

## Highlights

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## Director's Corner



In the months since our last newsletter, Virginia CURE has continued working to encourage better conditions for prisoners and hope for their families. Your Director was somewhat hampered by the crash of her computer drive and failure of the backup drive. It took a little time to recover and purchase a new notepad with which I am now attempting to become familiar. The recent power outage did not help either. The lack of power reminded us of the suffering of our prisoners in non-air conditioned prisons. Something must be done if we are to continue experiencing such heat! CURE was also concerned with the breakup of the Department of Correctional Education. As you may remember, the Board of Correctional Education was one of the boards that was abolished by the Governor in his attempt to streamline state government. DCE was a very successful and well designed program that was a model for other states. However, in a meeting with the Secretary of Public Safety we were informed that breaking up DCE into 2 Education Divisions, one for DOC and one for DJJ, was necessary to save money in these tough times. At a follow up meeting with staff of the new Education Divisions we were assured that most of the structure would remain, only chain of command will be different. We plan to monitor the development of these divisions. CURE members also attended some hearings including that of a sex offender in Alexandria that had an encouraging result, as you will see when you read the article on page 6. CURE volunteers attended the first ever hearing on solitary confinement in Washington, D.C. Senator Richard Durbin (IL) chaired the subcommittee that held the hearing and presented a panel of experts testifying that solitary was cruel, unproductive and did not decrease threats to public safety. More about this meeting on page 6. Carla

## Vice Chair of the Virginia Parole Board Visits Virginia CURE local chapters.

Karen Brown, Vice Chair of the Virginia Parole Board visited Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia Chapters this spring. Ms. Brown met with the Northern Virginia Chapter on May 17. CURE was anxious to hear about any changes in process by the McDonnell Board since we had learned that members of the Board have visited prisons and interviewed prisoners personally. We have learned that the Board is also working with the Reentry Initiative program to establish a reentry process for people who are paroled. At this time, newly paroled people must take a six month program before release.

Ms. Brown began her presentation by introducing herself as a prosecutor and also as the Board member who represents victims. All the Board members have law enforcement backgrounds including prosecutors, and police officials. She estimated 4,500 prisoners are still eligible for parole and that 800 of these are over 60 years of age. She then described the five major duties of the Parole Board: 1. parole requests, 2. clemency, 3. revocation, 4. appeals and 5. geriatric release. The board in the past has employed a risk assessment tool but this was discarded since "too many" prisoners were being identified as viable risks for parole.

Ms. Brown then described a list of categories the Board looks at when considering granting parole. As for lack of personal interviews, Ms. Brown stated that there are two full time and three part time members of the Board and that is not enough to interview all people under consideration. Personal Interviews could involve gut feelings, both good and bad, that may override information in the files. She emphasized that the Board can get everything from available files and make fair decisions based upon serious study of the facts of each case. The Board Investigator's main task is to locate and add new information to the records when necessary. Ms. Brown concurred that one role of the Board Investigator could be to look into claims that some reasons for denials were untrue and that records may be inaccurate. She addressed the Burnett vs Fahey lawsuit stating that it was faulty since the law gives no right to be released before the sentence is up.

The audience appreciated the opportunity to meet with Ms. Brown even though the message did not provide any signs of less punitive criminal approaches in the Commonwealth in the immediate future.

