

Titus House Newsletter

Titus House Ministries, PO Box 2376, Tijeras, NM 87059

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Supreme Court won't review Louisiana 'Sex Offender' ID defacement case - The Advocate



The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to take up or in legal terms denied Certiorari (Cert) on an appeal from the State of Louisiana to their State Supreme Court's decision that upheld a lower Court's ruling regarding branding the driver's licenses of individuals required to register with "SEX OFFENDER" on the front of the license.

In refusing to hear the case, the SCOTUS is effectively letting the State Supreme Court decision stand that says branding licenses with "SEX OFFENDER" is unconstitutional.

Structure of the Federal Court System

<https://judiciallearningcenter.org/levels-of-the-federal-courts>

Louisiana was one of fewer than a dozen states (Florida included) that branded the driver's licenses of persons required to register. While it would have been even better for the SCOTUS to take up the case, making a binding precedent for the entire country, this outcome is a close second. While this decision is not controlling in other states, it should be persuasive to courts in other states. If a similar case with the opposite state court decisions happens in another state, then this issue would be more likely to be taken up by the SCOTUS.

From Once Fallen website - States that mark State ID/DLs:

AL, AZ, DE, FL, KS, LA, MS, OK, TN, VA (only on certain CDLs), WV

https://www.theadvocate.com/acadiana/news/courts/article_fd80d486-2527-11ec-ac27-a7928c04785c.html

There may be other states that mark drivers licenses in less obvious ways, such as IL that normally issues 4 year DL but only issues 1 year DL to those that are listed on the registry. Anyone aware of this can easily spot the 1 year DL and know that it means that person is listed on the registry.

Credits to: The Advocate, FAC and Once Fallen

WAR National Directors

CA: REGISTRANT AND WIFE REMOVED FROM PLANE IN LOS ANGELES DUE TO REVOKED PASSPORT

Source: ACSOL

A registrant and his wife were removed by from a plane they had already boarded in Los Angeles earlier this week. According to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials who removed them from the plane, the registrant's passport had been revoked because it lacked the unique identifier required by the International Megan's Law (IML).

According to the registrant, he received no notice that his passport had been revoked prior to boarding the flight from Los Angeles to Amsterdam. After the registrant was removed from the plane, the DHS officials demanded that he surrender his passport to them. The registrant complied with that demand and is

now required to apply for a new passport.

"Without a passport, the registrant and his wife were unable to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary with friends in Europe," stated ACSOL Executive Director Janice Bellucci. "In addition, they have lost the money they paid for their flights as well as for their lodging."

Although requests have been made of DHS, the agency has so far refused to provide information regarding how or when the registrant was notified that his passport had been revoked. Due to COVID restrictions, it will take the registrant one month or longer to replace his passport.

"Due to this incident, it is highly recommended that registrants covered by the IML who lack a unique identifier in their passports, apply for a new passport with a unique identifier in order to prevent a similar experience," stated Bellucci. "Registrants with passports that include a unique identifier are still allowed to travel to many countries, including 26 countries in Europe.

"Registrants covered by the IML's passport requirement include individuals convicted of a sex offense involving a minor (under age 18) and who are required to register in any state. In accordance with the IML, the registrant notified local law enforcement more than 21 days prior to his departure of his overseas travel.



Treasure Chest Overcoming Fear

Fear is one of the most debilitating corrosive emotions to man. It's like rust on a pipe. The water still goes through but, it eats away at the pipe until eventually a leak bursts. Much like the fears we harbor in life. There is seed that are planted in our minds. The fears grow into giants. Eventually they become real because we put so much thought and energy into them. Whatever we think about, speak about, become real. Everything in the universe is a transfer of energy from the unseen realm to the physical. If the Lord God spoke everything into existence by the words of his mouth and we are in his image, then we need to be very careful about what we speak over ourselves and our lives in our situations. Perfect love casts out all fear. The only perfect love is the Lord Jesus. Who died for us as the spotless Lamb for our sins. If the Lord Jesus, creator of heavens and earth lives on the throne of our heart and we serve him in our lives, should we be afraid? No! Fear is a hard thing to overcome completely. There is a righteous fear. There is a self-sustaining fear that guides us away from danger, that should be discerned in our spirits. However, the enemy uses unhealthy fears that condemn us, shame us, and heaped guilt upon us because we are children of God. The enemy's plan is to kill, steal and destroy. He is the accuser of the

