

# UNITED VOICES for Sex Offense Reform

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 2, 2025, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 15

### Overview for Meeting

- Group Discussion
  - Call to order, review, and approve the last meeting minutes
  - Non-profit update
  - Team Updates
    - Three-minute updates by team leaders with additional time for Q&A
    - Use the “Raise Your Hand” function to ask questions
    - Please refrain from discussing political agendas, issues, or opinions unless it is in direct alignment with advocacy missions.
- Other Business
- Roundtable

### Group Discussion

1. Meeting called to order at 7:33 PM EST and review of last meetings – Group  
The 8/19/2025 [meeting minutes](#) were approved and will be added to the website.
2. Non-Profit Organization Updates – Shawn L., Executive Director
  - Board members meet monthly to collaborate on organizational business, review current projects, and work on processes and applications to be implemented.
  - The rescheduled NARSOL [conference](#) is being held in Atlanta, GA on 10/16/2025 through 10/19/2025. Exact details will not be disclosed until after you have registered and there are added security measures in place for the event. The registration fee of \$179.00 is the Early Bird fee extended to all registrants. For those who have registered, please do not share details of the location.
  - Amanda L. shared information about NARSOL’s vetting of participants and added security details that have been implemented for the safety and security of all persons participating in the conference.
  - Registration will be made available to attend online for those not able to attend in person.
  - Updates about the idea of producing podcasts that were discussed in the last general meeting are tabled until the next general meeting.
  - The next board meeting is scheduled for 9/28/2025.
3. Advocacy Participation Team (APT) – Sharon M.  
The team is reviewing last year’s Holiday Greeting Letters campaign to be prepared for the project this year and to start making announcements for member participation. Participants volunteer to send holiday greetings to incarcerated loved ones. Members who are interested in volunteering this year can send an email to [holiday@uv4sor.org](mailto:holiday@uv4sor.org).

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4. State Coalitions Team (SCT) – Shawn L. for Jenny L.
  - SCT meetings are held bi-monthly on the last Monday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 9/29/2025 at 7:00 PM EST. Meeting details are emailed to all members and posted in the FB group.
  - At the last SCT meeting on 7/21/2025 members attended from ten states. Discussions included identifying sub-groups and topics to be addressed at the next meeting.
5. Welcome Team – Updates are tabled until the next meeting
6. Communication Team (CT) – Sharon M. for Kathy D.V.

The team is developing outlines for topic sheets and handouts with facts, statistics, and resources. In coordination with the other teams and with member input, they are identifying subjects of interest. Some current subjects include How to Advocate, Vigilantism, Ineffective Residency Restrictions, Family Support Resources, Federal Prison Q & A, and Definition of Terms and Slang. The team welcomes suggestions for topics and member participation for research.
7. Call to Action Team (CTA) – Shawn L.
  - The team sent [letters](#) to the directors of the BOP and an email to the BOP Regional Support Coordinators to thank them for addressing concerns about phone minutes for those incarcerated.
    - A personal reply to the email was received promptly.
    - The group discussed the value of acknowledging positive changes.
  - The CTA team is asking for volunteers to assist teams and members in bringing forth and presenting action items to the group along with providing direction for resources and contacts. Please contact [smonroe@uv4sor.org](mailto:smonroe@uv4sor.org) if you are interested!
8. No More Silence Project – Shawn L. for Betty B.
  - Shawn provided an overview of the project which is an ongoing storytelling initiative to collect personal accounts from individuals and families impacted by incarceration, the registry and related laws. Members are encouraged to participate or help others share their stories. Questions and stories can be sent to: [nomoresilence@uv4sor.org](mailto:nomoresilence@uv4sor.org).
  - In addition to sharing these stories with legislators and government officials to bring awareness about these issues, the team is working to involve religious leaders who may help to change the public perception of sexual offenses. Betty has an appointment with a local pastor to introduce this idea and a person who has been recently released from prison will attend the meeting with her.

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### 9. Fundraising Team – Sharon M. for Rita B.

- The Little Caesars pizza fundraising campaign will start again on 9/12/2025. Fundraisers with [A Blend Above](#) and [City Pop](#) are continuing. The Kroger and Tru-Earth fundraising campaigns are ongoing.
- Just like any organization, nonprofits need to cover operational expenses such as maintaining legal 501(c)(3) status, technology, and supplies. Effective advocacy work also requires funding for administrative functions, communication systems, and record-keeping. UV4SOR is completely staffed by volunteers. To maintain effectiveness, we must invest in training for advocacy and leadership development, community organizing, and communications strategies.
- Any questions about fundraisers or how donations are used for UV4SOR can be addressed to Rita at [rbetty@uv4sor.org](mailto:rbetty@uv4sor.org).

### 10. PR/Marketing Team – Shawn L.

- UV4SOR has been asked to sign onto a letter being sent by many other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations to President Trump regarding the Johnson Amendment, which clearly prohibits 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations from endorsing or opposing partisan political candidates for public office.
- The team is working with several potential guest speakers for general meetings in October. Members who have ideas for possible future guest speakers can submit suggestions through the [referral form on the website](#).

### Other Business – Group

No other business.

### Roundtable

- Several new members attended their first meeting tonight. Jennifer P. from NM and Doug C. from ME introduced themselves and were welcomed by the group.
  - Amanda L. shared that she has been accepted to participate in the Rockwood Leadership Institute.
- The Roundtable portion of our meetings is always rich with conversation, insight, and shared experiences. While we don't capture all of the details in these minutes, the discussions offer valuable perspectives and information that are not fully conveyed in the meeting minutes. We encourage members who haven't yet attended a meeting to join us - it's a great way to stay informed, connect with others, and be part of the ongoing advocacy dialogue.

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The next meeting date is Tuesday, 9/16/2025, at 7:30 p.m. EST. This is a New Member Orientation meeting, and all members are welcome and encouraged to attend. The meeting on 9/30/2025 will be Healing Tuesday.

8:40 p.m. EST meeting adjourned.