of a death-row prisoner, well intentioned but mockery.) Imprisoned, there’s no way to enjoy this meal or this day.

There is another day, though, shortly after the Fourth of July, which is important to me as a prisoner. The Eighth of July. This date is significant in this state’s penal history. After a five-year study of the prison system by a Commission appointed by Gov. Nelson Rockefeller in 1965, on July 8, 1970, all New York State prisons became “correctional facilities,” all guards became “corrections officers,” and all prisoners became “inmates.” These, the major recommendations implemented after the study. Very little changed in the prison system. Fourteen months later Attica “Correctional Facility” exploded, marking one of the bloodiest prison rebellions in American history.

With the passage of recent crime and corrections legislation, and more repressive laws on the legislative agenda, I have been thinking about three dates, the Fourth of July, the Eighth of July and the Thirteenth of September, the day Attica was retaken by state (“storm”) troopers in 1971. Total body count: 43. Had the Commission appointed by Gov. Rockefeller been empowered to implement some of its more meaningful recommendations in New York State prisons, perhaps Attica would not have happened. Tragically, the State waited until 43 people were killed before it set in motion prison reforms to begin the slow process of transforming prisons into correctional facilities” which, for the record, was never realized. Forty-three people died before very small concessions to a prisoner’s humanity were granted. Today, with double-bunking, \$5-dollar surcharges for minor infractions (note that most prisoners don’t earn \$5 dollars a week for their prison assignments), the de facto abolition of parole for those who were eligible a few years ago and the expanded use of isolation as a correctional tool, with extended periods of time in “Special Housing Units” (a euphemism for solitary confinement), as much as 15 years, not to mention various diseases such as TB and HIV proliferating, prison conditions are returning to pre-Attica days, and worse.

We say that history repeats itself, instead of admitting that we do not seem to learn from it. Soon, an already overcrowded prison system with more and more hopeless prisoners will explode again, since the

fuse has already been lit. Get-tough policies will be revealed for what they really are, political posturing with no practical value. And to think that we were and are still willing to risk and to pay a greater price, that is, human lives, rather than honor the memory of the dead at Attica by keeping the few and very small concessions made that are their legacy, and to insure that nothing like it ever happens again.

As prisoners, we often believe that there is nothing we can do to change prison conditions. That’s simply not true. I would not urge anything as revolutionary as not eating the watermelon, but this

“Many of the complaints prisoners and their advocates have about the governor’s criminal justice policies are similar to many complaints the American colonists had about King George.”

Fourth of July, I urge prisoners to read or re-read the Declaration of Independence. It’s a document that we must keep alive. Its self-evident truths are as true today as they were more than 200 years ago when they were penned. If you think it doesn’t apply to prisoners, I challenge you to read or re-read it. Many of the complaints prisoners and their advocates have about the governor’s criminal justice policies are similar to many complaints the American colonists had about King George. By understanding the Declaration of Independence and the Fourth of July, we can make the recommendations implemented on the Eighth of July mean more than the empty-sounding rhetoric it was from day one. Obviously, an outdated prison system needed more than a name change. In going beyond the euphemisms, which did not change the prison system, and the rhetoric of rehabilitation that “corrections” officials still purport to base this prison system on, we can begin to confront the truth that our

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Let's Shoot Down Lame Ducks

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In the June 2010 issue of *The Deuce Club*, we printed on our cover the Senate Republicans' press release concerning parole, "Senate Republicans Join with Police Organizations to Call for Stronger Parole Laws." In our editorial, "Play it again, Skelos," we pointed out that the press release used the issue of a cop killing, and the issue of parole, as a political ploy by Republicans to jockey to regain some of its political power since they lost the Senate majority. In attacking parole, the Republicans were basically attacking an entity where the majority of its members were appointed by a fellow Republican, George Pataki. See Page 2, "Parole Board Members Prior to Recent Appointments." Prior to the recent appointments to the Board of Parole, nine of the 16 parole commissioners were ap-

pointed by then Governor Pataki. Indeed, the lead commissioner in the Shuaib Raheem parole panel was appointed by Mr. Pataki.