brethren. We are more than conquerors through him who loves us. We can do all things through him that lives within us. If God before us, who can be against us? I'm sure you know all the Scriptures. Believing them, and implementing them into your thought process can be a different story. I remember on the inside of the fences that all the men ever seen and heard was the stories of failure, regression, recidivism, and parole violations. I'm here to tell you that there are many success stories that come out of the prison walls. Unfortunately, you don't hear them as much as you hear the failures. I can tell you that you will be what you think you're going to be and what you speak that you're going to be. If you plan for success. You will be successful. If you dwell in the spirit of fear that you might be regressed. Or someone might not like you or you might not get a job or you might not be able to live somewhere, then your speaking self fulfilling prophecies over your life. Stop it! Speak life success and prosperity over yourself and your families. As a man think of in his heart, so shall be. What I've experienced since my release has been, most people receive you wholeheartedly for who you are, not what you've done. You do have to disclose to a certain degree to certain people. But, there's an appropriate way

to go about that. Most people who I disclosed my pass to very much appreciated my transparency and honesty and then they watch to see if I'm a man of integrity. The people who judge you or think they're better than you will never speak to you again because they have their own issues in life. Rarely has anyone ever said to me anything about my past, my being on the registry or being a felon. My past is not who I am. The label is not who I am. The people that may prejudge you have issues of their own. Do not make their issues your issue. Remember, the Lord is your rear guard and forward guard He encompasses you roundabout with angels. He lives within you. What more power and protection could you possibly ask for? I pray this has helped someone somewhere. The whole world is frightened right now. The spirit of fear is running rampant. However, we get to choose, in whom we trust.



DES MOINES, Iowa – U.S. Senator Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, introduced a bill on Wednesday that blocks sex offenders from immigrating to the United States, and deports those convicted of sexual offenses.

The "BE GONE" Act, or the Better Enforcement of Grievous Offenses by un-Naturalized Emigrants Act – that would make "sexual assault and aggravated sexual violence" a disqualifying act for those seeking to immigrate to the U.S.—such as those given the temporary status of "humanitarian parole."

The bill also gives law enforcement the ability to deport those convicted of violent sex crimes or sexual assault and those trying to immigrate. Specifically, it would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 to include sexual assault and other forms of aggravated sexual violence as a disqualifying crime for foreign applicants for residence in the United States and deportable for non-citizen resident immigrants.

"There was no question that our immigration system right now, under the Biden administration, is strained to its limits, all by the crises they created. Properly betting and processing these individuals is a must," Ernst said on a conference call with Iowa press on Wednesday.

"We have already seen extremely concerning issues and the Biden administration's ability to carry out those vetting processes properly. Another key obstacle that we must address immediately is making sure that criminal sexual predators, who are seeking to take advantage of our strained immigration system to enter our country, are identified, stopped, and, if found here, expeditiously deported," she stated.



TINY MIRACLES

There are less than a handful of jobs those with sex offenses qualify for in prison: janitor and kitchen work. All the good jobs I'd like, tutor, law library, general library, teacher's asst, etc, are beyond my reach...and it's beyond frustrating. I do what I can, I pray, I network, I even wrote letters to the warden, director of the department of prisons and governor, but the answer is always the same: According to the Department of Corrections you do not qualify. But then covid hit and all the rules went out the window.

Inmates were dropping like flies, getting sick, being sent to the hospital, even dying– the prison could no longer be picky about who deserved what job if they wanted to keep the prison running (FYI=inmates essentially run the prison, the officers are "supervisors"). And so it came to pass that I started working as an essential worker in the prison's quarantine hospital wing. A job few others wanted and was especially taxing. I spent 8-12 hours in full PPE, sweating pounds of water weight daily, transporting and caring for sick COVID positive inmates all over the prison facility. It was a gut wrenching experience as I literally carried one friend's limp dead body to a waiting ambulance and then watch another take his last breath while sitting on his cot in his cell . . . waiting for medical attendance that would not arrive in time. Eventually, we would peak and reach herd immunity. They no longer needed me.

I heard about a newly created "clerk" role running the warehouse/general store. In prison, "clerks" are the top of the food chain; another way of saying manager. There are only three clerk roles that essentially run all the departments. Although I knew what the answer would be, I sent in my application and request slip. You can imagine my surprise when I received a notice that I had been submitted for a vote sheet. A vote sheet is where the department heads vote on whether they approve of you in the role: they check your job history, disciplinary background, your case and sentencing etc. I was sure I would be denied, but was thrilled to even be considered...This was progress. This particular role was especially unique as it was technically off-grounds, on the outside of the inner perimeter fence – only a VERY few qualify for "outside" clearance and I had too much time left before I would even be considered. So, I didn't even give it a second thought. And then lightning struck, the stars aligned, and God smiles on His humble son.

I got the job. During the height of the virus break-out when we were averaging up to 200 positive cases per day and everyone else was locked down, I was criss-crossing the prison in my white gown, blue gloves and footies, face shield and hair net moving inmates from one building to another. From their housing building to the quarantine building, then sometimes to the hospital building, and then eventually back to their housing units (the lucky ones anyway). I worked 7 days a week, double shifts, often forgetting to eat as I was overwhelmed with work. The prison was literally a ghost town, except for yours truly hoofing it to and fro. It seems the officers, warden and even a visiting State Rep. noticed that one random guy working his tail off without complaint . . . and they remembered my name when the time came to vote. They had made an exception to their once unbreakable rules.

