



Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants

An International Effort by People in Prison and their Families, Former Prisoners and Other Concerned Citizens to Reduce Crime Through Criminal Justice Reform
202-789-2126 cure@curenational.org www.curenational.org



Pictured are most of the 60 people representing 18 countries* who participated in the the 8th International Conference on Human Rights and Prison Reform in Kigali, Rwanda, in Africa from May 21-25, 2018. International CURE in collaboration with Good News of Peace and Development were the sponsors. Rwanda was chosen so we could observe the healing and reconciliation work done in the years after the genocide in 1994 when a million people were killed in a hundred days. Photos by Alan Pogue



The conference began with a visit to the Genocide Memorial Center followed by a welcome by conference host Pius Nyakariro (right) and CURE President Charlie Sullivan (center). On the left is Bishop John Rucyahana who led a panel on the theme *Transforming Relational Harms into Harmonious Cohesion- The Rwandan Experience*.



After this and other plenary sessions, the conference broke up into group discussions. On the right standing and speaking is Mary Pat Donelan who helped with the registrations for the Conference.



Also, there was networking. On the left and shown left is Rwanda's Commissioner General of Prisons, George Rwigamba, discussing reentry with Stefan Lobuglio, former director of a model pre-release program in the United States.

In the afternoons, there were two trips. The longer was a three hour ride to see Nyanza Prison, which has 5,000 prisoners. Many are serving sentences for their crimes of genocide.

The other was an hour ride to one of Rwanda's Reconciliation Villages where perpetrators and victims, murderers and survivors, Hutus and Tutsis, are neighbors. Shown next to the leader of the Village is Joshua Agaba who assisted Pius in Rwanda and Heidi Cerneka with organizing the conference. They were also the leaders of the conference which could not have gone better. In fact, John Clark, one of the participants, exclaimed that "It was an experience of a lifetime!" Another participant, Hamdiya Cooks-Abdullah, said that she wants to save her money to return to visit Rwanda again.



Pictured is Heidi who is helping with the resolutions from the conference. Next to her are Noe Gudino and Seth Niyukun. Seated on her right is Wayne Northey who did the Computer work for the conference. The resolutions were forwarded to the Secretary General of the United Nations and called for the use of restorative justice as it is established in Rwanda to reduce mass incarceration throughout the world. For our resolutions, google Alliance of NGOs.

*List of countries participating were Burundi, Brazil, Canada, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Denmark, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Poland, Rwanda, Sweden, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda, United States of America, and Zambia. Participants from Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Trinidad & Tobago and Zambia have expressed interest in starting CURE Chapters.



UPDATES FROM CAPITOL HILL

For years, CURE has been working on prison reform for federal prisons. Surprisingly, in this Congress, there are not one but two prison reform bills. The first was overwhelmingly passed by the House and is called the FIRST STEP ACT. It includes many provisions we strongly support; however, it has only "back end" reforms to the federal system. These include programming for all, and those deemed "minimum or low risk" to recidivate could get time credits and go to half-way houses or home confinement earlier.

The bill requires BOP to place people in prisons within 500 driving miles, not air miles, from home, with exceptions; reforms the compassionate release process and allows for appeals to courts; and provides 54 days of good time credit per year rather than the present 47 days.

CURE's chief objections to the bill are that it only addresses "back end" reforms, calls for the use of questionable risk assessment tools tied to path for time credits, and excludes many from earning time credits.

The other bipartisan bill is S. 1917, the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act or SRCA. It is a comprehensive approach that includes not only "back end" reforms mentioned above, but also "front end" (sentencing) reforms to address factors that fuel over-incarceration.

This bill would give judges more discretion in sentencing, reduce mandatory minimums, and allow judges to apply retroactively the new law that reduces disparity between crack and powder cocaine sentences. Moreover, it includes compassionate release for certain elderly and infirm prisoners. And finally, the SRCA creates a comprehensive study of the entire criminal justice

creates a comprehensive study of the entire criminal justice system that CURE has been supporting for many years.

Neither bill is perfect, and advocacy groups are split down the middle because "is it better to have a bird in the hand rather than two in the bush?" It is our hope that Congress will take the best parts of both the FIRST STEP and SRCA and move forward with a comprehensive bill that leaves no one behind in the pursuit of a more just and rehabilitative system.



EAST KENTUCKY PRISON (Not Needed!)

