



OREGON CURE

Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants

The mission of Oregon CURE is to support the incarcerated and their families and friends by advocating for effective criminal justice policies and procedures.

Fall 2022, Volume 70

A Newsletter for Incarcerated People and their Families and Friends

P.O. Box 80193, Portland, OR 97280 | (503) 844-9145

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Every year we watch with interest all and who there is to learn and know about voting. In this Fall newsletter, we are showcasing who the candidates are that are being endorsed by Safety & Justice Oregon for the 2022 General Election. Safety & Justice Oregon is working to elect an inspiring slate of candidates who share their public safety values and understand the need for holistic, cost-effective solutions to crime. The candidates they endorse are committed to reducing our reliance on incarceration, investing in victim services, and prioritizing programs such as addiction and mental health treatments.

- For Governor: **Tina Kotek**
- For Marion County Circuit Court Judge: **Erious Johnson**, 3rd District, Position 14
- For Portland City Commissioner: **Joann Hardesty**, Position 4

FOR THE OREGON SENATE:

- **Floyd Prozanski**, Senate District 4, South Eugene & Springfield
- **James Manning Jr.**, Senate District 7, North Eugene
- **Sara Gelser**, Blouin, Senate District 8, Albany/Corvallis
- **Deb Patterson**, Senate District 10, Salem/Monmouth/Independence
- **Elizabeth Steiner Hayward**, Senate District 17, NW & SW Portland
- **Wlnsvey Campos**, Senate District 18, Aloha/Beaverton/South Hillsboro
- **Mark Meek**, Senate District 20, Happy Valley/Oregon City/Gladstone
- **Kayse Jama**, Senate District 24, East Portland & Damascus

FOR THE OREGON HOUSE:

- **Nancy Nathanson**, House District 13, North Eugene
- **Dan Rayfield**, House District 16, Corvallis
- **Ramiro Navarro**, House District 21, North Salem & Keizer
- **Courtney Neron**, House District 26, Wilsonville/Sherwood/King City
- **Dacia Grayber**, House District 28, SW Portland & Beaverton
- **Nathan Sosa**, House District 30, Hillsboro & North Plains
- **Lisa Reynolds**, House District 34, Washington County
- **Janelle Bynum**, House District 39, North Clackamas
- **Rob Nosse**, House District 42, NE & SE Portland
- **Tawna Sanchez**, House District 43, N & NE Portland
- **Khanh Pham**, House District 46, SE Portland
- **Andrea Valderrama**, House District 47, East Portland
- **Ricki Ruiz**, House District 50, Gresham
- **Jason Kropf**, House District 54, South Bend

Safety & Justice Oregon states that the candidates they endorse are committed to reducing our reliance on incarceration, investing in victim services, and prioritizing programs such as mental health and addiction.

PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT VOTE YOU MAKE THIS YEAR: WHO WILL BECOME OREGON'S NEXT GOVERNOR.

There are one million registered Democrats and 729,000 registered Republicans in Oregon. But there are also 1 million registered voters claiming no party affiliation. Which way they swing come Nov. 8 could be decisive in whether a Republican will be Oregon's governor for the first time since 1987, or an independent since 1935.

Gov. Kate Brown, a Democrat, can't run again because of term limits.

There are three candidates who want to be Oregon's next governor and they greatly disagree on issues such as gun control and the death penalty.

Democratic Nominee Tina Kotek, Republican Nominee Christine Drazan and Betsy Johnson, who used to belong to the Republican party and then was a Democrat and is seen as a potential spoiler. Two national election-watching groups rated the race as a toss-up.

Democratic nominee and former Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek stated in a video tweet that an election victory by either Republican candidate Christine Drazan or unaffiliated candidate Betsy Johnson would usher in "a right-wing Oregon."

GUN SAFETY/CONTROL

At a recent debate in Bend, Oregon, Kotek was alone in saying she would support a gun safety measure that has received enough voter signatures to get on the November ballot. Johnson and Drazan said they oppose it. The measure would require people wanting to purchase a gun to first qualify for a permit and is one of the strictest gun-control measures in the nation.

Drazan's stance is that we don't need to pass the gun safety measure because more gun laws will not prevent every single tragedy from happening.

