

# UNITED VOICES for Sex Offense Reform

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 6, 2026, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 30

### 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 7:37 PM EST and review of last meetings – Group  
The [10/28/2025](#) and [11/11/2025 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 National Coalition Against Conviction Registries (NCACR) has a meeting scheduled for 1/15/2026.
  - National Government Relations Committee (GRC) is a national organization working on federal level policies. After being on hold due to the government shutdown, a meeting is scheduled for 1/7/2026.
  - An update from Jay M. regarding implementing a podcast was discussed and he will work with Mike L. to integrate his Google Form with the new Constant Contact platform to reach out to members for feedback regarding podcast subjects.
  - The next board meeting is scheduled for 1/11/2026.
3. Advocacy Participation Team (APT) – Rita B.
  - There were 32 members who volunteered and mailed Holiday Greeting letters to recipients. This is an annual project to send holiday greeting letters to incarcerated loved ones. Many recipients are writing back to members with gratitude.
  - The team is implementing new processes for new member requests, utilizing the Constant Contact platform.
4. State Coalitions Team (SCT) – Shawn L. for Jenny L.  
A team meeting was held on 12/1/2025. Shawn L. reviewed the SCT goals and invited all members to attend the next meeting on 2/23/2026.

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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. They can be reached at [ssmith@uv4sor.org](mailto:ssmith@uv4sor.org).

### 6. Communication Team (CT) – Kathy D.V.

- The team met in December to review 2025 and to explore goals for 2026.
- The team is developing processes to produce briefs on various topics of interest to create a library of resources. They will follow up with one member who is creating a document of processes for families and those facing federal charges.

### 7. Call to Action Team (CTA) – Shawn L.

- The team has a meeting scheduled for 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. 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](mailto:smonroe@uv4sor.org) if you are interested!

### 8. No More Silence Project – Betty B.

- Betty provided an overview of the project, which 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](mailto:nomoresilence@uv4sor.org).
- Letter packets are being prepared and several members volunteered to help with administrative management and editing in response to a request for assistance.

### 9. Fundraising Team – Rita B.

- The Little Caesars pizza fundraising campaign will begin again in February. Another fundraiser with A Blend Above is planned for this spring. The Kroger and Tru-Earth fundraising campaigns are ongoing.
- Giving Tuesday (a global generosity movement that occurs on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving), was utilized to encourage members to support our nonprofit organization in various ways, such as donating money or volunteering their time.
- Any questions about individual fundraising for UV4SOR can be addressed to Rita at [rbetty@uv4sor.org](mailto:rbetty@uv4sor.org).

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

- The annual Holiday Celebration in lieu of a December general meeting was hosted by the board and was held on 12/9/2025.
- UV4SOR's [Distinguished Board Members](#) (DBM) will be the guests for the 2/17/2026 general meeting. These professional DBM 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.
- 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 website](#).

### Other Business – Group

#### Roundtable

- Several new members attended their first meeting tonight. Kiera and Rebekah introduced themselves and were welcomed by the group. New member's questions were answered, followed by group discussion.
- Several members shared updates about their advocacy activities and news of their families and personal plans.

➤ 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, 1/20/2026, at 7:30 p.m. EST.

9:00 p.m. EST meeting adjourned.