Besides these proposals, CURE is working to rescind (take back) the half-billion dollars now appropriated to build a high-security federal prison in very remote Eastern Kentucky. This will be the fourth federal prison in the congressional district of Cong. Hal Rogers, who is a powerful member on the House Appropriations Committee.

Also, the prison site sits on top of a former coal mine and has environmental concerns, especially water quality. Even the Trump Administration was on record strongly opposed to building the prison the last two years, because of the substantial decrease in federal prisoner population. However, in a stunning reversal, AG Sessions gave the project the go-ahead in April.

A few years ago, another powerful appropriations chair, Sen. Richard Shelby, was able to build a women's prison in a remote part of his state of Alabama. Women who were originally housed near their children in the Northeast are now housed hundreds of miles away. There was such uproar, especially from the Senators in the Northeast, that CURE thought that this policy of using prisons for economic development would end.

Trying to Stop the 15 minutes calls that cost 20 dollars

S. 2520 By Senators Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Cory Booker (D-NJ), Robert "Rob" Portman (R-OH) and Brian Schatz (D-HI) amends the Communications Act of 1934 which requires the Federal Communications Commission to ensure just and reasonable charges for inmate telephone and advanced communications services. This includes any audio or video communications service provided at a correctional institution, regardless of technology used. Please write your two U.S. Senators at U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510 and urge them to cosponsor (if they have not) S. 2520, the Inmate Calling Technical Correction Act.



Pictured left to right at a congressional briefing on S. 2520 on June 28, 2018 are Cheryl A Leanza, United Church of Christ media justice ministry; Wandjell Harvey-Robinson, who is describing how predatory rates impacted her ability as a child to maintain her relationship with her incarcerated parents; Art Wallenstein, retired Director of Montgomery County, MD Department of Correction and Rehabilitation, who shared the impact of communication on rehabilitation and reentry; Lars Trautman, Senior Fellow, R Street, who emphasized the importance of phone calls for pre-trial detainees; and Tunisia Owens, Policy Manager, Ella Baker Center, who talked about the Center's report *Who Pays? The True Cost of Incarceration on Families*. Over 50 congressional staffers attended the briefing.

Your Ratings From Last Newsletter

In the last newsletter, we asked you to vote for the prison reform bills in Congress that will reduce crime the most. In the section on bipartisan/companion bills, HR 1905 Cummings (D-MD) & Issa (R-CA) /S. 842 Booker (D-NJ) & Johnson (R-WI) received the most votes. It is the Fair Chance Act that prohibits federal agencies and contractors from requesting the applicant for employment disclose criminal history record information before the applicant has received a conditional offer of employment. In other words, ban the box.

In the bipartisan bill section, the winner was HR 3356 by Collins (R-GA) & Jeffries (D-NY) and it provides for programs to reduce the risk that people in federal prison will recidivate. In the section on "A bill Introduced by a

Democrat that has as least one other Democrat and needs a Republican cosponsor" HR 3227 by Grijalva (D-AZ) & 45 Democrats is the Not For Sale Act that eliminates private for-profit prisons and reinstates rehabilitation-centered parole.

Finally, receiving most votes in the section on "A bill introduced by a Democrat and needs Democratic and Republican cosponsors" is HR 1763 by S. Maloney (D-NY). It directs the Department of Justice to create a pilot program in high intensity drug areas for pre-booking diversion.

Shown is Stephen Steurer, CURE's Education Reentry Advocate and a national correctional education expert. He organized a Senate roundtable entitled "Technology to Improve Education and Reentry in Prisons." The event was sponsored by Sen Brian Schatz and seventy-five educators participated in this exciting gathering.



INFORMATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE "OUT"



Washington State Governor Jay Inslee has signed into law "ban the box" legislation for the state's public and private employers. Washington becomes the 11th state to require both public and private-sector employers to delay background checks and inquiries about job applicants' conviction records until the individual has had an opportunity to first present his or her qualifications for the job.

The other states that "ban the box" are AZ, CA, GA, IN, KY, NV, NY, PA, SC and UT.

The NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund (LDF) has reached a settlement with the Target Corporation to compensate tens of thousands who were subjected to discrimination because they have criminal records. The settlement builds from guidelines published by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

CURE believes Amazon is also guilty of discrimination because it only hires people with criminal records who are "off paper" for seven years i.e. finished probation or parole and wait for seven years. Do the math. People could be in their sixties before eligible.