**Monthly Virginia Parole Board Decisions Jan 2012 – May 2012**

The current update includes May 2012 data. **Twelve prisoners were granted parole in May** or a grant rate of 3 per cent, out of a total of 365 decisions. The Virginia Parole Board Monthly Decisions can be accessed at [www.vadoc.vpb](http://www.vadoc.vpb). As always the numbers have been carefully checked. The 3% rate of granting paroles in May continues the ultra-conservative cameo rate of parole grants for 2012 but was slightly above the rate for April 2011 (2.6 per cent). The 41 paroles January through May 2012 contrast with 60 for January through May 2011. By forgoing the opportunity to maintain parole rates at levels comparable to the 2007 to 2010 years, Virginia taxpayers in 2011 and 2012 continue to forgo savings, but current practices may help protect public officials. A conservative set of parole guidelines can politically minimize any embarrassment or risks of a parolee being released and then committing another crime while on parole. However, current Virginia Parole Board actions raise serious considerations regarding the performance of this publicly supported agency when compared with those of other states. The Virginia Parole Board appears to be automatically adding to the tax burden of citizens of the Commonwealth by continuing, with rare exceptions, to extend sentences of predominantly older male prisoners in their 40's, 50's and 60's while delaying the opportunity for the return of offenders to productive roles in society. Virginians can feel safe that 8 seventy plus year olds were denied parole. May 2012 parole Board decisions involved 38 persons 37 years old or less (10 per cent of total parole board decisions). Prisoners sentenced to felony offenses committed on/after January 1, 1995, are not eligible for parole except for rarely used geriatric exceptions. Juveniles that committed felonies under age 21 after January 1, 1995 may be eligible for parole as youthful offenders. Bob Bohall

**Virginia Parole Board Decisions:  
2012**

|                   | Granted   |           | Not Granted |  | Revoked    |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|------------|
| Number            | Percent   | Number    | Number      |  |            |
| January           | 4         | 4%        | 102         |  | 14         |
| February          | 9         | 6%        | 139         |  | 16         |
| March             | 9         | 2%        | 97          |  | 37         |
| April             | 7         | 3%        | 261         |  | 16         |
| May               | 12        | 3%        | 353         |  | 25         |
| <b>Total 2012</b> | <b>41</b> | <b>3%</b> | <b>1252</b> |  | <b>108</b> |

**Attorney General Cuccinelli Calls  
Exoneration of Thomas Haynesworth  
a Wake-up Call**

Virginia State Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli has called for a rewrite of the state's actual innocence statute. In a speech to the Roanoke Bar Association he noted that there are prosecutors who do not balance mercy with the desire to punish. The exoneration of Thomas Haynesworth, who spent 27 years in prison for three rape convictions that DNA proved false, has led many, including Cuccinelli, to rethink how Virginia prosecutes people. "Virginia and its criminal justice system failed Thomas Haynesworth. That's what happened," stated the Attorney General. Furthermore, "It has given a lot of people across Virginia a lot to think about." Mr. Cuccinelli noted that there are different types of prosecutors and that some are too quick to "pull the trigger at everything" without checking and triple checking. Mercy, he said, should be incorporated in the decision-making on the front end, not the back end of the process. The Attorney General supported the release of Mr. Haynesworth and stated that he hopes that Virginia lawmakers will revisit the Actual Innocence law in light of the Court of Appeals decision in the Haynesworth case.

**State Offenders Serve 36% Longer Terms  
Over Two Decade Span**

The Pew Center on the States reports that offenders released in 2009 served an average of almost three more years than those released in 1990. The cost of the extra months averaged \$23,000 per offender. The additional time behind bars cost states more than \$10 billion with more than half going for non violent offenders. Virginia had the second most rapid growth of time served of all states (91%) after Florida (166%). Eight states reduced time served. The report concluded that little was gained by long sentences for violent offenders and in the case of certain non violent offenders, there is little return in locking them up at all.

**Six Exonerated by DNA – More to Come**

In 2005, then Governor Warner ordered that DNA testing begin on evidence from old cases recently found in the files of a former medical examiner. Now, more than three dozen commonwealth's attorneys have received reports from the Virginia Department of Forensic Science in 78 cases where a convicted person was not identified or excluded in DNA testing of the old evidence. Six people have been exonerated in the landmark DNA testing project. Officials believe at least four other people may have been wrongfully convicted, and they are taking another look at those cases. A recent study of the Virginia data by the Urban Institute estimated a wrongful conviction rate of 8 to 15 % in sexual assaults from 1973 to 1987 and indicated 38 wrongful convictions. Some of the 78 exclusions show innocence, many may prove nothing and the significance of others may be arguable. More than a dozen of the 78 people excluded are dead, and an unknown number have not been found. That leaves the decision on whether to investigate the matter in those cases up to prosecutors, police and living defendants who can be located.

