



National Advocacy Groups Upcoming Conference Schedules and Summaries for the Summer

By Joseph Ajlouny

Despite the rash of disheartening news and developments we've witnessed in the past months – led by the aftermath of the Larry Nassar sexual assault-in-the-guise-of-women gymnastics medical treatment case and the proliferation of allegations spurred by the #MeToo movement – we have reason for some optimism because many good people are actively working to ameliorate the harsh realities registered citizens and their families face daily. I believe it is instructive to consider the long campaign for civil rights in the U.S. It was long and hard with many victims and setbacks. In the face of resistance and recrimination, the movement and its leaders persevered, never losing sight of the goal of racial tolerance and equal justice. Those who ardently believed it was a wrong that needed to be set right, didn't allow themselves to become pessimistic. As we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., we must remind ourselves that victories will be few and far between but that the battle is a worthy one and we must fight it with dedication and enthusiasm, just as Dr. King did. His vision remained clear; his passion was undeterred in the face of threats, intimidation and mistrust.

Thankfully, the campaign to bring sanity to our nation's sex offender registry laws has many passionate advocates. We urge each of you to join the battle and dig-in along the breadth of the frontlines. Our campaign must be waged in the courts, in city halls, in state legislatures, in regulatory agencies and in the hall of Congress. As always, grassroots efforts are the key to success. To this end, four national SO advocacy organizations are planning summer conferences this season where campaign plans will be furthered and personal efforts will be fostered. Below is a summary of these organizations, their conferences and registration information. We hope you can and will participate because, as they say, "in unity there is strength."

National Association for Rational Sex Offense Laws (NARSOL) www.narsol.org; National Conference June 8-10, 2018, Independence (Cleveland), Ohio; [The Road to Independence: Reclaiming Full Liberties](#); www.conference.narsol.org

NARSOL (originally known as Reform Sex Offense Laws – RSOL) was founded in 2007 and focuses on issues solely related to post-convict treatment of persons

convicted of sexual offense laws in the U.S. It is a national organization with affiliated chapters in 17 states. Its goals and missions are clearly articulated in its resource-rich website and it maintains a field office in Washington, D.C. NARSOL's positions are contained in a series of White Papers labeled **Assertions**. They are: 1) Sex offender registries were originally presented as a means for tracking persons convicted of the most heinous offenses, but their reach has expanded exponentially to include even teen sexting and consensual relations between young people; 2) Public registries provide no measurable protection for children or the general public yet endanger the well-being of children and family members of registrants; 3) Public registration, proximity restrictions, and residency restrictions that are extended beyond an individual's sentence are punitive and thereby violate protected constitutional rights; 4) Evidence-based policies and programs can reliably reduce new sexual offenses and thus, make our communities safer; 5) the misinformation and stigmatization used to justify harsh sexual offense laws undermine the welfare of society creating unnecessary panic and distrust; 6) Choosing to set apart any group of people and deny them civil, constitutional, and human rights threatens the rights of every person in our nation.

In addition to maintaining its website, producing an annual conference and organizing grassroots efforts of its affiliated groups, NARSOL holds national tele-conference calls and produces several podcasts and webinars (all archived on its website) and publishes press releases, position papers and other helpful materials. It also features two forums that contain true stories that drive home the reality of the oppressive nature of registries: *Humans on the Registry* and *Tales from the Registry*. Its prior conference proceedings, beginning in 2011 are also archived in its website under the heading Conference Videos. We encourage all supporters to join or form an affiliate and to take advantage of the multitude of resources it offers.