Also, if you feel you have been discriminated against, because of your record, google EEOC or contact the main office of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 131 M St. NE, Washington, DC 20507 or call 202-663-4900 to find a U.S. EEOC office near you. Also, google the EEOC for the guidance passed April 25, 2012, Number 915-002 for hiring people with criminal records.

There is a White-Collar Online Support Group that is open to all individuals throughout the U.S. who have white collar or nonviolent criminal incarceration issues. See www.prisonist.org for more details; contact Progressive Prison Ministries, P.O. Box 1232, Weston, Connecticut 06883 Jgrant@prisonist.org

Google Addiction Resource Hub for a very comprehensive list of help for those suffering due to the drug crisis throughout the country. Also, help for the Right Substance Abuse Program (Drug and Alcoholic) call 24 Hour Toll Free Line: 888-961-4558 or 866-243-4401 or 4407. Another 24/7 hotline is 1-800-662-4357.

The Tar Heel CURE Chapter is seeking "free world" volunteers in North Carolina to start the official chapter of National CURE. If interested call Priscilla Carlisle at (336) 241-2704 or email her at prissymeemaw71@email.com.

In Rwanda, Charles Thornton shared that people who have been in prison in the United States, will be having their annual conference Sept. 13-15 in Orlando, Florida. For more info, please call 916-501-9988.



ELECTRONIC MONITOR, REFORM OR ABOLISH?

Professor James Kilgore was on an electric monitor (EM) as part of his parole. He now leads a coalition which aims to challenge monitoring and other forms of punitive technology. The coalition rejects the use of EM as an "alternative to incarceration" calling it instead an alternative form of incarceration. Since EM is in use, the coalition has developed guidelines to reduce the harm done by monitoring. These recommend that EM must:

- (1) facilitate freedom of movement to enable people to meet basic daily needs e.g. parenting, employment, medical treatment, etc;
- (2) not be added to less restrictive forms of supervision;
- (3) not disproportionately applied to people of color or poor people;
- (4) be governed by transparent, individualized rules; not a generic "one size fits all" set of conditions and restrictions.

The guidelines also reject any form of fee for EM, insist that people must be given credit for time served for time spent on a monitor, and that EM should never be applied for life.

CURE welcomes your input on these guidelines and/or whether we work to abolish this technology since the abuses are so severe.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer NOW to facilitate voting in the Fall by eligible people who are in your jail! There are 3,300 jails in the United States and every detainee pre-trial detainee or person serving a misdemeanor in jail may be eligible to vote. For information about jail voting initiatives google voting while Incarcerated (2005) and *Locked Up and Locked out of Voting* by Rebecca McCray. Finally, email Nicole Porter if you have questions concerning the voting in jail campaign. nporter@sentencingproject.org

READ THEM! *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust* by Immaculee Ilibagiza; *Separate and Unequal: The Kerner Commission and the Unraveling of American Liberalism* by Steven M. Gillon; *Decarcerating America: From Mass Punishment to Public Health* Edited by Ernest Drucker; *Juvenile Justice Now: Reinvention and Promise* by H. Ted Rubin; *The Sun Does Rise: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row* by Anthony Ray Hinton and *Ministry to the Incarcerated* by Dr. Henry G. Covert.

Insightful Articles (google them)

Why aren't we spending more on prison education? By Stephen Steurer

Loved ones are the "silver bullet" to prisoners' success during and after incarceration by Jean Thrash

Yep, slavery is still legal: The 13th Amendment ban allows one exception, and we see it in our justice system by Jim Liske

Detroit Pistons owner risks tarnishing rep to profit off prison phone call industry Posted By Violet Ikonomova

At the federal supermax, when does isolation become torture? By Alan Prendergast

Gov. Northam signs bill requiring prisons and jails to supply feminine products edited by Jennifer Walker

A veteran services office in Soledad Prison: Why not throughout the system? By Shad Meshad

Let's put an end to prosecutorial immunity by Frederic Bloc

NC prison has special unit for veterans by Shad Meshad

Inmates wounded in deadly SC prison riot file suits against state by John Monk

Where the right went wrong on criminal justice by Arthur Rizer and Lars Trautman



Shown are Massachusetts-CURE's leaders Louise Carcione and Franklin Hobbs who have radio shows heard globally. For example, Louise hosts *Health In Your Neighborhood* that can be seen by going to You-Tube on the web, type in Boston Praise Radio & TV, and her name.

INFORMATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE "IN"...

There are veterans housing units in prisons. Nebraska has one. For more info, email Cara.Wilwerding@nebraska.gov. As for a veterans housing unit located in a jail, contact Kevin Maccioli maccioli@sdm.state.ma.us for info about one in the Middlesex County Jail in Massachusetts.

Overall, for more information about these and other important initiatives, contact The National Incarcerated Veterans Network (is run by vets for vets), PO Box 324, Bells, TX 75414-0324 <http://PrisonMinistry.net/nivnusa>. 903-436-4270

✦ If you are a DC code violator, convicted in adult court before age 18, served at least 20 years and not yet eligible for parole contact Eddie Ellis, Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth, 1319 F St. NW, Suite #303, Washington, DC 20004

✦ Connecticut is the first in the U.S. to allow Transgender people in prison to have a legal right to be housed in the prison that matches the gender with which they identify.



Picture by Alan Pogue

✦ 200,000 men, women and children are sexually abuse behind bars every year in the U.S. One-half of all sexual abuse is committed by staff. One in ten youths in juvenile facilities report being sexually abused during a single year. Most survivors are sexually abused again and again. Just Detention International is the health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention. Write them using legal mail. Address letter to Cynthia Totten, Esq. CA Attorney Reg. #1999266, 3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340, Los Angeles, CA 90010 or call 213-384-1400.

✦ The Georgetown Prison Scholars Program in the DC Jail will begin offering credited courses in the Fall of 2018. Incarcerated scholars will earn Georgetown University credits and have opportunities to receive Associates and Bachelors degrees. For more info., google Prisons and Justice Initiative at Georgetown University.

✦ Google FAMM (Families Against Mandatory Minimums) for the video "Compassionate Release: Not a Right or Left Issue," and for its report "Everywhere and Nowhere: Compassionate Release in the States."

✦ Dr. Terri LeClerc has received the 2018 Golden Pen Award from the Legal Writing Institute for *Prison Grievances: When to Write, How to Write*. It is a graphic novel that instructs criminal defendants and prisoners about how to write more effective petitions. Goggle Amazon on how to purchase it for \$10.

Also, see <https://scholar.google.com> for a great legal resource.

Finally, contact Human Rights Center, POB 1151, Lake Worth, FL 33460 for more info on subscribing to *Prison Legal News* and its newest publication *Criminal Legal News*. 561-360-2523



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GOOD NEWS FROM LOUISIANA

There is no doubt that the country is experiencing a prison and jail reform movement and states are the driving force behind this movement. Many states have led the way, but the most surprising and comprehensive reforms have happened in Louisiana.

On June 28, 2018, Governor John Bel Edwards stated that "Louisiana recently hit an important milestone: we no longer have the highest imprisonment rate in the nation. In addition, the reform measures now in place have resulted in fewer prison admissions for drug crimes, smaller probation and parole caseloads, and enhanced training for officers, and now millions of dollars in savings are available for reinvestment in community programs."

For info, email Checo Yancy at Checo_Yancy@yahoo.com. Checo was President of the Lifers at Angola Prison and has been the leader of Louisiana-CURE. He and LA-CURE members played a major role in these historic reforms.

Checo asked that we add the following "LA CURE along with Voice of The Experience (VOTE), whom I actually work as the C4 Director, Voters Organize To Educate, Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), all worked under the umbrella of the Louisiana for Prison Alternatives (LPA) along with our hero, Rep. Pat Smith, (D) who had introduced a most important reform bill for over four years before we could get it out of Committee."

✦ Rhode Island prisons are the first-in-the nation with a program providing a range of medications for its inmates who are addicted to opioids. This approach appears to have lowered overdose deaths among recently released prisoners. Also, the Douglas County Jail in Omaha has drug treatment in its jail.

✦ America's 30 largest cities saw an overall decrease in violent crime and murder in 2017, according to the Brennan Center. Numbers remain near historic lows.

✦ We continue to have our free monthly national conference call on Get Out Lifers. It is always the first Sunday of the month. from 5 PM-6 PM (EST), 4 PM-5 PM (CST), 3 PM-4 PM (MST) and 2 PM-3 PM (PST). Call 1-515-739-1033 then 663535# to participate. Email cure@curenational.org to request an emailed monthly notice.