## Second Chance Bill Funding Update

The House Fiscal Year 2013 Justice Appropriations bill (H.R. 5326) has passed the House with \$70 million for Second Chance, while the Senate's bill (S. 2323) has passed out of the Appropriations Committee with \$25 million for Second Chance. Once the Senate has passed S.2323, they'll meet with the House to resolve differences between the two bills and determine how much funding will be appropriated for the Second Chance Act in Fiscal Year 2013. Advocates are working hard to see that this bill is passed. People are urged to contact their U.S. Senators and urge support for this bill.

## Women at Fluvanna Sue Over Health Care

Five prisoners filed the complaint in U.S. District Court in Charlottesville against several prison officials and Armor Correctional Health Services, Inc., charging that the private health services contractor caused them to suffer pain and led to the deterioration of their health, even causing the death of some prisoners.

The plaintiffs complain of a litany of maladies that have not been properly treated, including blood clots, unexplained weight loss, mysterious growths, hepatitis C, staph infections, degenerative disc disease and incontinence.

The suit asserts that medical staff do not devote sufficient time, provide necessary referrals to outside providers, prescribe effective medication, or carry out specialists' orders. Prisoners suffering incontinence have been denied more lenient restroom privileges based on unexplained security concerns, the lawsuit says.

According to the plaintiffs, deficient health care contributed to the deaths of at least two inmates: ...a diabetic who died in the infirmary in December 2011 after complaining of severe headache and nausea, and another who complained of severe stomach pain and bleeding and was dismissed by prison doctors until she was finally diagnosed by an outside physician as having abdominal cancer. "The fate encountered by these prisoners almost certainly awaits additional FCCW prisoners if corrective action is not undertaken promptly to remedy the clear deficiencies in the nature and extent of the medical care the facility provides," the lawsuit says.

DOC spokesman, Larry Traylor, stated that many people arrive in prison in poor health and that "If a doctor or doctors feel a procedure is necessary to preserve life, reduce deterioration of health and to follow a community standard of care, we will provide it."

## Legislative Agenda Update

It has been a brutal session for criminal justice reform. The state Senate did not stop some bills as they had in the past. There were no earned credits or parole bills this year. Below are listed bills in our Legislative Agenda and their fate.

**HB 162** (Hope D-47) Telephone services for incarcerated persons: authorizes State Corporation Commission jurisdiction over rates and charges. *Continued to 2013*

**HB 165** (Hope D-47) Allows person at age 60 to petition for geriatric release regardless of how many years served. *Laid on Table by subcommittee*

**HB 420** (Watts D-39) Eligibility for TANF; drug related felonies. *Laid on Table by subcommittee*

**HB 397** (Hope D-47) Virginia Parole Board: Exceptions to Freedom of Information Act. *Tabled in General Laws by voice vote*

**HB 435** (Tata R-85) Juveniles; certain persons imprisoned for felony offense eligible for parole. *Left in Militia Police and Public Safety*

**HB 436** (Tata R-85) Juveniles; certain persons imprisoned for life eligible for parole. *Laid on the table in subcommittee*

Other bills included

**SB 583** (Edwards D-21) and **SB 390** (Marsden D-37) that would give a juvenile the right to petition the court for modification of sentence.

**SJ 64** (Lucas-D-18) to study classification of prisoners

**SJ 93** (Ebbin D-30) and **HJ 126** (Hope-D 47) to study use of solitary confinement

**HJ 122** (Sickles D-43) to study re instituting parole.

Once again this year the Triggerman bills (making an accessory liable for the death penalty) were defeated in the Senate.

Bills passed included **SB 314** (Blevins-R-14) Eliminates use of Static 99 for sex offenders when considering civil commitment and tasks Director of DOC, in coordination with the Attorney General and the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services, to develop an assessment protocol.

[For more complete information on all bills followed by Virginia CURE this year, please write to request a copy of our Final Legislative Report. Send a self addressed envelope.](#)

**Virginia CURE needs funding!** We are running low! If you have not paid dues this year, please consider filling out the application on the back of this newsletter and placing it in the enclosed envelope to update your membership or make a donation! VA CURE is very thrifty, but we cannot print and mail these newsletters for free! Please do what you can. Thanks to all who of you who have already donated!

