

ReformSexOffenderLaws.Org

## **Second Annual Conference**

St. Stephen and the Incarnation  
Washington, DC  
June 26-28, 2010

### **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

#### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

**Gary Dennis, Ph.D.**

Senior Policy Advisor for Corrections,  
U.S. Justice Department

**Dr. Chysanthi Leon, Ph.D., JD**

Professor of Sociology, University of Delaware

**Amy Borrer, Esq.**

Legislative Liaison for the Ohio Public Defenders Office

**Norm Pattis, Esq.**

Connecticut Defense Attorney

**James L. Powell, PhD, DD**

Ordained Minister and Psychologist

**Dr. Nancy Steele, Ph.D.**

Sex Offender Treatment Therapist

**J. Tom Morgan, Esq.**

Former Georgia District Attorney

**Reform Sex Offender Laws**  
**Second Annual Conference: Washington DC**  
**June 26-28, 2010**

**Saturday**

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:30 Welcome and “Housekeeping”
- 9:55 Implications of the Second Chance Act for people on the registry  
– Dr. Gary Dennis
- 10:40 Update on research, critique of SO legislation, and our most  
effective arguments for change – Dr. Chysanthi Leon
- 11:35 Break
- 11:45 The Adam Walsh Act: History, provisions, legal implications, and  
recommended policy changes – Amy Borrer
- 12:30 Presentation on the International Megan’s Law – Lloyd Swartz
- 12:45 Testimonies and open mike for registered persons and family  
members
- 1:30 Lunch
- 2:30 Criminal Law 101: What You Need to Know about Sex Offenses  
– Norm Pattis
- 3:15 Challenge to the Faith Community – Rev. Dr. James Powell
- 4:10 Break
- 4:20 Sex Offender Treatment Abuses – Dr. Nancy Steele
- 5:00 Organizing State Groups / Meet Our State Coordinators  
Alain Levesque
- 5:40 Small groups (Sanctuary area)
- 6:40 Pizza supper together (Dining Room)
- 7:00 Report on Nationwide Road Trip – Marshall Burns

**Sunday**

- a.m. Optional Group Activities (Look for signup sheets.)
- 1:00 Optional lunch for various groups (Look for signup sheets.)
- Return to Conference Site – Dining Room***
- 3:00 What's Wrong with the SO Laws that I Created – J. Tom  
Morgan
- 3:50 Lobbying Tips and Case Studies– Lloyd Swartz
- 4:35 A Critique of the Adam Walsh Act and the International Megan’s  
Law – Amy Borrer
- 5:20 Break
- 5:30 The Do's and Don'ts of Lobbying – Dr. Chysanthi Leon
- 6:00 Lobbying delegations: assignments and logistics for Monday  
– Lloyd Swartz, facilitator
- 6:30 Small group lobbying role-play
- 7:00 Small group reports
- 7:20 Go out for supper

**Monday**

- 9am Delegations visit members of the House and Senate Judiciary  
Committees
- 11:30 Delegations report at our meeting place on Capitol Hill
- 1:00 Lunch
- 2:00 Delegations visit their own senators and reps
- 4:30 Report to our meeting place and close the conference together

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES**  
**RSOL National Conference Speakers**  
**Washington, DC, June 2010**

**Amy Borrer, Esq.**

Ms. Borrer is the Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Ohio Public Defender. Since 2004, she has served as the office's spokesperson and as its lobbyist at the Ohio General Assembly. Prior to joining OPD, Amy worked at the Ohio Senate, the Ohio House of Representatives, and the Ohio State Bar Association. Much of Amy's work has focused on Ohio Senate Bill 10, which implemented the Adam Walsh Act in Ohio. She coordinated lobbying efforts that convinced Ohio's legislature to greatly limit the bill's impact on juveniles and to not apply the bill to those who reenter the justice system for unrelated offenses. Since then, Amy has assisted Ohio's criminal defense bar in challenging the new law, and has educated attorneys, treatment providers, child advocates, and the media about the impact the AWA has on children, families, and public safety. In March 2009, Amy was one of seven invited witnesses to testify before Congress at the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime's hearing on barriers to states' implementation of the AWA.

**Gary Dennis, Ph.D.**

Dr. Dennis is the Justice Department official overseeing the Second Chance Act. Professor Dennis is presently the Senior Policy Advisor for Corrections in the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance in Washington, D.C. Prior to assuming this position, Dr. Dennis was a Senior Associate with The Moss Group, Inc., in Washington, D.C., serving as Project Coordinator for a cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Corrections for the implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act. Dr. Dennis retired from a 34-year career the Kentucky Department of Corrections in 2004. Dr. Dennis has also served as Director of Management and Training Services at the National Institute of Corrections' National Academy of Corrections in Boulder, Colorado, and as Interim Facility Executive for the Vermont Department of Corrections, managing their nine prisons.