✦ *Sex Crimes and Criminal Justice: Formerly incarcerated sex offenders say civil commitment programs deny proper rehabilitation* by Barbara Koepfel. She reports about the injustice of civil commitment. It was published by *The Washington Spectator* and can be printed from its website. Folks in civil commitment mail us a self-addressed stamped envelope for a copy of this article.

Our monthly conference call about Civil Commitment is the first Saturday of each month. Call 605-472-5381 then 491204# It is from 7:00 AM-8:30 AM (PST), 8 AM-9:30 AM (MST), 9:AM-10:30 AM (CST) and 10:00 AM- 11:30 AM (EST). Email eldoncdillingham@gmail.com or call Eldon at 785-458-9546 to receive an emailed notice of the monthly call.

Finally, please see Women Against Registry's website for the 2nd National Conference in St. Louis MO Aug. 17, 18, & 19.

✦ Write for the free 24-page resource directory from the Prison Activist Resource Center, PO Box 70447, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-893-4648. Or, you can print a copy from their website. Google the Center for their website.



INFORMATION FOR THOSE "IN" continued

Jail officials "may not turn a blind eye to a deaf ear" the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit declared in *Updike v. Multnomah County*. Also, the U.S. Justice Department and the S.C. Department of Corrections have reached a deal to ensure that deaf and hard of hearing people have a chance to participate in services, programs and activities. For more information, contact U.S. Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section - NYA, Washington, D.C. 20530. And, see the Disability Rights Section's website.

Also, HEARD (Helping Educate to Advance the Rights of the Deaf) accepts calls; Tuesday: 10 am-2 pm PST | 1 pm-5 pm EST Wednesday: 1 pm-5 pm PST | 4 pm-8 pm EST Sunday: 3 pm-6 pm PST | 6 pm-9 pm EST These times are for DDBDDHH (DEAF DEAFBLIND DEAFDISABLED HARD-OF-HEARING) imprisoned people only, sometimes they accept limited calls concerning urgent matters from advocates supporting deaf imprisoned people during the times listed. Videophone number is 202-436-9278. Finally, write your complaint about your hearing problem to the Protection & Advocacy in your state where you are in prison or jail.