**DOC/VACURE May 2012 Meeting Highlights****Topics Included:**

**CDs** have been collected because there was a stabbing involving an inmate who made the weapon from part of a CD player. In future, music will be downloaded to MP3 players using kiosks. The first kiosks will go into Red Onion and Wallens Ridge. They are being tested at Green Rock now. The DOC is looking into security issues posed by MP3 players.

**The use of new drugs** for treating medical problems was brought up. DOC staff stated that use of generic drugs confused some people who wanted brand names. CURE was told that DOC Health Services are aware that new drugs are being developed and will use them when they can. Virginia CURE Board Chairman Rev. Bill Twine asked if families could help here. The answer was “Yes and No”. They do not encourage families to get involved, but sometimes a request can be made to Health Services which will examine it to see if it is acceptable; eyeglasses that are not carried by the medical suppliers the DOC contracts with, for example. Bill then asked about families hiring a private doctor to examine the inmate. Buck Rogers, Assistant Director of Operations, only remembered one case in a number of years where the family was allowed to help out in this way.

The quality of **privatized health care** was questioned. Twelve facilities are now under private for-profit health care companies. DOC indicated that private care can attract more staff. DOC monitors health services given by private contractors. As for long waits for teeth cleaning, the worst cases come first and cleaning comes last. They are currently low on dental hygienists. Most facilities share hygienists with other facilities. Coffeewood and Augusta now each have a hygienist assigned.

Next the group discussed **food service**. The response to several prisoner complaints brought forth the same answers, ie: “we eat in the prisons often on unannounced visits and find the food quite palatable.” The menus do sometimes get substituted by necessity, but not as a rule nor on purpose. It was suggested that the facilities post a notice detailing any substitutions to avoid the criticism that the menus are often inaccurate. Mark Engelke of Food Services thought that was a good idea and that they might try it out. He also stated that the food was constantly monitored, and that they follow the American Dietary Standards. Adult general fare is 2,800 calories per day and 3000-3100 are served to those in work units. Fresh vegetables are served when possible. We were advised that the DOC has a certificate from the American Restaurant Association.

Director Clarke joined us briefly, which gave us a chance to voice our concerns about **maximum security prisons**. Clarke stated that these prisons serve a good purpose, but they should be operated humanely. He would address this issue by changing the administration and developing programs as part of an overall plan. In the Walpole, Massachusetts maximum security prison, he created a therapeutic module program that changed the environment causing violence in that facility to decline. He will implement that program in Red Onion. The Unit model was reintroduced at Red Onion and includes Intermediate Units. About 700 prisoners are in population now. According to Director Clarke, mentally ill prisoners are no longer residents at Red Onion. They are transferred as they are diagnosed. Prisoners in solitary, Clarke said, are able to talk with other prisoners and with therapists. The only limitation is their level of dangerousness. There is a movement across the states to ban maximum security prisons that usually includes the same 10 demands. He had each demand checked re Virginia to see if it applied and was satisfied that it did not. The inmates who went on the recent hunger strike numbered 15, not 45 and the strike ended after only a few days. Director Clarke emphasized that in prisons like Red Onion, the level of dangerousness is real. Rev. Twine asked if it wasn't true, however, that only a small percentage needed such isolation. The Director agreed and said that is why he created a general population at the prison. CURE Board member Mary Anne Stone asked if the DOC is continuing the practice of placing people with long sentences into maximum security. Buck Rogers said that they were only placing people determined to be dangerous. Clarke stated that he was not here to promote a punitive state, but the maximum prison frees up other facilities from the threat posed by very dangerous prisoners.

Carla Peterson next related concerns from prisoners at Greenville due to the movement of people within the facility which resulted in some cases of people losing jobs. Buck Rogers said that establishing reentry pods within the facilities necessitated moving people around. Greenville is also being renovated, he stated, and will, during this process, become air conditioned.

Dudley Busch from the **Reentry Initiative** program informed us that there are 11 new programs at a number of facilities and that they are incorporated, in some cases, with existing programs. This includes use of PREPS, workforce development, cognitive counselors, and a new position, treatment officer. Carla asked about reentry programs for parole grantees and was informed that they are working with the Parole Board on this issue. It has been determined that parole grantees will be placed in a six month reentry program prior to release. This program is considered a pilot program and adjustments will be made as the program progresses.

