

# “UNITED VOICES for SEX OFFENSE REFORM”

## General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 4, 2023, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 18

### Overview

- Review the last regular meeting
- Old Business
- New Business
- Committee Updates
- Roundtable

### Old Business

- 3/21/2023 meeting minutes were approved with one change and will be posted on the [website](#) - Group
- Non-profit update – Shawn L.

New Business - No new business to be presented

Committee Updates – Committee Chairpersons/Spokespersons

### Group Discussion

1. Non-Profit – Shawn L.
  - The Non-Profit Certification is still pending. Shawn will contact the IRS next week to inquire about the status and find out if we need to do anything to expedite it.
  - The next board meeting will be on Sunday 4/23/2023.
2. Advocacy Participation Committee – Kim H.
  - Kim reported on engaging members from Florida and asking for their help in the CTAs for the multiple bills being presented there. She discussed the committee’s goal to engage members and the focus on contacting non-state coalition members.
  - Efforts are continuing to communicate with members who post in the FB group, directing them to other members in their state for resources and to promote participation in calls to action when needed.
3. State Coalitions Committee – Kim H.
  - The State Coalitions project currently has state leaders for seven states: AL, IL, IN, NC, OK, PA, and SC.
  - The State Coalitions group will hold their next meeting on 4/24/2023.
  - State Coalition leaders will discuss methods of identifying members who want to advocate.
  - Once members have expressed an interest in our advocacy efforts, they will be contacted about our activities and asked if they would like to become more involved by being a state coalition leader.
  - Benefits for members to participate include giving them a sense of belonging and encouragement through seeing efforts and successes of others in their group.

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4. Communication Committee – Gail L.  
Gail reported that the committee has sent letters in response to the [Florida “Red Letter”](#) and [Vacation Rental](#) bills currently being reviewed in the FL House and Senate. Additional letters and emails were sent in coordination with the CTA committee. The committee’s current project is to coordinate with the State Coalitions and address the legislative members of the federal [Second Chance Task Force](#).
5. Mental Health Committee – Pammy D.  
The committee holds meetings every other week. Their last meeting was on 4/2/2023. They are working on an introduction mental health paragraph and biographies of each committee member. Their goal is to create a new type of holistic mental health treatment.
6. No More Silence Committee – Sharon M.  
This story telling project has been launched with an announcement in the FB group and has been added to the [UV4SOR website](#). Betty will make ongoing posts in the group to encourage participation. Shawn L. and Sharon M. will review the project introduction and will send an email to all members on the contact list. Stories from LO and family members about any aspect of the processes involving sexual offense charges are welcomed.
7. Fundraising Committee – Rita B.
  - Rita explained the new fundraising project with [Avon](#) which will run from April 4th through May 23rd. A second fundraiser with [Midwest Mixes](#) will start in late April. Rita will provide detailed information with posts in the Facebook group and both fundraisers will be put on the website.
  - A percentage of all sales goes to UV4SOR for operating expenses, which include costs for our domain name, website, a P.O. box, mailings, and filing fees associated with the non-profit certification.
8. PR/Marketing Committee – Shawn L. and Jenny L.
  - This committee projects UV4SOR’s mission and goals to our networks, groups, and collaborations. They oversee lining up potential guest speakers for our meetings, engaging members through group get-togethers, and interacting with the board and other advocacy groups to promote our organization.
  - Any suggestions for guest speakers are welcomed. Several members have ideas for guest speakers and will follow up with the committee.
  - The board is hosting a group cocktail hour on Friday, May 12, 2023, at 8:00 PM EST. Details will be announced in the group and via email.

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### 9. Call to Action (CTA) Committee – Elena A.

The committee has been busy with promoting CTAs related to current Florida legislation. Current goals are to extend CTAs to other states and posting in the FB group to engage members, working with the State Coalitions and Communication committees, and identifying potential legislation throughout the country that impacts our community and our LO.

### 10. Social Media Committee – Rita B.

This committee oversees the UV4SOR Facebook group, including monitoring posts and comments to align with our advocacy goals, vetting and welcoming new members, and encouraging members to participate in our meetings, committees, and projects. The Management group and the Welcoming group on the committee work together to ensure that group rules are followed.

## Roundtable

### 1. New Member Welcome and Introductions

Chris S. is from Florida and is actively involved with the [Florida Action Committee](#).

### 2. Share Something Good

- Sharon’s son moved into a new unit at his facility and is working in the Unicolor program, where they sort hangers for department stores.
- Page’s son works in the Unicolor program at his facility where he has been training on a large embroidery machine. She also has some new potted plants to move outside as soon as the weather permits.
- Kim got to visit her nephew at his facility last weekend.
- Kat is interested in more information about attending the [NARSOL conference](#) in June.
- Pammy is working on the methodology portion of her dissertation for her PhD. Her husband had an MRI nine months ago and will get to see an orthopedic surgeon in his facility tomorrow!

Next meeting date is Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. EST with guest speaker [Bonnie Burkhardt](#), author of the book [“Manufacturing Criminals”](#).

8:50 p.m. EST meeting adjourned.