- AL** Disabilities Rights Center POB 870395 Tuscaloosa AL 35487
- AK** Disability Law Center 3330 Arctic Blvd Ste 103 Anchorage AK 99503
- AZ** Center for Disability Law 177 North Church Ave, Suite 800 Tucson AZ, 85701-1119
- AR** Disability Rights 400 W Capitol Ave #1200 Little Rock AR 72201
- CA** Disability Rights 1831 K St Sacramento CA 95811-4114
- CO** Disability Law 455 Sherman St, Suite 130 Denver CO 80203
- CT** Disability Rights Connecticut 846 Wethersfield Ave Hartford CT 06114
- DE** Community Legal Aid Society Services Bldg Ste 801 100 W 10th St Wilmington DE 19801
- DC** University Legal Services 220 I St NE # 130 Washington DC 20002
- FL** Disability Rights 2473 Care Dr Suite 200 Tallahassee, FL 32308
- GA** Advocacy Office One Decatur Town Center 150 E Ponce de Leon Ave, Suite 430 Decatur GA 30030
- HI** Disability/Rights 1132 Bishop St Suite 2102 Honolulu HI 96813
- ID** Disability Rights 4477 Emerald St, Ste B-100 Boise ID 83706-2066
- IL** Equip for Equality 20 N Michigan Ave Suite 300 Chicago IL 60602
- IN** Disability Rights 4701 N Keystone Ave Suite 222 Indianapolis IN 46205
- IA** Disability Rights 400 East Court Ave Suite 300 Des Moines IA 50309
- KS** Disability Rights Center 214 SW 6th Ave Suite 100 Topeka KS 66603
- KY** Protection and Advocacy 5 Mill Creek Park Frankfort KY 40601
- LA** Advocacy Center 8325 Oak St New Orleans LA 70118
- ME** Disability Rights 24 Stone St Ste 204 Augusta ME 04330
- MD** Disability/Law/Cen. 1500 Union Ave #2000 Baltimore, MD 21211
- MA** Disability Law Center 11 Beacon St Ste 925 Boston MA 02108
- MI** Protection and Advocacy Services 4095 Legacy Parkway Suite 500 Lansing MI 48911
- MN** Disability Law Center 430 First Ave North Suite 300 Minneapolis MN 55401-1780
- MO** Protection & Advocacy Services 925 S Country Club Dr Jefferson City MO 65109
- MS** Disability Rights 210 E Capitol St Ste 600 Jackson MS 39201
- MT** Disability Rights 1022 Chestnut St Helena MT 59601
- NE** Disability Rights 134 S 13th St Ste 600 Lincoln NE 68508
- NV** Disability Advocacy & Law Center 2820 W Charleston Blvd Ste 11 Las Vegas, NV 89102
- NH** Disability Rights Center 64 N Main St Suite #2, 3rd Fl Concord NH 03301-4913
- NJ** Disability Rights 210 S Broad St 3rd Fl Trenton NJ 08608
- NM** Disability Rights 720 Louisiana Blvd NE #204 Albuquerque NM 87110
- NY** Disability Rights 725 Broadway Ste 450 Albany NY 12207
- NC** Disability Rights 3724 National Dr Ste 100 Raleigh NC 27612
- ND** Protection/Advocacy Project 400 E Broadway #409 Bismarck ND 58501
- OH** Disability Rights 50 West Broad St Suite 1400 Columbus OH 43215
- OK** Disability Law Center 2915 Classen Blvd Suite 300 Oklahoma City OK 73106
- OR** Disability Rights 610 SW Broadway #200 Portland OR 97205
- PA** Disability Rights 301 Chestnut St Suite 300 Harrisburg PA 17101
- PR** Ombudsman for the Disabled PO Box 41309 San Juan PR 00940
- RI** Disability Law Center 275 Westminster St Ste 401 Providence RI 02903-3434
- SC** Protection/ Advocacy People with Disabilities 3710 Landmark Dr Ste 208 Columbia SC 29204
- SD** Disability Rights 221 S Central Ave Ste 38 Pierre SD 57501
- TN** Disability Rights Two International Plaza #825 Nashville TN 37217
- TX** Disability Rights 2222 West Braker Lane Austin, TX 78758
- UT** Disability Law Center 205 N 400 West Salt Lake City UT 84103
- VT** Protection and Advocacy 141 Main St Ste 7 Montpelier VT 05602
- VA** Disability Law Ctr 1512 Willow Lawn Dr # 100 Richmond VA 23230
- WA** Disability Rights 315 5th Ave South Ste 850 Seattle WA 98104
- WV** Advocates Litton 4th Fl 1207 Quarrier St Charleston WV 25301
- WI** Disability Rights 131 West Wilson St, Ste 700 Madison WI 53703
- WY** Protection & Advocacy Sy 7344 Stockman St Cheyenne WY 82009



For free copies of decisions below and others in this term, write the Public Information Office, Supreme Court, #1 First St. NE, Washington, DC 20543 202-479-3211. Up to 5 decisions can be requested. www.supremecourt.gov

Death Penalty: 16-8255 *McCoy v. Louisiana*; 16-6795 *Ayestas v. Davis*; 17-193 *Dunn v. Madison*; 16-6855 *Wilson v. Sellers*.

Immigration: 16-459 *Pereira v. Sessions*; 15-1498 *Sessions v. Dimaya*; 15-1204 *Jennings v. Rodriguez*.

Sentencing Guidelines: 16-9493 *Rosales-Mireles v. United States*; 17-5639; *Chavez-Meza v. United States*; 17-5716 *Koons v. United States*; *Hughes v. United States*; 16-1468 *Kernan v. Cuero*.

Search Warrant: 16-402 *Carpenter v. United States*; 16-1027 *Collins v. Virginia*; 16-1371 *Byrd v. United States*.

Qualified Immunity: 17-742 *Sause v. Bauer*; 17-467 *Kisela v. Hughes*; 15-1485 *District of Columbia v. Wesby*.

Ineffective Assistance of Counsel: 17-1106 *Sexton v. Beaudreaux*.

Double Jeopardy: 16-1348 *Currier v. Virginia*.

Victims Restitution: 16-1519 *Lagos v. United States*.

Wiretap Orders: 17-43 *Dahda v. United States*.

Guilty Plea: 16-424 *Class v. United States*.

Prevailing Prisoner's Civil Rights Judgement 16-1067 *Murphy v. Smith*.