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From the Editor's Desk

By Joseph Ajlouny

I've always believed it is important to give credit where and when credit is due. Not only is it the morally correct thing to do, it is also necessary to recognize the efforts of the many who toil to bring some sanity to our nation's war on sex offenses. We know that punishment and not public safety is the chief motivator of this campaign. We also know that fear and not science is its chief weapon. In our lead article we have described the forthcoming advocacy conferences that will be held this summer to advance the cause we care about so ardently. It certainly helps that we can take comfort we are not alone in our struggle to bring sanity and justice to the plight of those convicted of sex-related offenses. And to the plight of the families who are also unfairly impacted by the blind pursuit of rough justice. I therefore tip my hat to those who are working day and night to bring about positive change. And to those who are exposing the injustice through journalism and research. We often fail to recognize that we have many allies in our campaign for reform. Law enforcement officials often see the over-reach of SOR laws and realize that the size and complexity of rules make their jobs much more difficult. So too do academics in the fields of criminal justice, psychology and social work. They see and document the harm that is caused in the name of protecting children. So today, let's salute those who support our cause. Let's say a silent prayer for them, wishing them peace and strength. And then let's support them in all ways because they are our allies, our friends and our protectors. We are not alone and to feel that way is an admission of defeat. Winston Churchill said that victory comes to those who persevere in the face of long odds provided they engage in unity of purpose and seek justice above all things. Let us persevere and seek justice today and always!

Kansas Registers Drug Offenders Too

Back when methamphetamine was the drug war's primary target, several states created registries for people convicted of making or selling the drug. Kansas went further than anyone else. There, anyone convicted of manufacturing, distributing, or possessing with intent to distribute any illegal recreational drugs other than cannabis are required to register for a minimum of 15 years, and unlike other states, the Kansas registry includes their photograph. (It formerly included their addresses, but that was later removed due to fear of retaliation.) More than 4,500 Kansans are now registered drug offenders, and many of them face surveillance, public isolation, and other unnecessary hardships as a result. Kansas lawmakers are now reviewing a bill that would eliminate drug offenders from the criminal registry. "It is a drain on resources with no science, studies, or data to justify it," defense lawyer Jennifer Roth said at a legislative committee hearing.

While they are on the registry, those convicted of drug charges are required to appear at the country sheriff's office four times a year. They must also make an appearance any time they move, get a new job, buy a vehicle, change emails, or get a tattoo. Each quarterly visit costs offenders \$20, and failing to report for this purpose is a new offense and can lead to a prison sentence.

It is a sad fact that the use of registries will only continue to proliferate. Many states now register those convicted of child abuse and of mistreatment of animals. Utah, for example, recently enacted a registry for those convicted of defrauding senior citizens. According to *Criminal Justice Report* newsletter, registries are a growth industry. It expressed concern that just as the establishment of sex offense registries has expanded to include more offenses and offenders, and contain more restrictions, the same will be true of new forms of registries.

CURE-SORT NEWS

CURE-SORT News is a publication of CURE-SORT, one of eight issue chapters of a national criminal justice reform organization known as Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE). CURE's address is P.O. Box 2310, Washington, D.C. 20013; www.nationalcure.org. SORT stands for Sex Offenders Restored through Treatment.

CURE-SORT
P.O. Box 1022
Norman, OK 73070-1022
(405) 639-7262
e-mail: info@cure-sort.org
web: www.cure-sort.org

Executive Director: Wayne Bowers
Graphic Designer: Edward Gundersen
Editor: Joseph Ajlouny
Ila Davis, Consultant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wayne Bowers Norman, OK	Thomas Chleboski Baltimore, MD
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Dumb Law Department

You can't be saddled with the burdens of sex offender registration and not appreciate a healthy sense of the absurd. It's not so much an opportunity to get mad as it is to get active. It is only by joining our voices together in a cogent chorus that we can affect change against the chilling winds that oppose us. To this end, we have some of the more absurdly humiliating and insulting proposed new laws that our reactionary opponents have attempted to pass. Thanks to Derek Logue of oncefallen.com for uncovering this pernicious mischief against us.

From Conferences, Page 1

The 2018 conference brochure and registration information are available on its website too. This year's theme is informed by the conference's location in Independence, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland and a short drive from Hopkins International Airport. It will feature a number of impressive speakers on a range of topics related to the present need to accelerate the pace of reform efforts in light of recent court opinions around the nation. Highlights will include the following addresses: 1) Recent landmark court decisions and their implication for reform; 2) The politics of the Adam Walsh Act; 3) The challenges and complexities of talking about registries presented by journalist and filmmaker David Feige, whose work was featured in our autumn newsletter.

Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws (ACSOL)
**www.all4consolaw.org; National Conference June 15-16, 2018, Los Angeles, CA; [Together We Can!](http://www.all4solaws.org/2018conference/)
www.all4solaws.org/2018conference/**

The Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws, is based in Sacramento, CA and has quickly become a lightning rod for activities related to challenging California's SOR and the state's ordinances that seek to even more drastically oppress registered individuals. Led by attorneys Janice M. Bellucci (executive director) and Chance Oberstein (president), this organization has taken aggressive approaches to existing laws, advocacy and emotional support. It is also leading the national charge against the so-called International Megan's Law (IML), a federal law enacted in 2016 that mandates the stamping of passports of all registered individuals with victims under the age of 18 with a "unique identifier" branding them as dangerous. It has filed a challenge to the law, now that the U.S. State department has promulgated its procedures for implementing the IML act.

ACSOL maintains an excellent website that includes on-topic news reports on developments and legislative initiatives, the texts of federal and state SOR laws, legal and advocacy resources, extensive FAQs and an archive of its occasional tele-conferences addressing issues of interest in a timely manner. Additionally, Ms. Bellucci's observations and impressions of the current state of the reform movement are featured in a section called **Janice's Journal**. A unique section of ACSOL's website is called **Living with 290** (referring to the SOR's section number in the California criminal code) which contains a lively and informative comments section allowing registered citizens and others interest in this subject to post their comments and offer their experiences with SOR. It is fascinating and real people's stories and opinions.

Women Against the Registry (WAR)
www.womenagainstry.org;
Second Annual Conference August 17-19, St. Louis, MO; Empowerment & Momentum: A March to Victory; www.womenagainstry.org/conference/

Everyone has talent at twenty-five. The difficulty is to have it at fifty.
Edgar Degas

Women Against the Registry is a dynamic organization dedicated to addressing the harmful impact SOR laws have on women and children. Its motto is "Fighting the destruction of families." It stands for the proposition that all people have the right to remain safe from sexual offenses but that the nationwide registry system actually exacerbates the problem and has failed as a law enforcement policy. It advocates for compassionate reform and grassroots involvement and against the use of public registries due to their harmful collateral consequences on innocent people.

WAR's website is similarly rich in resources on all aspects of the subject. It features news and articles of interest, legislative reports and updates, position papers, videos and a blog section called **Scarlet Letter Echo** that contains comprehensive coverage of current laws and the myths that propagate them, and a comment section to exchange views. WAR has chapters in about a dozen states and actively recruits for the establishment of additional ones.

This year's conference schedule is in formation but last year's seminal conference was packed with substantive symposia and dynamic speakers. A complete inventory of last year's conference video is available from WAR's website. Among the speakers was a presentation of Galen Baughman's 2015 TEDx talk on the fundamental unfairness and injustice of SOR laws. All interested parties are encouraged to attend what promises to be another meaningful event.

Google Group Reminder: Join Today

Last Autumn, CURE-SORT initiated a Google Group to facilitate informational postings and exchanges for our members and friends. You can join the Group at: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/cure-sort>. It is free and easy to use but you must join and sign-in to use it. This is a moderated Group so only postings from members will appear. A posting by a non-member can also be posted if it is pre-approved by the moderator. To post an article, a comment or anything else on point (including links, videos, etc.) send it in an email to cure-sort@googlegroups.com. You do not need a Gmail email account to join but it does facilitate ease of use. We encourage our members and friends to join the Group and take advantage of all it has to offer us in increasing and improving the quantity and quality of communications on the important issues related to our mission. If you have any questions or comments about our Group, you can post it on the Group page using the email address above or send an email to Wayne Bowers at info@cure-sort.org. Once again, we thank Board member Mike Dell for moderating our Group.