According to Johnson the measure would unduly burden rural police departments, since applicants would apply for the permit from the local police chief, county sheriff or their designees. But Johnson said she would support raising the minimum purchasing age for certain weapons from 18 to 21.

THE DEATH PENALTY

For over a decade now, Oregon governors have stood by a moratorium on capital punishment, despite a long-standing, voter-approved constitutional amendment that allows the state to kill people convicted of the most serious crimes. Oregon's next governor has the power to decide whether to maintain that moratorium of their predecessors, or to revoke it, opening the possibility of the state carrying out death sentences once again. Senate Bill 1013 passed and was signed by Gov. Kate Brown., effectively changing the way the death penalty is to be applied. The new law went into effect September 29, 2019.

While the legislation was not retroactive, a ruling last year by the Oregon Supreme Court found state lawmakers had fundamentally altered "prevailing societal standards" for executions under Senate Bill 1013. The court ruled that it would be cruel and usual punishment to execute a person for a crime that was no longer subject to the death penalty.

Kotek voted for Senate Bill 1013, the legislation tightening the definition of who can be sentenced to die. Without Kotek's support as Speaker, the bill wouldn't have made it to the House floor for a vote. Before the 2019 legislative session, Kotek said "any change to the death penalty is a constitutional question to be decided by the voters." Though, she ended up voting for the bill anyway. Johnson and Drazan voted against it.

“As long as the death penalty remains a possibility, there’s always the possibility of an execution,” said Jeff Ellis, Director of the Oregon Capital Resource Center, which assists attorneys representing people sentenced to death.

OPB recently asked all three gubernatorial candidates: If elected governor, would you continue or repeal the current moratorium on the death penalty? Why? The three candidates responded in writing. Their complete, unedited answers are below:

- **Former speaker of the Oregon House, Tina Kotek, who is running as a Democrat for governor, said she would keep the moratorium in place:** “Oregon has not followed through on the death penalty in over 25 years, and as Governor, I would continue the current moratorium. I am personally opposed to the death penalty because of my religious beliefs.”
 - **Former Oregon House minority leader Christine Drazan, the Republican candidate for governor, indicated she would lift the moratorium, but not approve every execution:** “I am personally opposed to the death penalty, but the death penalty was put in place by Oregon voters. I will follow the law by reviewing cases on a case-by-case basis, which is my duty as governor. Rather than setting aside the law I will act based on the facts and fulfill my duty within the confines of my conscience.”
 - **Former Democratic state Sen. Betsy Johnson, who is running as an unaffiliated candidate, said she would allow the state to carry out executions:** “As governor, I will enforce Oregon’s death penalty in cases where a judge or jury deems it appropriate for a heinous crime. Oregonians have twice voted on and affirmed our death penalty. It’s time for liberal politicians to stop trying to overturn it or subvert it by letting dangerous criminals out of prison.”
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WHAT IS NATIONAL CURE?

Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE) is a grassroots organization that was founded in Texas in 1972. It became a national organization in 1985. We believe that prisons should be used only for those who absolutely must be incarcerated and that those who are incarcerated should have all of the resources they need to turn their lives around. We also believe that human rights documents provide a sound basis for ensuring that criminal justice systems meet these goals. CURE is a membership organization. We work hard to provide our members with the information and tools necessary to help them understand the criminal justice system and to advocate for changes. Read about the history of CURE and its role for over fifty years in advocating for reform of prisons and jails.

& WHO MAKES UP OREGON CURE?

We are an all-volunteer board, and we meet at least once per month to discuss CURE’s action items, where we are headed, what is most needed, and how to proceed to meet those needs. We typically have full-time jobs, and we have first-hand experience with the criminal justice system either by being incarcerated or through a loved one’s incarceration.



HOW CAN YOUR DONATION HELP?

It pays for our phone service, post office box, and postage to correspond with those who write to us, both in the free world and the incarcerated, it pays to print and mail our newsletters, and it pays for our non-profit status. Scan the QR code to donate now.

You can also donate to Oregon Cure through AmazonSmile. Help us earn .05% for all your Amazon purchases by selecting Oregon CURE on Amazon Smile. Visit smile.amazon.com and search for Oregon CURE.

