Titus House Newsletter

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

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And the loser is—free speech!

By: Sandy Rozek



October 3, 2024 . . . CorrLinks, a private company that manages the federal prison email system, began as a pilot program in 2005. It has since then served as the primary method by which persons in custody in the federal Bureau of Prison (BOP) system send and receive emails from family and friends as well as access and receive information about employment and newsletters from legal, educational, and religious/supportive resources. The format for newsletters from the beginning has been that groups of subscribers were created and could be emailed with email blasts directed to everyone in the group. A group could be as large as 1000. Now, effective October 1, 2024, a group can be no larger than ten (10).

For family members and friends, this will most likely make no difference. They use CorrLinks to correspond with one person. If someone knows several persons in custody in the BOP and wanted them each to receive the same information, they would create a group of three, or seven, or ten and send the same message to all of them with one email.

But for organizations sending legal, educational/informational, or religious/supportive newsletters, this makes a huge, huge difference. Prior to October 1, 2024, one email could be sent, and it would go to 1000 people. Now it will require 100 emails to get the same information to the same 1000 people.

Thomas Root of the highly respected <u>Lisa Foundation</u> <u>lays the blame directly at the feet of BOP Director Peters.</u> "The worst change – made at the request of unnamed 'correctional agencies' (undoubtedly Director Peters' BOP) – is to limit group size to only ten names (1 pct of the [previous] total)."

He makes the purpose crystal clear. "The BOP has thus been able to do with computer science what it could not do with a direct ban on free speech, which is to cut off inmates from legal reporting services and advocacy, religious and educational groups."

Regardless of who or why, this drastic move will see remarkable changes in many organizations, from allocating more volunteers or hiring more staff to deal with the enormous increase in time required for the same task to discontinuing their CorrLinks newsletters altogether.

"I hope everyone understands," said Sandy Rozek, communications director of NARSOL (the National Assc. for Rational Sexual Offense Laws), "there is no doubt that the big loser in this is free speech and, of course, those who already live with so many losses in their lives—persons who are behind bars with little to no other access to the information that the rest of us take for granted every day. This is information that they need to get legal help and information, to learn how to advocate for themselves, and to receive spiritual support."



CA: Public opposition thwarts success of sexual predator placement program, state says Source: dailybreeze.com

Public opposition is making it difficult to reintroduce sexually violent predators into California communities even though they have undergone post-prison treatment that makes them much less likely to reoffend, according to a new state audit.

The 57-page audit released last week said it can take months or even years to find community housing for SVPs, as sexually violent predators are called, after they have finished treatment through California's conditional release program.

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California designates those convicted of specific sexually violent crimes who also have signif-

icant mental health conditions as SVPs, according to the audit.

When SVPs near the end of their prison terms, a county Superior Court judge may civilly commit them for an indefinite period to a state hospital for mental health treatment and participation in the conditional release program. The program aims to safely transition SVPs back into the community after a court has determined they qualify for treatment in a less restrictive outpatient environment.

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Since inception of the conditional release program in 2003, only two of the 56 SVPs placed in communities have been convict-

ed of subsequent crimes, according to auditors. In contrast, 24 of 125 non-participating SVPs who were unconditionally released by the courts since 2006 have been convicted of new felonies, including seven sex-related offenses.

Despite the program's apparent success in combating recidivism, the state faces significant hurdles in placing SVPs into communities due to complex program requirements, a lack of property owners willing to provide rental housing and public opposition.

On average, it takes the state 17 months to place SVP program participants into the community.

CA: New CDCR Regulations Limit Treatment Requirements for Parolees Source: ACSOL

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has issued new regulations that limit treatment requirements for registrants while on parole. The regulations were issued on October 14 and became effective on that date.

According to the regulations, registrants on parole will be evaluated annually to determine whether treatment beyond the first year of parole is required. If additional treatment is required, that decision must be written and a copy of that decision must be provided to the registrant within 30 days.

"The new regulations will benefit many registrants on parole who have been denied early discharge from parole in the past due to the fact that were undergoing treatment," stated ACSOL Executive Director Janice Bellucci.

The regulations were issued after a lawsuit was filed earlier this year challenging an unwritten CDCR policy that required all registrants while on parole to undergo treatment the entire time they were on parole. CDCR's policy was inconsistent with a state law that requires a minimum of one year of treatment as well as annual individual evaluations beyond that year in order to determine if additional treatment is required. Prior to these regulations, CDCR did not conduct annual individual evaluations.

"Because these regulations require CDCR to make a written record regarding treatment decisions and to provide copies of those decisions to registrants, registrants on parole will be able to challenge those decisions in court if CDCR's decisions are not reasonable," stated Bellucci. "For example, if a person has no parole violations, stable housing and employment, it is unlikely that CDCR can reasonably require additional treatment."