Coalinga Conference Call

A conference call in late March was coordinated by Coalinga State Hospital resident Jeff Gambord. Persons who spoke were fellow residents who described conditions and some of the difficulties they have experienced. Persons invited to the call besides numerous advocates for civil commitment scrutiny included media and California lawmakers. This call comes shortly after a disturbance at the facility after staff had confiscated on technical devices owned by residents over the fact of a complaint of a few experiences of misbehavior. To hear the call, one can call 605-475-4972, access code 312185# and choose Reference 1.

A Florida Ministry's Courageous Response to Residency Restrictions

“Grace involves open arms—and policies that set clear boundaries.”

Originally published in *The Christian Century* Jan 23, 2018

By Steven Yoder

Baptist minister Glenn Burns calls the evening of April 7, 2016, the “crucifixion.” It was the toughest test of his 40-year career.

Burns leads a Christian social services ministry in northern Florida called the Good Samaritan Network. Until last April, the nonprofit was headquartered in the town of Woodville, just outside Tallahassee. Its food bank served 7,000 people a month. It also ran a thrift store and a home for women transitioning off the street from sex work. And it operated a Christian home for men reentering society after prison who had no other place to live. Many of them were on Florida’s registry of sex offenders.

It was that last program that got Burns in trouble. As in other states, Florida’s state-run registry puts the names, photos, and addresses of those convicted of sex crimes on a public website. In Woodville, a few neighbors had searched the site and found that 11 of the 16 men at Good Samaritan’s home for ex-offenders were on the list. They called the program to find out why it served people they thought were dangerous. There was a school less than a quarter of a mile away.

Burns invited the neighbors in for a tour of the facility and to learn about the program’s work: teaching men skills they’d need to transition from prison to civilian life, giving them jobs, providing spiritual direction. Staff closely supervised the men. The state corrections department confirmed to a local paper that none of the men was out of compliance with the terms of his parole. The visitors seemed satisfied. Burns and his wife, Beth, left for a long-planned two-month sabbatical.

But another group of neighbors wasn’t satisfied. About two dozen of them showed up to protest in front of the program’s offices. “Move the group of trash out of Woodville,” read one sign, according to a news report. The protesters demanded a meeting, and the county commissioner called one for the next day at the Woodville Elementary School.

The Burns were at a campground when Good Samaritan program manager Andy Messer called. “Man, the phones are blowing up over here and the press is coming down,” Messer said. Burns turned their RV around and headed back to Woodville. When he got to Good Samaritan, the men were scared. Death threats had come in. “Look, we’re going to work with you no matter what happens,” Burns told them. “We’re with you all the way.”

About a hundred people were jammed into the school’s small library when the Burns walked in. Beth Burns took a seat. Glenn Burns’ walked up the aisle as if it was his own *via dolorosa*: people crowded in, waving signs in his face. He took a seat at the front with the sheriff, county commissioner, and school superintendent.

The commissioner opened the meeting for questions, and a man asked how Good Samaritan had gotten a permit to operate. The commissioner said he wasn’t responsible for keeping track of every permit. Burns said he’d take the question. He got only a few words out before the crowd shouted him down “Baby rapist!” a woman

screamed. “You ought to be ashamed of yourself!” someone yelled. On his third try, Burns told the crowd that the program was going to move.

Another question came in, and when Burns tried to answer, the crowd silenced him again. Then Sheriff Mike Wood stood up. “I’m an old boy. I grew up here,” he said, according to Burns “We have more than 600 registered sex offenders in this county, and we’ve been monitoring this man’s program for many years. And I’ll tell you, the safest sex offenders in this county sleep under this man’s roof.”

A Good Samaritan volunteer grabbed the mike. “You bunch of hypocrites,” she said, pointing at members of the audience. “You, and you, and you, were all in our store yesterday, and these very men you’re persecuting carried your food to your car.”

That stopped the shouting. Burns answered every question raised about the program. Gradually the signs were lowered and people started easing out the door. Within half an hour, some of the women who’d been screaming were talking quietly with Beth Burns, who runs Good Samaritan’s program for former sex workers.

