

PHILADELPHIA JAILS CANDIDATES & VOTING RIGHTS FORUM
Riverside Correctional Facility
April 10, 2007, 7pm-9pm

Welcome

Leon A. King, II, Commissioner of Prisons

Moderator Overview

Elmer Smith, Philadelphia Daily News Columnist

Opening

Frederica Hoffman, Board Member, X-Offenders for Community Empowerment

Voting Rights

Wayne Jacobs, Executive Director, X-Offenders for Community Empowerment
Malissa Gamble, The Time is Now to Make Change

Candidate Introductions

Question and Answer Session with the Candidates

Response and Closing Remarks from Riverside Women

Shannon Bolli, Block Representative Chairman, E-Unit
Ada Domingez, Block Representative, F-Unit

This event is co-sponsored and supported by the following organizations:

ACLU of Pennsylvania Larry Frankel; 215-592-1513

Advancement Project Rosa W. Goldberg; 215-870-5601, rosawgoldberg@gmail.com

Centro Pedro Claver Danny Torres; 215-227-7111

Frederica A. Hoffman 267-304-5623; fredericaahoffman@yahoo.com

Human Rights Coalition Richard Tut Carter; 215-474-7472, hrcchester@yahoo.com

Pennsylvania Prison Society Ann Schwartzman; 215-564-6005

Philadelphia Hip Hop Organizing Committee Jay Woodson; 215-868-8377

Philadelphia NAACP Prison Committee Wali Smith; 267-259-8094

Reconstruction, Inc. William Goldsby, 215-227-6977, Rec2FFL@aol.com and CR Robinson
Sierra Thomas, Esq.

The Time is Now To Make Change Malissa Gamble; 215-847-5652

X-Offenders for Community Empowerment Wayne Jacobs; 215-668-8477

The organizers wish to express their sincere appreciation to Commissioner Leon A. King II, Esq., Riverside Correctional Facility Warden Louis Giorla, Deputy Warden William Lawton, Deputy Warden Yvonne Jackson, Robert Eskind, Public Information Officer, Wilfredo "Wil" Rojas, Director of the Office of Community Justice and Outreach, the staff of Riverside Correctional Facility, the Philadelphia Prison System, Mayor John F. Street and Managing Director Pedro Ramos for their cooperation and support. We would also like to thank all the candidates for coming out tonight. Most of all, we would like to recognize the women of Riverside for sharing their voices.

DO YOU WANT TO VOTE FROM JAIL?

In Pennsylvania, you can:



Vote while in jail awaiting trial.

- ✓ Vote while serving time for a misdemeanor.
- ✓ Vote even if you are on probation or parole.
- ✓ Vote even if you were convicted of a felony in another state.
- ✓ Vote even if you have a previous felony record.
- ✓ Vote while on house arrest.

In Pennsylvania, you cannot vote if you are currently serving time for a felony or on pre-release status. However, you can vote when you are released from jail or prison—even if you were convicted of a felony. The five-year waiting period was banned in the year 2000.

Four Easy Steps to Voting From Jail:

1. **Pick up a voter registration form** from your block representative, the library or social services.
2. **Register by April 16th, 2007** to vote in the May 15th primary election.
3. If you will be in jail on Election Day, be sure to **fill out an Absentee Ballot Application and request an Absentee Ballot by May 8th, 2007.**
4. Fill out and **submit your completed Absentee Ballot by May 11th, 2007.**

DON'T FORGET: IF YOU ARE ABLE TO VOTE IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY, YOU MUST GO TO YOUR POLLING PLACE, VOID YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT AND VOTE THERE.

The organizers of the forum would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support in conducting voting rights trainings at Riverside: Malissa Gamble, Megan Kiesel, Jennine Miller, Richard Tut Carter, Rosa W. Goldberg, Sierra Thomas, Aurora Vasquez and Election 2007: Vote for Homes.