

UTRSOL WEEKLY

Utah for Rational Sex Offense Laws

Week of September 14 – September 18, 2026

This week, we launched a new program connecting registrant business owners across Utah, monitored a Sentencing Commission meeting that added new sex offense categories to the state's guidelines, published new investigative journalism, and continued expanding our coalition network across housing, employment, and victim-services organizations statewide. We also introduced UTRSOL to several new contacts who will likely play a role in our work going forward. Here's the rundown, track by track.

NEW PROGRAM: UTRSOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

This week, we formally launched the UTRSOL Chamber of Commerce, a peer network for registrants who own and operate their own businesses here in Utah. The Chamber is built for mutual support, referrals, and shared problem-solving around the specific challenges that come with running a business while on the registry, from vendor relationships to public-facing marketing. We're starting with five founding members spanning industries including technology, transportation advocacy, food and beverage, and specialty manufacturing, and we're already planning a first in-person meetup. This joins AfterMath Alliance and our Housing Authority referral network as a third standing program built directly around the practical, everyday barriers this community navigates.

SENTENCING COMMISSION: SEPTEMBER UPDATE

We attended the Utah Sentencing Commission's September 17 meeting, where the Commission unanimously adopted updated juvenile sentencing guidelines and approved revisions to the financial offense matrix. Of particular note to our work, the Commission added new sex offense categories to its guideline addendum, including aggravated sexual extortion and distribution of apparent CSAM, formalizing sentencing guidance for offense categories that were restructured during the 2026 General Session. We're continuing to track how these implementation-level changes play out in practice as they take effect.

COALITION AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

We reached out this week to the VA's Health Care for Re-entry Veterans program, building on a connection made during July's UDC Job Fair to explore how our housing referral network might serve justice-involved veterans across Weber, Davis, and Salt Lake counties, three of the state's most populous reentry regions. We also continued building out both the UTRSOL Housing Authority and the new Chamber of Commerce as standalone, publicly accessible programs, with dedicated pages now in development to make each easier for partners and prospective members to find and understand.

Several other relationships moved forward this week as well. Our AfterMath Alliance Foundation's 501(c)(3) filing continues to progress with our attorney. We introduced UTRSOL directly to a prospective new member of the Utah State Board of Education, continuing our practice of building relationships with incoming officials early. And we followed up with the Task Force Coordinator at the Attorney General's Office from last month's UTIP Conference and Holding Out HELP, a Utah nonprofit supporting people leaving polygamous communities who presented at the UCASA Conference the previous week. Both promising threads we plan to keep developing.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM: NEWS FROM THE WIRE

We are working on a News From The Wire piece that examines how Utah's own criminal justice commissions have handled internal dissent over the past several years, using findings from our institutional analysis of CCJJ's 2026 session alongside a current statewide conversation about civility in public life. The piece asks a pointed question: what happens to disagreement inside the institutions that make consequential policy decisions, not just in the public square where civility debates usually play out.

LOOKING AHEAD

Friday September 25 — AfterMath Alliance Meeting [In-Person]

- Email communications@utrsol.org or call 801-871-5215 to learn more

Friday September 25 — Governor nominates next BOPP member (approximate date)

September

- September 29–October 1 — UDC Ranger Simulation

October

- October 5 — UDC Second Chance Career Fair (Ogden)
- October 14 — Salt Lake Valley Coalition to End Homelessness (SLVCEH)
- October 15 — Sex Offense Task Force (SOTF) Quarterly SOTP provider training
- October 18 — Board of Pardons and Parole (BOPP) Advocacy Outreach
- October 21 — Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Hearing
- October 21 — Presentation to UDC's Second Chance Employer Network, The Hive

AfterMath Alliance

- September 25 — AfterMath Alliance Meeting [In-Person]
- September 30 — AfterMath Alliance Meeting [Virtual]

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.