PARTNER COMMUNICATIONS TOOLKIT

by Erwin Mendoza, Campaign Manager for Oregonians United to End Slavery

This is a shared toolkit amongst Measure 112's partners and supporters and houses captions for you to share on your social channels, a sample newsletter blurb, and a sample blog post. Feel free to use more than one item in your voter outreach strategy, and if posting to social please tag us on Facebook (@YesOn112) and Instagram (@YesOn112).

SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA STATUSES AND CAPTIONS

- Oregon's constitution is a reflection of the people it represents which is why we should remove language that allows slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment. Learn more at OregoniansUnitedToEndSlavery.com
- Language that makes exceptions for slavery and involuntary servitude is far out of touch with our values as Oregonians - and as people. Learn more at OregoniansUnitedToEndSlavery.com
- We have a moral obligation to rid our constitution of the "slavery loophole", and fully end this practice in Oregon by voting yes on Measure 112. Learn more at OregoniansUnitedToEndSlavery.com
- Oregon is one of only 10 states that still has language in its constitution allowing slavery and involuntary servitude as a form of punishment for a crime. This "slavery loophole" language is a dehumanizing relic that does NOT represent our values as Oregonians – and as people. Learn more at OregoniansUnitedToEndSlavery.com
- We're on the cusp of ending legalized slavery in Oregon, but the campaign needs volunteers to help spread that message in our neighborhoods. Consider donating your time to get involved with the campaign. Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/upSd4RG1JxE7Aukg8>

SAMPLE NEWSLETTER EMAIL BLURB

Many people are surprised to learn that the Oregon Constitution allows slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment. Voting YES on Measure 112 will remove "slavery loophole" language from the Oregon Constitution.

The proposed amendment change is simple: cross out language in the Oregon Constitution that still allows for slavery or involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime. No matter your political views, we all agree that slavery for any reason is morally wrong.

Our most important governing state document is a reflection of the people it represents which is why we should remove the language that allows slavery and involuntary servitude to exist.

Vote YES on Measure 112 by November 8th and uphold our shared values. Learn more and get involved at OregoniansUnitedToEndSlavery.com.

SAMPLE BLOG POST

Oregon is a place where everyone should be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of one's life circumstances. Unfortunately, our state's history has proven that this isn't always the case. Many people are surprised to learn that the Oregon Constitution allows slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment. Voting YES on Measure 112 will remove "slavery loophole" language from the Oregon Constitution.

The proposed amendment change is simple: cross out language in the Oregon Constitution that still allows for slavery or involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime. Article 1 Section 34 of the Oregon Constitution currently says, "There shall be neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude in the State, otherwise than as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted."

- Voting YES on Measure 112 will remove the last 15 words that make an exception for slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime, like this: "There shall be neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude in the State..."

No matter your political views, we all agree that slavery for any reason is morally wrong. This measure was brought to voters by bi-partisan lawmakers and does not impact sentencing for those already convicted. Measure 112 will maintain current work programs, community service, training, and other rehabilitation programs for those serving time in Oregon prisons or on parole. This measure simply removes a dehumanizing relic from our state constitution without impacting these programs.

Our most important governing state document is a reflection of the people it represents which is why we should remove the language that allows slavery and involuntary servitude to exist. Vote YES on Measure 112 by November 8th and uphold our shared values. Learn more and get involved at OregoniansUnitedToEndSlavery.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RELEASE PLAN

While incarcerated, Karen Campbell realized the lack of funding for release preparation combined with the level of education of the parolee were problems without simple answers. She began writing this plan as an inmate, living firsthand with heartbreaking recidivism. Fundamentals such as saving money, delayed gratification, and long-term planning did not exist in the conversations on the units. It was her impression that the skills of daily living needed to become an adult, a person able to contribute to their own future, were missing. The Release Plan is simple and straight forward, providing access to everyone at all levels of education. She offers it freely.

Her memoir "Falling" inspired Colette Peters to order it placed in every prison library in Oregon. The common overwhelming response of her readers is: What can be done to stop the flow in and out of prison? The Release Plan provides another layer of help. Please contact her with questions regarding her Release Plan by writing to Karen Campbell Writes at 495 Chestnut Street, Apt. 2, Ashland, OR 97520.