## VACURE/DOC Meeting (Continued)

As for an update on the new **Divisions of Education**, Anita Prince from the DJJ Education Division informed us that they have just recently begun the new structure and "it is early days yet." She stated that the integrity of the programs has not been compromised. Duties will be assigned to corrections managers, but the people running the programs day to day will remain the same and will continue to be certified. Gwynne Cunningham, Offender Workforce Development Manager, stated that though they are losing something, there will also be new opportunities. For example, operating within the DOC will provide efficiencies that could not happen with separate agencies.

In response to an inquiry about the state of **college programs** CURE was told that there is less funding available and that without matching money some programs may have to be canceled. DOC is looking for funding now. The Plaza Communitaria program is at risk since the manager position for that program has been lost. There still are 11 Plazas (Literacy and GED for Hispanics) and three or four Bacherias (college) running; but for how long?

Everyone in the field is doing what must be done, but with lost positions, current staff must take on more responsibilities. Gwynne remained upbeat stating that Career Readiness Certificate Programs can expand via the new reentry pods..

## Virginia Considering Privatization of Sex Offender Civil Commitment Facility

The GEO group, a company that manages prisons across the country, submitted a proposal to operate Virginia's civil commitment facility (VCBR) and is awaiting a decision by the state that could come soon. Due to the rise in the number of sex offenses and classification of many sex offenders as predators, the facility in Burkeville is dangerously overcrowded. A recent report by JLARC, a legislative oversight body, was critical of the state for using Static 99, an assessment tool, to classify individuals as needing civil commitment. Too many are classified as dangerous predators leading to more overcrowding.

There are big profits in this area. By 2011 the facility was spending about \$91,000 for each "patient." Describing itself as "a national leader in the provision of residential mental health services to government agencies with a particular specialization in sex offender populations," GEO Care pledged to increase VCBR's capacity to 600 beds while significantly reducing costs for Virginia. The commission reported that privatization had the potential to lower costs, but questioned whether a private company's profit motive was appropriate for a civil commitment facility. Al O'Connor, an attorney with the New York State Defenders Association, says he would be surprised if Virginia's

rationale for privatizing civil commitment is to improve treatment. "It's all about saving money. It's preventive detention," O'Connor says. With privatized civil commitment, there is "no way to declare success and no incentive to declare success." Justin Brown, a commission staffer, says that the state should weigh a range of factors — not just promises of lower costs — in deciding whether to privatize the facility.

## Class Action Law Suit Against The Virginia Parole Board

On July 9th, in a 2-1 decision, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Richmond upheld the federal district court's previous dismissal of the lawsuit filed over two years ago against the Virginia Parole Board by 11 long-held inmates. Judge Gregory dissented. In his view, "to hold that the rote use of the nature of the underlying offense by itself is sufficient" to deny parole "transmogrifies the parole process into an empty formality." On July 23rd, these inmates filed a petition with the court of appeals, asking that either the panel or the entire 15-judge court rehear their appeal.

Each of these inmates has been repeatedly denied parole, on as many as 23 occasions, solely or primarily based on the "serious nature and circumstances of the crime." The lawsuit points to the many changes in the Board's policies and procedures since the abolition of parole for offenses committed after 1994, as reflecting a violation of their federal constitutional due process right to fair and meaningful consideration for parole, and of the U.S. Constitution's Ex Post Facto Clause. That clause prohibits retroactive changes in punishment resulting in increases in time served, following lengthy sentences handed down by Virginia courts based on their assumption about the realistic prospect of parole at the time of sentencing.

## Supreme Court Decisions

### Supreme Court, 5-to-4, Bars Life-Without-Parole for Teen Murderers

The court said that, "By requiring that all children convicted of homicide receive lifetime incarceration without possibility of parole, regardless of their age and age-related characteristics and the nature of their crimes, the mandatory sentencing schemes before us violate [the] principle of proportionality, and so the Eighth Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment." In a dissent, Chief Justice John Roberts said, "Neither the text of the Constitution nor our precedent prohibits legislatures from requiring that juvenile murderers be sentenced to life without parole."

