

“UNITED VOICES for SEX OFFENSE REFORM” General Meeting Minutes (with Guest Speaker)

Tuesday, July 25, 2023, 7:30 PM EST / Via ZOOM

Attendees: 30

Overview:

- Team updates will be discussed at our next general meeting on 8/8/2023
- Procedure for the meeting protocol with a speaker and for asking questions
- Information about tonight’s guest speaker and introduction
- Group discussion

Notes:

1. 7/11/2023 meeting minutes were approved with one change and will be posted on the [website](#).
2. Introduction and welcome to our guest speaker Dwayne Daughtry.
Dwayne is the Executive Director of [NCRSOL](#), leveraging his academic background and advocacy skills to make significant contributions in the field of criminal justice system reforms, with a specialization in post-conviction sexual offense policies.
 - Dwayne has actively served as a legislative liaison, advocating for various causes, including LGBT rights, veterans’ exposure to burn pits during Operation Desert Shield/Storm, and the ethical treatment of animals.
 - Alongside his role as a government affairs consultant and advisor to the senatorial judicial committee in the United States Congress, Dwayne also serves as a dedicated Veterans Service Officer (VSO) within the Department of Veterans Affairs.
3. Presentation, discussion, and group questions.
Dwayne explained the legislative process for both state and federal governments and the importance of understanding these processes for successful advocacy. Discussion and questions followed his presentation.
 - He noted the “key players” in both legislative areas with an explanation of each political position’s importance.
 - He reviewed advocacy and lobbying strategies, emphasizing the importance of being prepared, doing your homework, practicing your message, and remembering that it’s not personal – it’s politics.
 - Questions were asked and answered regarding appealing to legislators’ self-interests, talking about collateral consequences of your *personal* story, using good conversational tools without being oppositional, making positive changes in our communities, being proactive, and getting our representatives to listen to us.
 - Dwane can be reached at dwayne@ncrsol.com.

9:05 p.m. Adjourn Meeting - Next Meeting Date is Tuesday, August 8, 2023, 7:30 p.m. EST