Jury Instruction: 17-6075 *Thorpe v. Sellers*; 16-1144 *Marinello v. United States*.

Use of Full Restraints in Court: 17-312 *United States v. Sanchez-Gomez*.

We Will Remember



On April 26, 2018, in Montgomery, Alabama, Pauline and Charlie Sullivan, founders of CURE, attended the opening of the National Memorial for Peace and Justice and the Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration.

The Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) is the sponsor of these new institutions and is led by EJI founder, Bryan Stevenson. Bryan has been a strong supporter of International CURE and was the main speaker at our 5th global conference in 2009 in Abuja, Nigeria. Recently, he asked staff attorney, Charlotte Morrison, to represent EJI in Rwanda.

Over the past six years, EJI staff has spent thousands of hours researching and documenting over 4000 racial terror lynchings in the U.S. between the Civil War and World War II. The twelve most active states are the following: AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, TX, and VA. They have recently supplemented their research by documenting lynchings in eight other states: IL, IN, KS, MD, MO, OH, OK and WV.

The Sullivans noted that northern states like MN, CA and NY also had lynchings. Overall, there are 801 counties where a lynching took place and each has a 6 foot coffin like monument which is etched with the name of the persons lynched as shown on the left.

Duplicates of these large, four-sided columns are in an adjacent field and people from one of these lynching counties are encouraged to transport the very county column in the field to the county and place it as a marker in a prominent place. See the interactive map and complete the Memorial Monument Interest form on the EJI website if it shows that at least one lynching was in your county and you would like to be involved in placing the monument in a prominent place in your county.

Remembering Rudy

As Deb Bozydaj, President of CURE-NY, wrote, "Rudolph "Rudy" Cypser passed peacefully at his home on February, 16, 2018 at the age of 94. Rudy, along with his wife, Betty, spent well over 40 years, essentially a lifetime, as social and criminal justice reformers. We cannot remember Rudy without speaking of Betty, his loving wife of 70 years."

They were the founders and co-presidents of the NY state chapter. They also represented International CURE at the United Nations and authored global and regional documents calling for prison reforms.

One of the most important was the 2008 report called *Dignity of the Individual* which gave a summary of the status of prisons in the 35 countries of the Organization of American States (OAS). Selected passages from the Report were read to the OAS's Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and later the entire report was officially submitted to the Commission.

Our presentation and Rudy's report played a major role in the unanimous vote by the Commission to publish *Principles and Best Practices on the Protection of Persons Deprived of Liberty in the Americas*, which can be found on the Commission's website.



Shown after our presentation in the front row are left to right Charlie Sullivan, Jose Filho and Tony Payan. On the back row are Betty Cypser, Alan Pogue and Rudy Cypser.

In our next newsletter, we will remember other CURE prison reformers who have died in the last year. Their leadership and financial support have been crucial to the development of our organization locally, nationally and now internationally.

Where will the 9th International CURE Conference be held?

As you see, our 8th Conference on Human Rights & Prison Reform was very successful. There were three reasons for this:

- (1) the team of Pius, Heidi and Joshua worked very hard to put it together
- (2) Purchasing a visa for \$35 at the airport in Rwanda reduced the fear of being rejected. This happened in Costa Rica when one of our conference participants was sent back to the U.S. because he was on the sex offender public registry. No one was rejected in Rwanda even though there were some in attendance with criminal records
- (3) the site of the conference was in a nice hotel with reasonable costs. For example, for two people in a room with single beds, the charge was \$140 a night and this included a full breakfast the next morning.

Of course, for most participants, the cost of travel was their largest expense which was over a thousand dollars for the round-trip. We also had to charge a pre-registration fee and a much larger conference registration fee because we were not able to raise the funds to take care of the entire cost of accommodations.

In 2020, we plan to have the 9th Conference and welcome your suggestions. So far, countries in Asia that have been suggested are Japan, and Hong Kong in China. Even Beijing, but getting a visa and other problems may be insurmountable. In regard to Europe, Swedish restorative justice experts at the conference thought Europe has a human rights emphasis but needed restorative justice.

In conclusion, I have been baffled by the lack of an intergovernmental organization (IGO) in Asia. South and North America has the Organization of American States (OAS) while Europe and Africa also has an IGO. Thus, why not use the 9th Conference if it is in Asia to organize a campaign to have at least one intergovernmental organization with a human rights commission in Asia.

Just some thoughts, Charlie Sullivan