

UNITED VOICES for Sex Offense Reform
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 21

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 7:34 PM EST and review of last meeting – Group
The 1/6/2026 [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.
 - UV4SOR participates in the National Coalition Against Conviction Registries (NCACR) and the Steering Committee within the group. This is a recently formed group of approx. 32 national organizations. They are working on talking points relating to registry issues and a Dos and Don'ts guide for calls to action. The group meets monthly.
 - UV4SOR participates in a National Government Relations Committee (GRC), which is comprised of national organizations working on federal level policies to bring forth ideas and solutions. The group meets monthly.
 - An update from Jay M. and Mike L. regarding implementing a podcast was discussed. An email was sent to all members, and a post will be made in the FB group, asking members for feedback regarding podcast subjects.
 - The next board meeting is scheduled for 2/8/2026.
3. Advocacy Participation Team (APT) – Rita B.
 - The team is implementing new processes for new member requests, utilizing the Constant Contact platform.
 - Sharon M. is working with Mike L. to add more content to the website.
4. State Coalitions Team (SCT) – Jenny L.
All members are invited to attend the next meeting on 2/23/2026. The team works to bring members together who are in the same states for learning opportunities and collaboration.

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5. Welcome Team – Ann S. and Shep S.

The team reaches out with an email to new members who have attended their first meeting to welcome and encourage them, give helpful information for resources, to support them, and to answer any questions they may have. Ann and Shep are active advocates in NC, and they discussed their current efforts in bringing people together to meet in person for support and activism with their White Flag program. They can be reached at ssmith@uv4sor.org.
6. Communication Team (CT) – Kathy D.V.
 - Betty B. is joining the team to bring the No More Silence project under the broader CT. The team will be exploring opportunities to support the project.
 - The team is developing processes to produce briefs on various topics of interest to create a library of resources.
 - Kathy will be launching a short series of workshops using one's own creative expressions to identify their voice in advocacy. Emails will be sent and there will be posts made in the FB group promoting the workshops. A goal is to stir the interest of inactive members and to hold the workshops on non-general meeting days to encourage attendance.
 - The team is meeting again on 1/23/2026.
7. Call to Action Team (CTA) – Shawn L.
 - The team had a meeting on 1/12/2026 to continue preparations for a CTA on the issue of discrimination against those who are incarcerated in federal prisons due to a sexual offense who are routinely denied access to the TRULINCS/CorrLinks messaging system. A questionnaire has been drafted to gather information from impacted members and their LO. The team will be contacting high profile people who are incarcerated in federal prisons to ask if they have been allowed access to messaging. Letters and emails will be sent to the BOP, DOJ, and various legislative committees. Template letters and contact lists by region will be provided to members asking them to participate in this CTA.
 - The 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 if you are interested!
8. No More Silence Project – Communication Team (CT)
 - This project is a storytelling initiative to collect personal accounts from individuals and families impacted by incarceration, the registry and related laws. Members are asked to participate or help others share their stories. Questions and stories can be emailed to: nomoresilence@uv4sor.org. Future updates will be included with the CT.

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9. Fundraising Team – Rita B.

- The Little Caesars pizza fundraising campaign will begin again this month and run until 2/19/2026. Another fundraiser with A Blend Above is planned for this spring. The Kroger and Tru-Earth fundraising campaigns are ongoing.
- Any questions about individual fundraising for UV4SOR can be addressed to Rita at rbetty@uv4sor.org.

10. PR/Marketing Team – Shawn L. and Jenny L.

- UV4SOR's [Distinguished Board Members](#) (DBM) will be the guests for the 2/17/2026 general meeting. These professional DBM are mentors who offer their guidance and expertise to help further our advocacy efforts.
- The meeting on 3/17/2026 will be the quarterly New Member Orientation meeting and is open to all members.
- The spring Healing Tuesday presentation on 3/31/2026 will be with Lloyd Newman of [Ohio RSOL](#).
- UV4SOR is working with several potential guest speakers for general meetings in 2026. Members who have ideas for possible future guest speakers can submit suggestions through the [referral form on the UV4SOR website](#).

Other Business – Group

Roundtable

- A new member from MI attended her first meeting tonight. She introduced herself and was welcomed by the group.
- Several members shared good news of their families and personal plans and updates about their advocacy activities.
- 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 information and perspectives 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.

The next meeting date is Tuesday, 2/3/2026, at 7:30 p.m. EST.

8:48 p.m. EST meeting adjourned.