DEALING WITH THE HIGH COST OF TALKING TO YOUR INCARCERATED LOVED ONES?

Looking for individuals who have incarcerated loved ones in Oregon that are willing to share their experiences around the cost associated with staying in contact. Of primary interest is the cost of phone calls, however, we are additionally interested in video visits as well. As we see other states (and the federal system) move to less costly and/or free communications platforms, we are wanting to see the same here. If you would be willing to talk with someone and/or join the Oregon Connecting Families Coalition, please reach out to Adam Gregg at agregg@ojrcsupport.info or write to Oregon Connecting Families Coalition at PO Box 1528, Portland, OR 97208.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE AT WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY?

The mission of the Transformative Justice Initiative is to facilitate a paradigm shift within the Oregon criminal justice system from punishment to accountability and from current criminal justice practice to transformative, healing, and community-based alternatives. We believe Oregon has the potential to serve as a national model for the transformation of criminal justice philosophy and practice, and we work to facilitate this shift in the following ways:

- Supporting the intellectual, artistic, and political expression of people directly impacted by crime and the criminal justice system.
- Developing transformative programs and policies within Oregon prisons, as alternatives to incarceration, and during reentry.
- Promoting the prevention of institutional and individual violence through engaged peace-building practices on the Willamette University campus and throughout the State.
- Recognizing the myriad ways racial, gender, and economic oppression contributes to our current criminal justice practices.

PAST LIVES, LLC. - NEW PRISON ART & CRAFTS MARKETPLACE

by Scott Spencer-Wolff, Ph.D.

For many years, several of Oregon's prisons had Hobby Shops where the more creative and industrious inmates could refine their skills in various kinds of craftwork. Incarcerated folks produced leather goods, paintings, belt buckles, scrimshaw, woodworking, and a wide variety of similar artistic products. In these Hobby Shop workshops, under the supervision of prison staff, the AICs created art that enhanced the prisons and decorated parts of the Capitol and Legislative buildings.

The finished products of this creative output could also be sold on prison websites, allowing the AICs to support themselves, save money for release, or send money home. The Hobby Shop website operated by Oregon State Penitentiary was the most well-known.

The Oregon State Penitentiary website, <https://apps.oregon.gov/DOC/Storefront/Default.aspx>, still exists - but its exposure is limited. One has to know about it (and there is a link in the links section of our CURE website), but it's not marketed widely.

A few years ago, a Corporal at OSP was in charge and became very impressed with the work quality and creativity of the men. He encouraged the Hobby Shop crafts persons to go through the process of registering as businesses - and there was some talk about how this would help people upon release.

Then, COVID hit, and many Oregon State Penitentiary activities came to a screeching halt. Aside from the distancing issue, there has been a major shortage of Staff available to supervise.

On a parallel track, several creative artists were released with the desire to provide a venue for the public to purchase goods made by these craftsmen inside. Brandon Morlock, the project creator, and director, started by opening an art collective called "Past Lives," offering a makerspace for formally incarcerated artists. Folks who might have been turned away from more traditional venues or couldn't afford the kind of equipment they needed in a wood or metal shop.

The first iteration of Past lives offered equipped shops, classes, and workspaces.

Already Past Lives, LLC, has attracted other visionaries like Artist/Author Kirk Charleton (who has written an excellent guide for using art as a transformational tool and several children's books on Amazon). Kirk already has some gallery showings and a very active Instagram page.

Now, thanks to the generosity of an investment from Glenn Dahl, co-Founded or Dave's Killer Bread, Past Lives LLC is located in a large new warehouse space at 2808 SE 9th Ave, in Portland, in an upcoming and busy area of the SE Industrial district.

The new space offers much more utility for artists, makers, and people interested in learning a craft or trade, focusing particularly on those previously incarcerated, looking to turn their lives around, and those needing inexpensive workshop space. Past Lives, LLC has also begun an extensive "inreach" program to incarcerated artists offering a means to sell what they can create inside - with considerably more visibility than previous prison-sponsored websites.

80% of the proceeds go to the incarcerated, and 20% for operational costs for Past Lives LLC. The Past Lives website (pastlivesprisonoutreach.com) states, "On average, incarcerated people earn \$10 a week... Many prisoners have families to support and no means of earning a viable living while behind bars. Our organization helps them use their skills to increase their access to reasonable wages by selling their products and hosting art contests with prize pools that are ten times their monthly "wages."