An African American janitor walked Burns out of the building. As he locked up, he turned to Burns. “Son, Jesus is proud of you,” Burns remembers him saying.

America may have entered a new era in which some survivors of sexual violence finally get justice. That Harvey Weinstein, Kevin Spacey, and James Toback could face prison time for alleged sexual assaults suggests that those who force themselves on others finally will be held to account.

But there’s another reality to face: once perpetrators have served their punishment, what’s the best way to make sure they don’t repeat the crime? Burns and law enforcement officials have a counterintuitive answer: reintegration. Programs like Good Samaritan, they say, don’t just minister to society’s lepers. By giving ex-offenders a place to live, jobs, and social support, Christian ministries can help society move toward a world of no more victims. But they’re fighting ongoing official efforts to fence off those who have served time for sex crimes. At the other end of Florida is an activist who’s carried on a two-decade battle to isolate those with a sex-crime record.

In 1996, prominent Florida lobbyist Ron Book and his wife hired a Honduran immigrant named Waldina Flores to be a nanny for their 11-year-old daughter, Lauren, in their home in Plantation, outside Fort Lauderdale. Flores had been given a background check and came highly recommended. Perhaps a year into her tenure, Flores began sexually abusing Lauren. It would be just as accurate to describe what she did as torture. The Books recounted the ordeal in a 2009 *Newsweek* interview and in the 2016 documentary, *Untouchable*.

Lauren Book eventually told a psychiatrist what was happening, and Flores was arrested in 2002. Flores was sentenced to 15 years in prison for sexual battery and molestation. But Lauren Book says the physical effects were such that she’s not sure she can ever have children.

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Ron Book wept while recounting the story to a reporter in 2009 and said he still couldn't bring himself to read the police report.

Since then, Ron Book has made it his mission to keep anyone convicted of a sex crime away from kids. In 2005, he helped Miami Beach pass the country's first municipal ordinance restricting where those who are on sex offender registries can live—houses and apartments within 2,500 feet of a school are off limits. Most of the county's municipalities soon enacted similar laws, as did counties and cities in other parts of the state.

The new rules left ex-offenders with few options for where to live. A 2009 study found that 96 percent of homes and apartments in Miami-Dade County were off limits. Affordable apartments were especially hard to come by—there were only 43 available outside ban zones at the time of the study. Homeless shelters and subsidized housing don't help since they're under the same restriction.

Registrants have responded by setting up squalid homeless encampments in the few places they're allowed to live. Last summer, investigations by local newspapers found that 270 registrants were camping in a warehouse district near Hialeah. Their tents were moldy and full of insects. Rats scurried along the paths between them. Without bathrooms and running water, the surrounding area became an open sewer. Local businesses were up in arms.

Miami-Dade County commissioners now are considering a draconian move. An ordinance introduced in November would make it illegal for those with a sex-crime record to camp on county property even if they have nowhere else to go. If it passes, registrants will face prison time for sleeping outdoors.

In August, Book visited the warehouse district encampment in his role as head of the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust. But he was unmoved: "The Constitution doesn't guarantee where you can live when you break the law," he told a local paper.

The story of offenders sleeping outdoors because of residency bans could be told in other parts of the state. A 2013 study in the journal *Criminal Justice Policy Review* found that those with a sex-crime record in Florida were ten times likelier than those in the general population to be homeless. Thirty other states have residency restrictions too, as do hundreds of local jurisdictions around the country.

The impact of such residence bans on deterring sex crimes has been well researched. A U.S. Department of Justice roundup of the results of eight studies on these policies notes that "there is no empirical support for the effectiveness of residence restrictions." In fact, the unintended consequences of such rules, the Justice Department said, include "loss of housing, loss of support systems, and financial hardship," which "may aggravate rather than mitigate offender risk."

