



IN CARCERATED TIMES

Friends and Family of Incarcerated People (FFIP)

Winter 2006

Hard Work Pays Off!

There is a small army working very hard to make the system better for both inmates and society as a whole. We are starting to see the fruits of this labor in many ways.

ACR 17

You can view the final report, Bulletin No. 07-09 Legislative Commission's Subcommittee to Study Sentencing and Pardons, and Parole and Probation (A.C.R. 17 File No. 98, Statutes of Nevada 2005) at: www.leg.state.nv.us/Lcb/research/2007intstudy.cfm

Administrative Regulations

Send suggestions for changes to the Administrative Regulations to Dennis Debacco, the Departmental Policy Coordinator for NDOC Administrative Regulations at: 5500 Snyder Ave Bldg 17 Carson City, NV 89701 or ddebacco@doc.nv.gov

Flo the Fighter

Flo Jones will be in Carson City in November working with the legislators to encourage them on the ACR 17 issues.

Reach Flo directly at: PMB 2375 E. Tropicana #168 Las Vegas, NV 89119

Pat the Persister

Pat will be in Carson City in January which for the mailing campaign to the new legislators, the newly elected Governor, and Governor's board to inform and educate them on the necessary changes. Contact Pat Hines at: P.O. Box 467 Yerington, NV 89447 or jphines854@aol.com

Mike the Mentor

Mike Adkins is the founder of the Southern Nevada Prison Ministries (SNVPM) and is available as a Chaplain and mentor to those in prison and jails as well as those being released. The vision of SNVPM is to provide the currently and formerly incarcerated spiritual exploration, unconditional love and acceptance, the sharing of life journeys, foster spiritual growth, to enhance positive self-esteem and promote constructive life choices.

Mike's website is: www.snvpm.org
E-mail Mike at: chaplain@snvpm.org

INMATE OUTLET

Art

HEAL offers literature as well as a printing services for inmate's artwork. Profets from work of inmates go directly to the inmate author/artist .

If you know an inmate who might be interested please e-mail HEAL at: heal@heal-online.org .

Penpal

You can also help by adopting an inmate. Find a new friend and become a penpal to someone on the inside by visiting www.heal-online.org/adopt.htm .

To view and purchase inmate artwork, go to: www.cafepress.com/heal/1189477 .



Who Said That?

I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice.

—Abraham Lincoln

Calendar

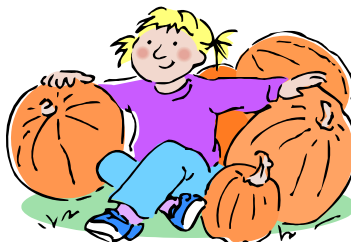
Meetings

Hey, remember FFIP Meetings? Friday nights at 7:00pm Christ Episcopal Church 2000 South Maryland Parkway Call 702.223.6600 for more info.

**Need a ride?
Ask a fellow FFIPer!**

Potluck Report

FFIP hosted a potluck Saturday, October 21. There was a great turnout and fun as had by all. The pumpkins were a hit (ha!).



Holiday Party

Its all about the kids (and we grown-ups have a little fun too :-). The annual potluck holiday party will have presents for the children, a raffle, wonderful conversation, tons of hugs... and SANTA!

Date: Saturday, December 16
Time: 6:00pm
Place: Christ Episcopal Church
Bring: A dish to share and a smile

Please RSVP to ensure we have enough goodies for the kiddies! RSVP at: 702.223.6600 or ffipffip1@cox.net .

News Bits

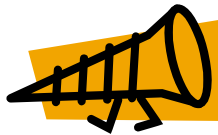
Nevada's parole board is canceling all inmate hearings because of a Supreme Court ruling they must conduct those hearings under the open meeting law. Salling and board Executive Secretary David Smith said conducting parole hearings under the open meeting law would be extremely difficult but that, if they don't get the stay from the Supreme Court, they will have to begin trying to write procedures to do it.

Smith said under current rules, the inmate and victim get to testify and usually in public. Family and other testimony is taken in written form. Then, he said, the board deliberates in private to decide whether to release an inmate.

Salling said currently, a third of those hearings are done without the inmate present.

They would also have to have all inmates in attendance and may have to have legal counsel provided for them. She and Smith said if they don't comply with all the open meeting law rules, any action they take to release or deny an inmate would be legally void. And, without working out procedures to comply in advance, there's no way they can take a chance on further hearings.

Nevada Appeal
October 21, 2006



Opinion Bites

The Nevada Supreme Court issued a stay which allows the board to resume inmate hearings while they argue whether they should be required to follow the open-meeting law.

The board has operated for years as a quasi-judicial body exempt from having to comply with the tougher rules in Nevada's open-meeting law. That allowed them to limit public testimony, deliberate in private and keep personal data and records of both inmate families and victims confidential.

Director of Corrections Glen Whorton said he was very happy with the decision.

Nevada Appeal
October 27, 2006

Due to overcrowding, the LV City Council decided to stop letting the U.S. Marshals Service rent 200 beds at the Las Vegas Detention Center.

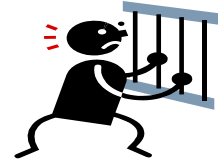
Kicking out the federal prisoners awaiting trial "is like a little teeny Band-aid on a huge, huge cut," Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese acknowledged. But, he said, "the city's back is against the wall."

Mayor Oscar Goodman described the crowded jail as "like a howling asylum when I walked in there."

Review Journal
November 2, 2006

The "Inside Story"

Congratulations to John Witherow and many others for their hard work and dedication for bringing attention to the Parole Board not following the open meeting law.



Congratulations also to Norman Crew whose habeas on the sentence structure was granted by a District Court Judge in Carson - in the favor of the inmate to put his sentences back together and this may also affect other inmates sentenced prior to 1987 with an enhancement.

Let your voice be heard!

Inmates: Get copies of your grievances out to loved ones to further pursue and get your voices heard regarding the Parole Board following the Open Meeting Law.

Loved ones: Contact your legislature and encourage others to ensure our tax dollars are spent wiser by insisting the system follow laws instead of building more prisons.

Guests, Quests and Ramblings

Legal Assistance

Do you know of any free or low cost legal assistance related to pre or post conviction? Please contact Teresa Werner at 702.234.1142 or e-mail at: terrob42@yahoo.com to possibly include them in the next newsletter.

Get Organized!

Do you know of any organizations or programs that do great things related to the incarcerated or the families of the incarcerated? Perhaps they would like to speak at a FFIP meeting to share their information. Please contact Donna to coordinate at 702.223.6600.

Ramblings

by Teresa Werner

Some days are good and some days are ... well, sometimes not so good. No matter what kind of day you have, you can always be assured someone-somewhere is having a worse one! Try to keep your head held high, smile at the next person you see, laugh out loud, don't be afraid to pay a stranger a compliment, pass along books and magazines for others to enjoy, accept gifts with an open heart and a warm smile, and remind yourself how fortunate you really are!