What the Republicans are doing, playing politics with parole, and the tragedy of a cop killing, is worse than shooting down lame ducks. As lawmakers, they should know that Shuaib Raheem was not sentenced to life without the possibility of parole and thus was eligible for parole, and the law should not be circumvented for political reasons or political expediency. Despite the politics, and the very real possibility that he would end up in front of this political firing squad, Thomas P. Grant, one of the commissioners involved in the decision to release Mr. Raheem to parole supervision, not "early release," looked at the

law and, using the grand criterion — whether, after all is said and done, if Mr. Raheem is released, will he live and remain at liberty without violating the law, and answering that questions in the affirmative — made a courageous decision to follow the law and not be guided by politics. Indeed, to function as a parole commissioner, to be fair not only to the victims but to people they interview for parole, one must be above politics.

The newly appointed commissioners should look at the Shuaib Raheem decision, and the courage it took on the commissioners' part to do the right thing, and model their terms on such guiding principles: fairness and adherence to the rule of Law.



Parole Board Members Prior to Recent Appointments

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Name	Originally	Date of	Term Expires
Hernandez, Christina	Hon. George Pataki	June 14, 2006	June 2, 2011
Ludlow, G. Kevin	Hon. George Pataki	June 21, 2006	June 18, 2011
Greenan III, Gerald J.	Hon. George Pataki	June 21, 2006	June 18, 2012
Elovich, Lisa Beth	Hon. George Pataki	December 13, 2006	December 31, 2013
Lemons, Henry	Hon. Eliot Spitzer	May 1, 2007	June 18, 2008
Thompson, Sally	Hon. Eliot Spitzer	June 14, 2007	May 4, 2013
Hagler, Michael A.	Hon. Eliot Spitzer	October 22, 2007	August 31, 2013
Ross, Mary	Hon. David Paterson	June 19, 2008	August 31, 2013
Crangle, Joseph	Hon. David Paterson	June 19, 2008	June 16, 2014
Brown, Jared	Hon. David Paterson	January 26, 2010	June 18, 2012

Prison to Prosperity Fair for NYC's Formerly Incarcerated

Date: September 25, 2010

Place: The Riverside Church
New York, NY

Plan to attend

This day-long holistic fair featuring workshops aimed at successful reintegration, information booths, Plenary sessions, speakers.

We encourage corporations, faith-based and community organizations, political leaders, government agencies and the general public to lend their support to this unique and important event with monetary or in-kind contributions.

For more information

call 877-267-2303

or email resiliencemultimedia@verizon.net

Sponsored by the riverside church prison ministry in collaboration with the think outside the cell foundation, the Osborne association, the fortune society and exodus transitional community, inc.



CPR's Incarcerated Family Support Group

Do you have questions about visitation, tickets, appeals? Is your loved one going to the parole board and needs assistance preparing or do you just need someone to talk to about having a loved one in prison?

Come to the **Incarcerated Family Support Group** sponsored by the **Coalition for Parole Restoration**.

Date: The Second Tuesday of every month

Place: North Star Fund
520 8th Avenue (bet. 36th and 37th Aves)
Manhattan

Time: 6-8 pm

For further information, contact **CPR** at 718-786-4174 or parolecpr@yahoo.com or visit us on Facebook.



Fourth Annual Citizens Awards — October 30, 2010: Sponsorship Levels

Platinum Level—\$5000 and up: Business name and logo on Citizens website and blog for 12 months; Full page ad with Business name, logo and text in Citizens program journal; Material related to Business on display and distributed at Awards program; Recognition as sponsor at Citizens Awards program; 5 free tickets to awards program

Gold Level — \$2500 and up: Business name and logo on Citizens website and blog for 6 months; Full page ad with Business name, logo and text in Citizens program journal; Material related to Business on display and distributed at Awards program; Recognition as sponsor at Citizens Awards program; 4 free tickets to awards program

Silver Level—\$1000 and up: Business name and logo on Citizens website and blog for 3 months; Full page ad with Business name, logo and text in Citizens program journal; Material related to Business on display and distributed at Awards program; Recognition as sponsor at Citizens Awards program; 3 free tickets to awards program