Research like that is at the heart of Burns's argument about the need for a Christian residential program. After Good Samaritan was forced out of Woodville, Burns scrambled to locate housing for the men. For a few weeks, he rented rooms in a crumbling motel east of Tallahassee. But two of his guys couldn't go there: while the city has no blanket residency restriction like Miami, a state law forbids ex-offenders on

probation for a sex crime from living within a thousand feet of a school, and the motel was too close. Both men ended up homeless and back in prison—not for new crimes but for technical violations of their probation terms, Burns said.

In July 2016, a Pentecostal minister in north Tallahassee stepped in to offer Good Samaritan space in a strip mall his church owned. Then two supporters offered the nonprofit three houses and land on the west edge of Tallahassee for the residential program for men. All three homes needed renovation but are outside the thousand-foot boundary, so there are no legal risks.

On a Friday morning in October, Burns and 11 guys sit on couches at the front of the new thrift store in the strip mall. After Burns leads a 45-minute discussion on prayer, the men split up for their jobs—one to work in Good Samaritan's landscaping business, two more to remodel one of the three houses for the residential program, a third to barbering school. That night after work, they all show up again—they're required to be back at 6 p.m. sharp on Fridays for pizza and another talk from Burns. "In these guys' previous lives, Friday night was party night," Burns explains. "We don't want them slipping into old habits."

All the men have to either hold a job or attend school. Their names and photos appear on the sex-offender registry and most lack job skills, so they struggle to find work. Those who can't are given jobs in the program in exchange for a small stipend.

The crimes for which they've served time run the gamut. Chris, crew-cut, built like Captain America, with tattoo murals on both arms, served time for two sex crimes. Now 37, he said he grew up watching his dad beat his mother. He joined a gang at 12 and started dealing drugs. In 2005, he was judged guilty in juvenile court for molesting a child when he was 17. He served five years in prison for that. He claims he never did the crime—he says he broke into a home as a young gang member but says the victim of the home invasion wanted to get the charges trumped up and told police Chris had molested his daughter. (That story can't be confirmed—an Alachua County court representative says court records for cases involving crimes against minors aren't available online.)

Chris got out of prison in early 2010 and that April started a sexual relationship with a young woman who he says he thought was 18. Court records show she was actually 17 and that he was 25 at the time. He says the teen's mother found out and reported it to police. That put him back behind bars for another five years.

Burns says registrants are the easiest population he's had to work with. "They're so grateful to be given any help," he says. He mostly avoids talking to his guys about the fairness of the policies governing their lives. He wants them to change what they can control—learning work skills, living free of alcohol and drugs, gaining the attitudes they'll need to persevere, deepening their Christian faith. America's singular sex-offense regime means the issue won't go away anytime soon. names, photos, and addresses. And no country outside the United States appears to restrict where registrants can live.

Burns says Good Samaritan wants to replicate its work elsewhere, partnering with other churches. So many men are coming out of prison with a sex-crime record, Burns says, that the program could have "a hundred guys overnight" if it had the capacity.

Sex Offender Specific Treatment

By Dr. JoEllen Wiggington
Pacific Professional Associates
Member of CURE-SORT Board

EDITOR'S NOTE: *As our mission is to promote the importance of counseling for the recovery of those who have sexually offended, when appropriate, a discussion will be held in our issue along this topic. This is the 11th article in this series. As said, this is a program of Dr. Wiggington and is not available by correspondence.*

This issue, part of an ongoing series dealing with outpatient sex offender specific treatment, deals with assertiveness in relationships. Clients receive a series of handouts describing primary human rights, and complete a questionnaire to identify their dominant pattern of interacting with others in one of the following ways:

Assertive

Assertive behaviors are those direct verbal and nonverbal communications in which one acts in their own best interests, expressing opinions, feelings and attitudes honestly, without undue anxiety or putting others down. Assertive communicators stand up for their own rights and needs, without violating the rights of others. Being assertive is self-enhancing and increases self-esteem because it involves statements of personal preferences in a way that causes others to take them into account. Assertiveness does not guarantee "winning" but does facilitate self-expression and increases the likelihood that satisfactory resolution or compromise will occur, and that one's goals will be obtained.