## Supreme Court Decisions (Continued) Rights Expanded in Plea Bargains

Justice Kennedy wrote for the majority stating: "The right to adequate assistance of counsel cannot be defined or enforced without taking account of the central role plea bargaining takes in securing convictions and determining sentences." This means that the plea bargaining process will be more closely regulated. Justice Scalia, in his dissent wrote expanding constitutional protection in that area "opens a whole new boutique of constitutional jurisprudence" calling it "plea bargaining law." Law professor Wesley Oliver said the court's decision constitutes the "single greatest revolution in the criminal justice process since indigents were provided the right to council in 1963."

## Sen. Durbin Chairs First Ever Hearing on Solitary Confinement.

The hearing was held before the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights. CURE volunteers attended this hearing and were pleased to see 180 others in attendance. Sen. Durbin opened the hearing with a statement addressing the large number of prisoners in US prisons, and the practice of separating the most violent and dangerous people from the general population that is now being used for many others as well, including immigrants, children and LGBT inmates, some of whom are in solitary "for their own protection." The consequences can be devastating and lead to mental illness, self-mutilation and suicide. Fifty percent of all prison suicides occur in solitary. Prolonged solitary confinement has also been documented to increase violent tendencies upon release. Sen. Durbin plans to introduce legislation that would reform solitary confinement in Federal prisons.

The hearing featured testimony from Dr. Craig Haney, expert on conditions in solitary and their consequences, Stuart Andrews, partner in a law firm that represents prisoners at the federal supermax prison in Florence, Colorado who are suing the BOP, Craig Epps Commissioner of The Mississippi DOC that has severely limited solitary and Anthony Graves, wrongfully convicted ex prisoner who spent 12 years in solitary. Graves stated that though released two years ago, he still has trouble sleeping as he remembers the sounds of solitary. A moment of silence occurred after his moving testimony.

This was the first hearing on the use of solitary confinement in our country. We hope there will be more. Several states have abolished solitary, Maine comes to mind and the very recent closing of the supermax prison in Illinois as well. Director Clarke has made some positive improvements to the conditions in Virginia's Red Onion. We hope that these changes will be continued until Red Onion is no longer a supermax. If other states can do this, why can't Virginia?

## Virginia CURE Activities

A number of Virginia CURE members attended the **trial of a Sex Offender** in Alexandria who was fighting civil commitment. The prosecutor attempted to picture the young man as predatory and narcissistic. The narcissism charge was based upon statements made by the defendant at age 20, which indicated that he did not respect his parents. The jury was composed of all women of a certain age and one man. The defendant was acquitted. One juror was heard to say as they left for lunch: "Why do they want to make him serve longer? He has already finished his sentence!?" One wondered how many of the jurors had children and could see nothing unusual about a 20 year old feeling that he knew more than his parents! We hope that occasions like this signal a change in the public's perception of sex offenders and a growing awareness of the different levels of offenses.

Virginia CURE was present at a **FOIA Council meeting** in order to urge the council to take up a study of the exemption from FOIA of the Virginia Parole Board. Speaking for the study was Del. Patrick Hope (D-47), who has sponsored a bill to study the exemption, Steven Northrup, Director of Virginians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty and Carla Peterson, Director of Virginia CURE. The study will proceed. CURE is very interested in this movement for the Parole Board to adhere to FOIA standards since we have had difficulty on occasion in getting information from the Parole Board, which currently can withhold whatever information they wish.

Our thanks go to Al Simmons, our Richmond Chapter leader who has attended Board of Corrections and other meetings in Richmond for Virginia CURE. Al has also represented Virginia CURE at events held in the Richmond area, such as the Annual Meeting of Assisting Families of Inmates. We are grateful to have such a dedicated volunteer representing Virginia CURE in Richmond!

