

UTRSOL WEEKLY

Utah for Rational Sex Offense Laws

Week of August 3 – August 7, 2026

This week, our Clinical Research Working Group completed its review of our LECJ interim submission, we finalized outreach materials for AfterMath Alliance's upcoming launch, and we began building a new bridge between two state employment programs. We also introduced a new monthly recap format and continued deepening our affiliate relationship with our national partner organization. Here's the rundown, track by track.

LECJ INTERIM STUDY ITEM 3: CRWG REVIEW COMPLETE

Our Clinical Research Working Group's review of Part II of "The Registry's Reach" wrapped up this week, with our clinical reviewers submitting substantive, detailed feedback. Their contributions included corrections to our clinical instrument inventory, added citations supporting key claims, and confirmation that several of the document's core arguments hold up against current clinical practice. This kind of rigorous review strengthens a document before it reaches policymakers, and we don't take that scrutiny for granted. We're now incorporating this feedback into a final version of the document, working toward our August 12 transmittal deadline ahead of the August 19 LECJ hearing. We're deeply grateful for the depth of expertise our clinical reviewers have brought to this work.

AFTERMATH ALLIANCE: OUTREACH AND MATERIALS

With AfterMath Alliance's launch on August 14, we finalized promotional flyers for both our first meeting and our standing sessions going forward, and began reaching out to partner organizations to help spread the word to clients who could benefit from a support group. We also continued refining our AfterMath Alliance member handbook this week, clarifying our policy for an adults-only, 18-and-over space, and adding clear language describing our hybrid meeting format for both in-person and virtual participants. Building this kind of infrastructure now, before our very first session, reflects our intent to make AfterMath Alliance a stable, lasting resource rather than a one-off event. We're also glad to share that we are working towards a second, complementary in-person support group for non-justice-impacted family members who support registrant loved ones.

EMPLOYMENT TRACK: BUILDING A BRIDGE BETWEEN STATE PROGRAMS

This week, we identified the Utah Department of Workforce Services' standing point of contact for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program and began exploring a promising structural connection: linking WOTC's employer incentive program with the Utah Department of Corrections' Second Chance Employer Network. These two state programs share a common purpose, connecting employers with tax and bonding incentives

to justice-involved job seekers, but currently operate without any formal relationship despite years of running on largely parallel tracks. If successful, this connection could meaningfully expand the pool of employers actively seeking to hire people with a criminal history. We hope to help bring these two efforts together for more targeted employment options for registrants.

EDUCATION POLICY ENGAGEMENT: USBE PUBLIC COMMENT

This week, we took our education policy work to the Utah State Board of Education directly. On August 6, we provided in-person public comment at the full Board meeting regarding a legislative request proposing a permanent statutory amendment to registry-related restrictions on school property and school-sponsored activities. We followed up with a second in-person comment to the Board's Law and Licensing Committee on August 7.

Our position throughout has been consistent: we support closing the specific background-check gap that prompted this request through targeted administrative rulemaking, but we oppose escalating that fix into a permanent statutory change that reaches well beyond the incident that prompted it and isn't supported by evidence of an actual child-safety gap. We also identified an unaddressed conflict between the proposed language and existing state law governing a registered parent's ability to accompany their own child, and offered to work with Board staff to help resolve it. As of this week, the Board's Law and Licensing Committee has left the item pending on the agenda rather than issuing a recommendation. We'll continue engaging as this moves toward the 2027 legislative session.

NARSOL AFFILIATION CONFIRMED

UTRSOL's affiliate status with our national partner organization, the National Association for Rational Sexual Offense Laws (NARSOL), was officially confirmed this week after a multi-week review of our governance documents and organizational history. This formalizes a relationship we've been building for weeks and connects UTRSOL to NARSOL's national network of state-level advocacy organizations, giving us access to shared resources, coordinated messaging, and a stronger collective voice on registry reform issues nationwide. This is a meaningful milestone for UTRSOL as a young organization, and we're grateful to NARSOL's leadership for their partnership and confidence in our work.

MONTHLY RECAP

This week, we're introducing a new monthly newsletter format alongside our regular weekly updates, consolidating each month's progress into a single comprehensive recap organized by workstream rather than by week. We hope this gives supporters who prefer a broader view of our progress an easy way to stay informed, alongside our weekly issue for those who want the play-by-play. Both formats will continue side by side going forward, so no one has to choose between depth and frequency. This new format also makes it easier to see how individual efforts connect to the larger work we're building together.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We continued to hear directly from families across Utah this week navigating the collateral effects of a loved one's justice involvement, including questions about incarceration review processes, transfer requests, and support resources for family members. These conversations reflect a need that extends well beyond registrants themselves, and reaching their families is central to UTRSOL's mission. We're grateful for the opportunity to help point people toward the right resources, even when the answer isn't one UTRSOL can provide directly, and we continue to log these conversations to make sure no one who reaches out falls through the cracks.

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday August 10 — Board of Pardons and Parole (BOPP) Advocacy Outreach

Wednesday August 12 — LECJ committee submission deadline

Friday August 14 — Salt Lake Housing Stability Division HEART Homeless Resource Fair

- Library Square, 200 E 400 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84101 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Friday August 14 — AfterMath Alliance in-person sessions launch (Murray)

- Email communications@utrsol.org to learn more

August

- August 19 — AfterMath Alliance virtual sessions launch
- August 19 — Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Hearing
- August 25 — Utah Valley Job Fair (Provo)
- August 30–September 1 — Rental Housing Association (RHA) Housing Conference

September

- September 2 — Weber County Community Reentry Coalition Meeting
- September 11 — Salt Lake Housing Stability Division HEART Homeless Resource Fair
- September 16 — The Hive
- September 29–October 1 — UDC Ranger Simulation

UTRSOL is an evidence-based policy research and advocacy organization. This newsletter is distributed to external partners, coalition members, and stakeholders to share updates on our research, legislative activities, and organizational initiatives.