Bronze Level — \$500 and up: Full page ad with Business name, logo and text in Citizens program journal; Material related to Business on display and distributed at Awards program; Recognition as sponsor at Citizens Awards program; 2 free tickets to awards program

Yes, I would like to be listed as a sponsor of the Fourth Annual Citizens Awards. E-mail ad copy in PDF or Word format to info@citizensinc.org with subject line as sponsor or mail with donations to: **Citizens Against Recidivism, Inc.**, 13758 Thurston Street—LL Suite, Springfield Gardens, NY 11413



CPR to do parole board appeals

Claudette Spencer-Nurse, an attorney and one of the founders of CPR, will do parole board appeals.

The fees are as follow:

Administrative Appeal — \$1500

Article 78 — \$3500

Administrative Appeal & Article 78 — \$4000.

Checks should be made out to the **Coalition for Parole Restoration**.



The Eighth of July

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prison system is a failure, and take corrective action.

As strange as it may sound, these three dates I have been talking about are connected. They should not be linked by infamy. The Declaration of Independence led to the formation of what the Founding Fathers conceived of as “a more perfect Union.” A Constitution and a Bill of Rights were written to protect all citizens, even prisoners. As the United States Supreme Court has proclaimed, “There is no iron curtain drawn between the Constitution and the prisons of this country.”

Most prisoners are citizens of this country. Those “inalienable rights” the Founding Fathers wrote about are ours, too. I don’t think any of the Attica prisoners shouted, “Give me liberty or give me death!” but I know that they were American revolutionaries in the tradition of Patrick Henry. But because the people who run our prison system are counterrevolutionaries, as are most Americans, despite the fact that I think that that’s downright un-American, since America was born through a revolution, ironically, there is a danger in any prisoner modeling himself after any of the forefathers. One can’t even urge a prisoner to take Patrick Henry seriously. I know I shouldn’t say this, I know I could start a revolution by saying this, but I have to say it despite what I said earlier. This Fourth of July, all prisoners unite and “Don’t eat the watermelon!”

E-Z Waters

This was originally published in 1999.



“Good” Reentry Bills

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Anyone who wishes the specific language with all the detail on any of the above, just send us a note and we’ll send you the full text.



Poet’s Place

The Ethos of Arrested Development

We generally appear content to merely exist as living organisms, sustained by basic, coarse and fleeting pleasures. Primarily defined by extremely low expectations and placated by a myriad of endless diversions, maturity and growth are shunned, or indefinitely postponed. A growth-oriented-based lifestyle is viewed as personally inconvenient and pointless. There is no coming to terms with the tragic realities of our own failures. Decadence is the preferred addiction and it rules. Anything else is considered a ruse and a waste of time. We live adrift on meaningless currents, clinging ever fiercely to childish legends and impotent notions of life. Leaving behind a trail of victims, shattered dreams, and perpetually misplaced aggressions.

Michael J. Love



Gorilla Lawfair: A Pro Se Litigation Manual

In the world of Pro Se litigation, people in prison have primarily relied on *The Jailhouse Lawyer’s Manual*, issued by Columbia Law School. Now, to supplement the Jailhouse Lawyer’s Manual there’s *Gorilla Lawfair: A Pro Se Litigation Manual*, by Anpu Unnever Amen. For a copy, send \$26 to:

Ta Seti
P.O. Box 120276
Brooklyn, NY 11212



Nominations for the Citizens' Awards

Nominations for the Citizens' Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the Fourth Annual Citizens' Awards honoring the social activism and accomplishments of formerly incarcerated people. Organized by Citizens Against Recidivism, Inc., this year's awards will be presented at the Malcolm X & Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center located at 3940 Broadway (164th and Broadway) New York, New York 10032 on Saturday, October 30, 2010.

The Citizens' Awards acknowledge the successes of formerly incarcerated people and are a public acknowledgment of the contributions these outstanding individuals have made since their release from prison. Our past honorees included recipients of doctoral degrees, leaders in educations, advocates, religious leaders, policymakers, and directors of social programs.