### Why can't we go back to serving 65% of the sentence?

"To assure that offenders serve a large portion of their sentence, the U.S. Congress authorized funding for additional State prisons and jails through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. ... Incentive grants were awarded to 27 States and the District of Columbia that met the eligibility criteria for the Truth in Sentencing program [one criteria being prisoners must serve 85% of the sentence]. Nearly 7 in 10 state prison admissions for a violent offense in 1997 were in states requiring offenders to serve at least 85% of their sentence."

*from BOP Rpt: Truth in Sentencing in State Prisons 1999*

Virginia CURE Asks: The grant money is no longer available, so why continue this requirement?

## CURE Chapters

Northern Virginia CURE  
 Jean Auldridge  
 jeanauld31@gmail.com  
 3rd Thursday, 7:30 PM  
 Arlington Unitarian Church  
 4444 Arlington Blvd.  
 Arlington VA 22204

Richmond CURE  
 Al Simmons  
 Al22s@hotmail.com  
 4th Sunday, 1:00 PM  
 Friends Meeting House  
 4500 Kensington Ave  
 Richmond VA 23221

Hampton Roads CURE  
 James Bailey  
 Jbailey383@aol.com  
 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 PM  
 Norview Baptist Church  
 1127 Norview Ave.  
 Norfolk VA 23513

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### WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

If you have an email address and are not receiving updates from Virginia CURE, please send a message to [vacure1@cox.net](mailto:vacure1@cox.net). (vacure one)

### Have You Renewed Your Membership?

Please see membership form on back page.

We can't do this without you.

## Book Reviews:

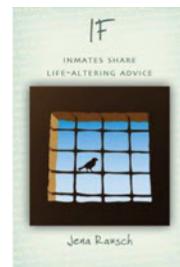
### IF: Inmates Share Life Altering Advice

**Publisher:** Hilton Publishing

**ISBN:** 978-0-9847566-3-6

**Author:** Jena Rausch

Current and former inmates tell their stories to help deter others from following in their footsteps—all the way to prison. The men represented in this book have made bad choices, but they are not bad men. This book underscores the importance of seeing the potential in every human being, and for having and extending compassion to all. The contributors to IF want others to know what is truly important in life: living a character and conscience-driven life, finding and following a passion, cherishing and nurturing family.



### A Note About Letters to Virginia CURE

While Virginia CURE cares about your concerns and appreciates being kept informed, we don't have a volunteer staff large enough to reply promptly to all letters received. Please, keep it short and to the point. **Do not send legal papers.** We do not have the capacity to deal with legal issues. Send mail to **P.O. Box 2310, Vienna, VA 22183**

Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants– Virginia, Inc.  
**Virginia CURE**  
P.O. Box 2310  
Vienna, Virginia, 22183

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*Today's prisoners  
are tomorrow's neighbors*



Member

Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants– National, Inc.

**Are you a Member of Virginia CURE?**



Use form for new memberships or to renew your membership for

## Membership in Virginia CURE

Join Virginia CURE today and become a part of the effort to work for criminal justice reform and safety in our communities. Send dues payment to:

Virginia CURE, P.O. Box 2310, Vienna, Virginia 22183

**Dues are payable January 1** on a yearly, non-prorated basis for current year. Prisoner members need to include state number on all communications to CURE.

*Remember to send address changes.*

### Check type of membership

- Prisoner\* \$ 2.00
- Individual \$ 15.00
- Family \$ 25.00
- Sustaining \$ 50.00
- Organization \$100.00
- Life \$100.00
- Renewal
- New

Please make checks payable to **Virginia CURE**. Contributions are tax deductible under the provisions of 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code.

\*Prisoners may send five stamps.

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_  
street/or p.o. apt.

\_\_\_\_\_ city state zip

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ prisoner birthday \_\_\_\_\_

phone day ( ) evening ( )

fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Involvement:  prisoner  family  friend  professional  volunteer

other \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \_\_\_\_\_

*please specify*

Virginia CURE invites prisoners to submit original articles, poetry and artwork for consideration for publication. Virginia CURE reserves the right to edit submissions accepted for publication.

Virginia CURE will not return submissions unless prior arrangements are made. Send submissions to: Newsletter Editor, Virginia CURE, P.O. Box 2310, Vienna, Virginia 22183

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