Passive (Non Assertive)

Passive communication includes expressions that are cognitively and emotionally indirect and dishonest. This type of behavior is self-denying, restrained and inhibited. Passive people are submissive in social situations, often experiencing a high degree of interpersonal anxiety. They give up their right to express themselves, allowing others to make decisions and choices for them, and generally avoid situations involving confrontation, tension or conflict.

Passive communicators allow their rights and needs to be ignored, and permit others to prevail at their expense. This facilitates low self-esteem since they are not expressing what they think and feel, and are unlikely to achieve their goals. They may feel helpless, controlled, and bitter, and resentment toward others is not uncommon.

Aggressive

Aggressive communication may be direct or indirect, honest or dishonest. Aggressive behaviors include hostile words or actions which coerce others to give in; there is a violation of others rights in an attempt to meet one's own needs. Winning at any expense is the goal, and may include putting down, hurting or humiliating others. While aggressive people may not feel any particular anxiety, and may achieve their goals, their appearance of self-confidence is often a facade. The consequences of aggressive behavior may include other's reactions of dislike, hostility or counter-aggression, and result in social isolation and chronic conflict.

There follows a group discussion about how those who are primarily aggressive or passive can modify their response styles and the benefits of doing so.

From the Director's Desk

By Wayne Bowers

I met the man we knew as eAdvocate sometime in the spring of 1997. After the death of CURE-SORT founder Loren Perry in February 1997, there was a need to brainstorm the future of that organization and the other one Perry had developed called Sex Abuse Treatment Alliance. Upon meeting Perry at CURE-SORT conventions in the early 1990s, assuming directorship of CURE-SORT in 1993 and then meeting diligently with Perry to determine the future of our advocacy work and how we could work better together, I had moved from Baltimore to Michigan in late July 1996 to merge our efforts. We saw the growth in what we have always called tracking laws that was happening as hysteria and wrong information was taking over both media and legislatures. At the time of that spring 1997 meeting, eAdvocate had developed an outstanding relapse prevention document and was distributing that as people learned of it. The popularity of it led him to make a document of it on his computer. And as the various stories of people's difficulties in court and in prison was growing, both for him and in hearing information I was receiving, he elected to expand on what he was doing.

We were in the early phases of Internet use and eAdvocate began to develop various websites to cover the extensive topics of sexual abuse and assistance. He had a keen legal mind, though he was not an attorney. I know that many attorneys followed his material to gain his input in his unique way. We talked by phone a lot as he continued to develop more material. He would toss out ideas for my input and we would have some good interaction. As the Adam Walsh Act and the various aspects of SORNA were in the early stages in Congress, he developed an outstanding review of what was being done and the behind the scenes strategy that led to so much of the law. He once was a bank analyst and from that experience, he gained an excellent talent at looking at laws through the back door, shall we say, and it led to a much deeper analysis.

One of his prize programs he had developed and was still under growth at the time he no longer could work on it was his Community Room. Often, we talked about the various questions I received with so many needs of information and he saw them too. He worked to develop information, links and explanation of every level of assistance we could think of. He also assisted many organizations in development of their websites and I won't list any as there may be some I don't know about. But I can guarantee you that most of the major advocacy organizations in the field of sex offender assistance and information were in touch with eAdvocate. Presently we are working to get a place and person to maintain the websites.

As a close friend, eAdvocate had taken on an interest in college football. I think some of my passion in that sport may have rubbed off on him and he had become a major fan and follower of it. I usually got calls on Saturdays with questions of some kind relating to football, rules, etc. I missed those conversations last year and know I will in the future. As a matter of fact, I just miss him totally, in his passion to work on assistance in our serious field and his gruff, yet empathetic concern for everyone.

I'll close with the phrase he constantly used in notes – "Have a good day, and a better tomorrow."

Do not think of your faults; still less of others' faults; look for what is good and strong; and try to imitate it; your faults will drop off, like dead leaves when their time comes.

Ruskin