Past Lives begins a great partnership between the inside and outside. It offers positive opportunities for many who want something to further their creative inspirations outside the confines and structure of the traditional job market.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your membership renewal date is on the address label of this newsletter. If your renewal date is expired, we ask that you please renew today to continue to receive this newsletter and to continue to support our organization.

You can also make a donation for someone you know to become a member. Your support is important to our mission and your donation is tax-deductible.

Send your membership tax-deductible donation to Oregon CURE, PO Box 80193, Portland, OR 97280. Please fill out the member donation form below to receive our newsletter. Adult in custody subscription donation is \$3 and Individual Non-Incarcerated subscription donation is \$15. **All tax-deductible donations are greatly appreciated and can be made in any amount. Visit our website at oregoncure.com.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____
(optional)

City/State/Zip: _____

Name of incarcerated loved one / SID & facility: _____

PUBLICATION NOTICE

This newsletter is a publication of Oregon CURE. Oregon CURE is a 501 (c)(3) organization whose goal is to reduce crime through criminal justice reform. The opinion and statements contained in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Oregon CURE.

Contributions of articles, letters to the editor, notices, etc. are welcome but may be edited or rejected for space. Articles may be copied in their entirety with credit to the author or to the publication. Oregon CURE is an all-volunteer organization that is not a service organization. Do not send us any legal documents, we are not a legal service. We are not qualified to assist you with legal matters.

RELEASE ORIENTATIONS

Release Orientations are co-facilitated by Community Corrections and Oregon CURE. Find out how you can help your recently or soon-to-be-released loved one successfully re-enter our communities. Before attending, please phone one of the county coordinators' departments listed below to confirm the date, time, and location.

Washington County Dates

Contact: Marcus Ford (503) 846-3494

Multnomah County Dates

Contact: (503) 988-3081 press "0" for TSU

Marion County Dates

Contact: Kayla Thompson
(503) 540-8017 (call to confirm)

INTAKE ORIENTATIONS

Intake Orientations are co-facilitated by the Oregon Department of Corrections and Oregon CURE. Find out about Oregon's prison system, the intake process, phones, mail, and visiting requirements. You will receive a packet of informational brochures. There will be opportunities to ask questions and learn how you can get through your loved one's incarceration.

Portland Metro Dates

Location: Varies, please call Oregon CURE to confirm:
(503) 844-9145
or email oregoncure@gmail.com

Salem Dates

First Christian Church in Salem
6:00-8:30 PM on 3rd Thursdays Quarterly
Call (503) 378-0050 (call to confirm)

Oregon CURE
7805 SW 40th Ave.
PO Box 80193
Portland, OR 97280

ATTENTION:

Your address label has printed your renewal-date, below your name. This will be your last newsletter if your renewal date has passed. Renew today to remain informed!



SUPPORT GROUPS

Oregon CURE support groups are intended for adult family members and friends only. Some topics of discussion may not be suitable for small children or pre-teens. Attend a support group and network with family members who have “been there”.

Some of these support groups meet via zoom and some meet in person. Please reach out with the contact information given below as you are planning to attend, or if you have any questions. There is no limit to which of or how often you attend a support group, nor is there a location requirement, if you are interested in attending a support group, we welcome you to do so.

Each meeting offers different insights and valuable information, and you are not required to share anything at all, if you do not wish to, simply listen and learn from other attendees.

Portland East Side Support Group

3rd Wednesdays: 6:30-7:30pm

Please email Ray to confirm location.

RayAllenFox@gmail.com

Eugene Support Groups

1st Thursdays: 7:00-9:00pm

Please call to confirm location.

Dave (541) 344-7612 or Don (541) 342-6817

Zoom Support Group

1st Wednesdays: 7:00-8:30pm

Please email for Zoom link prior to meeting.

oregoncure@gmail.com or admin@oregoncure.com

Salem Support Group

1st Saturdays: 9:30-11:30am

The Keizer Senior Center

930 Plymouth Drive NE, Keizer, OR 97303

Wayne (503) 409-3329