

Seeking Attorneys with a Passion for Reform

Do you have a passion for reforming sexual offense laws? We need your involvement!

1. Join the Scarlet Legal Action Project and help us develop strategies for locating and supporting targeted legal challenges to unconstitutional, excessively punitive sexual offense laws and policies.
2. Volunteer as resource person. The Scarlet Legal Action Project is seeking at least one attorney from each state with an extensive knowledge of that state's laws and policies regarding sexual offenses and sexual offenders who could act as resource person for the committee pertaining to any state-specific questions that arise.
3. Contribute to the RSOL Legal Fund by visiting reformsexoffenderlaws.org and clicking the "donate" tab, or send check or money order to the address on the back panel.
4. Spread the word to other attorneys and legal professionals with an interest in what is possibly the greatest civil rights cause of our time.



SCARLET LEGAL ACTION PROJECT

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Reform Sex Offender Laws

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The Broader Issue

RSOL's mission and purpose include assisting those individuals who are:

1. accused of sex related offenses;
2. subject to sex offender registration;
3. accused of (sex offender) probation or parole violations;
4. subjected to any unconstitutional conditions of supervision; and
5. deprived of constitutional rights or liberty after the expiration of their sentence.

Identifying the Need

Many individuals (primarily registrants or family members) contact RSOL inquiring about a number of issues, but the majority of questions revolve around some aspect of sex offender registration.

RSOL recognizes that there is a need for comprehensive reform in the area of sentencing of sex offenders and registration. RSOL believes that its mission can be furthered by the assimilation of a team of legal professionals who have either defended those accused of sexual offenses or who are interested in the broad spectrum of issues related to sex offender registration.

Project Goals

With limited resources, RSOL recognizes that we cannot undertake any individual's case unless that case has broader implications for a significant number of similarly situated persons. RSOL's top priorities are:

1. Challenging the constitutionality of retroactively imposed registration requirements that result in significant diminution or deprivation of liberties applied to persons convicted prior to the existence of registration;
2. Challenging significant increases in duration of registration or additional deprivation of liberties imposed after the person's registration period began; and
3. Challenging the judicial imposition or probation and parole imposed sex offender registration requirements on individuals not convicted of a registerable sexual offense.

Given this understanding, the project's goals are:

1. Develop a strategy to combat unconstitutional registration laws utilizing a combined approach of both litigation and legislation;
2. Identify jurisdictions whose registration laws are most vulnerable to various constitutional attacks;
3. Develop criteria to determine which cases could potentially have national significance;
4. Build a legal fund for use in significant registration cases;
5. Build a referral database of attorneys with experience defending those accused of sex offenses and violations of supervision conditions; and
6. Provide basic information in the form of a frequently asked questions (FAQ) document that can be disseminated to those accused of sexual offenses or individuals subject to registration.