The categories for which formerly incarcerated people are to be nominated continue to include:

- Spiritual Leadership
- Research and Scholarship
- Social Action
- Life Time Achievement
- Advocate of the Year
- Freedom Fighter
- Leadership in Education
- Bridge Builder

(Note: only five awards will be presented)

Award criteria

A Nominee should be a formerly incarcerated person who has been out of prison for at least three years (exceptional cases will be considered) and whose work is in service of the truly disadvantaged, the marginalized, disenfranchised, and

or those who need the help of others to navigate from day to day.

Nominees should exhibit the following qualities:

A nominee must be someone who currently is or has helped make an impact or difference in the lives of people who are in need of help because of their inability to address a problem or situation alone, or improved some social, political, economic, and/or environmental condition.

Words and phrases that would describe a successful nominee include leader, catalyst for positive change, pioneer, founder, collaborator, innovator, strategist, or initiator.

Selection process

Citizens Against Recidivism, Inc. is now accepting nominations that conform to the template below. The nomination template may also be seen online at www.citizensinc.org.

Submitting your nomination

Applications should be completed and received by 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 25, 2010.

No late submissions will be accepted.

Applications may be submitted by email to info@citizensinc.org, include Citizens' Awards in the subject line of your email or they may be mailed to *Citizens Against Recidivism, Inc. 137-58 Thurston Street - Lower Level Suite, Springfield Gardens, New York 11413, Attention Nomination Committee.*

Please note that the award committee seeks to offer equal opportunity to nominees and does not discriminate because of gender, race, ethnicity, age, or similar attributes.

The nomination

To make a nomination, please insure that your submission is consistent with the following instructions. ***Double-space submissions and please do not exceed three pages in total. Be sure to include the name and contact information of your nominee. Submissions should follow the template below.*** It is to your advantage to follow the template as a means of increasing understanding of the nominee's application. ***(Nominations greater than three pages will not be accepted).***

Template

Dear Nomination Committee:

Part I (at least one half-page): Describe the type of relationship and length of your personal knowledge of this individual's work and dedication.

Part II: What is the organization that the individual has worked through or the organizations the person has worked with in the past, and in what capacity has she/he worked?

Part III: How has the individual's work helped, made an impact or difference in the lives of other formerly incarcerated people or people who are in need of help because of their inability to address a problem or situation alone, or helped to improved social, political, economic, and/or environmental conditions affecting the truly disadvantaged?

Part IV: Please explain which award best suits the nominee and why?

Respectfully submitted

Your name and affiliation



CPR'S MISSION STATEMENT

The Coalition for Parole Restoration is a broad-based grassroots organization created to inform, organize and bring to light all aspects of the prison industrial complex as it affects our communities, families, people in prison and formerly incarcerated persons.

Our mission is two-fold: (1) to assist people in prison in obtaining parole release and (2) to assist formerly incarcerated persons and their families with transition and re-entry.

Membership & Dues Structure

* FAMILY OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP - \$10.00 PER YEAR (PERSON IN PRISON INCLUDED)

* PERSON IN PRISON MEMBERSHIP - \$2.00 PER YEAR

* BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIP – MORE THAN \$100 PER YEAR

YEAR WILL BEGIN IN THE MONTH THAT THE MEMBERSHIP DUES IS RECEIVED AND END IN THE SAME MONTH THE FOLLOWING YEAR

(STAMPS ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTED TO PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES)

MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO RECEIVE CPR'S NEWSLETTER, WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR, AND NOTICE OF ALL CPR-SPONSORED MEETINGS, RALLIES AND EVENTS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE, POEM, ETC. TO THE NEWSLETTER, YOU SHOULD SEND IT BY EMAIL OR U.S. MAIL BEFORE THE FIRST OF THE MONTH IN WHICH THE NEWSLETTER IS BEING PRINTED. SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE 750 WORDS OR LESS AND WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO EDIT ANYTHING APPEARING IN THE NEWSLETTER. ALL WORKS MUST BE ORIGINAL. WE WILL NOT PUBLISH ANYTHING WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR.

COALITION FOR PAROLE RESTORATION

POST OFFICE BOX 1379

NEW YORK, NY 10013-0877

718-786-4174

www.parolecpr.org

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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