According to the regulations, it is likely that registrants on parole will be required to undergo more than one year of treatment if they have a score of 11 or higher on the LS/CMI, a score of 4 or higher on the Stable-2007, a current failed polygraph exam and/or parole violations relevant to the registrant's sex offense.

The regulations also identify three phases of treatment: curriculum, maintenance and aftercare. According to the regulations, the curriculum phase requires both individual and group therapy sessions as well as polygraph assessments. The maintenance phase requires individuals to attend group sessions only as well as polygraph assessments. The aftercare phase is voluntary and includes group meetings, but no polygraph assessments.

Also according to the regulations, decisions regarding whether additional treatment is required are to be made during containment meetings. Those meetings are to include a parole agent, a unit supervisor, a clinician and a registrant. Others who may join the meeting include family members of the registrant as well as any person that can provide a first-hand account of the positive progress the registrant is making. The regulations are silent regarding whether a registrant's legal representative may participate in containment meetings.

"The newly issued regulations provide a path for registrants on parole to end treatment," stated Bellucci. "We hope that CDCR will comply with these regulations in the future and if they do not, we will once again challenge their actions in court."



The Breastplate of Righteousness By Sandy Z

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, (Ephesians 6:14)

In the last article we talked about the belt of truth. The belt is foundational part of our wardrobe. It pulls it together and keeps everything in place. The belt of truth is also foundational in the spiritual realm. Unless we have the truth that comes from the truth giver, Jesus, we will not function by God's standards.

Biblical righteousness means living by the standard God requires for people to become acceptable to Him. It is a standard that is predicated on truth. Unless we have the truth according to God we will not live up to His righteousness. Righteousness is our application of the truth in our everyday life. The opposite of that is wrongness. If you lower the standard, then you are not living in God's righteousness.

Demons function on wrongness in the spiritual realm. Wrong is not just wrong, wrong is demonic invitation. If you have trash in your house your house is trashy. It's not only trashy, but it's an invitation for roaches and ants to come in and take up residence in your house. You're not only dealing with the trash you are dealing with demons that have made themselves at home in your trashiness. Demons make a bad place worse because they block out God's flow of truth.

God's standard of righteousness is perfect. It not only is held to a perfect standard of what you do, but the motivation behind it. You can do a right thing for all the wrong reasons. We not only have trash, but we have demons in our trash, so we settle for trash management. We want to appear clean, so we hide the trash. We have a form of Godliness. But God still knows about our sins and unrighteousness.

To get true righteousness flowing in your life, you must put on the breastplate. You keep it on all the time. It protects yur heart. All of life flows from that. When your physical heart stops, you die. When the heart is not working the rest of you isn't working right. For every physical analogy, there is a spiritual truth. The heart is the root of all spiritual issues.

Religion helps you manage sin. The law, rules and regulations, will manage your sin but you will not get to the heart of the matter. How do you deal with the heart? Scripture tells you how.

²⁰ That, however, is not the way of life you learned ²¹ when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true right-eousness and holiness. (Ephesians 4:20-24)

God has already deposited a righteous seed within you which is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will teach you how to live in perfect righteousness according to the Word of God. You must meditate on the Word for the truth to get to the soul level. When you take the truth and let it sink deeper into your soul righteousness will flow into your soul by the Holy Spirit you will begin to walk and talk differently. You will be transformed.

When you were saved God deposited all the righteousness of Jesus Christ in your soul. You must be willing to dig it up and meditate on it to be covered by God's righteousness,



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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



Hi From Don & Alice

Good day everybody. We hope you all are well both in body an spirit. We are doing well and getting ready for winter. Our dog Goldie is doing good but needs a bath. Our family of squirrels outside are eating a lot of pinons nuts right now. We did not have a garden this year. It is so hard to grow anything up here.

We got a book in the mail along with a letter. From Dana, she writes to me on behalf of a former lawyer who now is incarcerated. Since he writes under a pen name at this time, Dena was reaching out to me.

The book is a resource guide for individuals who are, or soon will be, subject to the various sex offender registration and notification laws across the United States; especially incarcerated individuals. This book provides a state-by-state breakdown of the different registration and notification laws.

This informative guide can help people answer the most common question we get asked here at Titus House Ministries is: what is the best state for a registrant to live in? It depends on the charge of conviction, and this book helps the reader make an informed decision as to his or her particular situation.

We at Titus House would like to recommend this book. You can purchase it at Amazon. The cost is \$24.95.

If you are able to email Dana at: info@yourpallc.com

We hope you all had a good Thanksgiving Day and ate well.



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 17, 2024** at 3 pm—4 p.m. MST (Mountain Standard Time). 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**