**Chrisanthi Leon, PhD, JSP**

Dr. Leon is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware, where she teaches an advanced course in sex crime and punishment. Her doctoral thesis is "Compulsion or Desire: Sex Crime & Criminal Justice Policy in California." Her numerous articles include (with Franklin E. Zimring) "A Cite-checker's Guide to Sexual Dangerousness" (*Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law*, 2008). She has been a speaker at several sex offender support and reform conferences, including the Georgians for Reform conference in March this year.

## **J. Tom Morgan, Esq.**

For 12 years, J. Tom Morgan served as District Attorney of DeKalb County. He now specializes in criminal defense and general civil litigation and is licensed to practice law in Georgia and North Carolina. He enjoys the highest rating (AV) issued by the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory and has been recognized as a Georgia Super Lawyer in general litigation by his peers. J. Tom is known for his competence, commitment, and passion in representing his clients. He is the author of *Ignorance Is No Defense: a teenager's guide to Georgia Law* (2010).

## **Norman A. Pattis, Esq.**

Attorney Pattis is one of Connecticut's best known and most passionate criminal defense lawyers and civil rights attorneys. Notable civil rights cases include successful suits involving millions of dollars for a prisoner beaten during an escape attempt, Hispanic firefighters in a reverse discrimination case, and on behalf of Connecticut's highest-ranking female firefighter. He has wide experience in cases involving serious sex offenses, and in defending indigent sex offenders, appearing before the U.S. Supreme Court in a prisoner's rights case. He has served on the staff of Wyoming Trial Lawyers' College and the faculty of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. He is the author of numerous articles on criminal law, including weekly columns for the Connecticut Law Tribune. He is also the author of a work of fiction, *Dark Justice*, which appeared in serial form in the *Law Tribune*.

## **James L. Powell, PhD, DD**

Rev. Dr. Jim Powell is both an ordained minister and a licensed psychologist. He provides psychological treatment and expert witness work in several areas, especially with child molestation cases. He provides treatment for both the offender and the victim. He also is starting his fourteenth year as pastor of an inner city church in Atlanta. Jim has been the president of a graduate school that trained students in theology and psychology, and he enjoys teaching and speaking. His wife, grandchildren, and dogs complete his life..

## **Nancy M. Steele, PhD**

Dr. Steele, a Clinical Psychologist, supervised sex offender prison programs in Minnesota and Ohio and facilitated outpatient sex offender therapy groups in Indiana. She has worked as a therapist treating adolescent and adult sex offenders in several states, developed a training program for a halfway house for sex offenders leaving prison, and provided expert testimony for prosecutors and defense attorneys in judicial proceedings involving sex offenders. Dr. Steele is consultant to the National Institute of Corrections to develop state treatment programs, and designed and taught a course at the National Academy of Corrections on developing programs to treat and supervise sex offenders. She has authored numerous articles in scholarly publications and chapters in several books dealing with sex offenders and sex offender treatment.

## **Sign-up Sheets**

- We need volunteers for set-up and take-down, “ushering” Q&A cards, and watching the food and literature tables. Please sign up!
- There will be optional tourist activities and lunch get-togethers on Sunday. If you would like to “lead” one of these, please post a sheet. If you wish to participate, please SIGN UP!
- Watch, also, for sign-up sheets regarding Monday’s lobbying activities.

## **Rules for the Conference**

- Please be considerate of our honored guests. Do not interrupt their presentations, and treat them with respect.
- You will be given cards to write down questions for the speaker during each presentation. Please keep the subject of your question to what the guest is discussing.

## **Basic rules for groups at St. Stephen's**

- No alcohol or illegal substances.
- No smoking in the building; if smoking outside, please deposit trash and cigarette butts in the dumpster.
- Please be considerate of others in the building and in the neighborhood, including being quiet when entering or leaving the building between 10pm and 8am.
- Only street parking is available. All parking lots in the vicinity are privately owned. Ticketing and towing are enforced in the parking lots and on streets around the church that have restricted parking.
- Rooms – including bathrooms – must be cleaned sufficiently each morning for others to use during the day
- St. Stephen’s cannot guarantee safety of belongings left in the church.
- St. Stephen’s cannot provide showers.
- All sleeping is on hard floors. Sleepers should bring mats or pads.