Guys, tell me I got lucky or even that I earned it, but I know the truth: When we do everything we can within our natural ability, it allows God to do the supernatural in our lives. Tiny miracles happen every day in our lives, if only we open our eyes to see them.

By Leo Cardez (pen name)

Former Seminole County Assistant State Attorney has no prison time or registration for 2 felony sex charges

A former Seminole County Assistant State Attorney will avoid prison for having sex with a 17-year-old girl. Additionally, he will NOT have to register as a sex offender, and his only punishment will be serving two years on community control and eight on probation. How many people on the highly punitive registry in Florida for life, who had consensual sex with a 17-year-old, would trade more time in prison just to have their name removed from the registry? And that was for consensual sex. This victim claimed rape. There are registrants who cannot find a de-

cent-paying job, who cannot live in their family home, who have to hand a branded driver's license over for others to see, whose online reputation has been destroyed, who cannot attend their grandchild's school graduation, and who quite possibly will be banished for life by society unless laws are made based on research findings, while an assistant state attorney receives basically a slap on the hand. This is a result of living in Florida; in New York state, the age of consent is 17.



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Hebrew 13:3 - Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Remember if you change your address you need to let us know if you want to continue to receive this newsletter

WHAT IF TODAY WE WERE JUST GRATEFUL FOR EVERYTHING



MY Portion

An Observation From My Christian Midlife

Psalm 119:57 states "The Lord is my Portion." What, exactly is a "portion??" As a military cook, I was required to assure that each crew member received a military-designated portion of food. A portion is an amount sufficient to satisfy a need. When I go to McDonald's, I have to decide if I want a small portion of french fries (never), a medium portion (in your dreams!), Or a LARGE portion. I'm fat!! (335 pounds!) I NEVER turn down a large portion!! God is my SUPER SIZE EXTRA LARGE PORTION!!

When I was asked to write this article, it was suggested I testify about the day I was saved. Truth is, I was saved at 16. I hadn't lived life and made the mistakes I've made since then, so my salvation story is hardly a story. So instead, I will share an observation from my midlife in Christ.

One day, I was watching a reality show on Netflix. In this particular episode, five flamboyant gentlemen choose a regular everyday guy who needs some social enhancement. Each of these gentlemen has an area of expertise. This episode was a truck driver, like myself. He was in his late 40s. He was overweight, had a scruffy tangled beard and long, oily, unkempt hair. His choice in clothing was sweats and faded, shapeless T-shirts. To top it off, he suffered from lupus, which left his face swollen and blotchy red patches left him practically deformed.

He told them, "Ok guys. Try as hard as you want, you can't fix ugly." The leader of the five agreed and told him they had little to start with, but give them at least a chance. At that, they discovered his one beautiful

feature...his shockingly blue eyes. They started with a pair of glasses to draw out his eye color. Then, a sensibly trimmed beard, a haircut, and a new wardrobe, all of which diverted attention from the deformity of his face, the bulge of his belly, and drew his eyes out as the focus of attention. Before the eyes of the viewer, his appearance became quite acceptable. They pointed out to him that HE didn't change. Everything that made him nearly handsome was what had previously made him ugly. By changing the focus and by allowing him to see that he had everything he needed to be who he now was, he was TRANSFORMED into an attractive, acceptable person

Transformation. In John 3:3, we are told we must be "Born Again" to see the Kingdom of Heaven. When we accept the transformation of Jesus into our lives, all of the ugliness we bring to Him is replaced with a heavenly beauty. Our blemishes are hidden from the eyes of God. We become acceptable in our beautiful transformation. Like the truck driver in that show, we bring ourselves in all of our ugliness to the foot of the cross. Like the "Fab Five," Jesus hides our blemishes from His sight and clothes us with His beautiful Holy Spirit. And that, my friends, is how our Lord is our SUPER SIZE EXTRA LARGE Portion!!

God Bless!!!

By- JON

We at Titus House Ministries wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving.



THANKS FOR DONATION OF STAMPS

Circle of Concern has gone ZOOM

Circle of Concern is aimed at breaking down isolation and fear by providing a safe place for registrants and their loved ones to get together, build community, and learn ways to step out and take charge of their lives and overcome the stigma they face. The Circle of Concern is a group of concerned registered citizens, family and friends that meet together on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We are meeting this month on **November 21, 2021** at 3 pm—5 p.m. MST. We will meet on Zoom. We encourage and try to help each other. It is a safe place to share our strengths and struggles. We hope you will join us. If you are planning to attend call Don at (505) 315-7940.. He will send you the link to join by computer or phone. You can contact him at the number above or email him at

donmagicjohnston@gmail.com