

Assembly Member Mark Stone Goes to Prison, Creates 10-Year Plan to Implement Reforms Alongside Prisoners

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Soledad, C.A. – After passing legislation set to take effect January 1st, 2015 that ensures that all eligible people being released from state prisons will be provided with CA-issued ID cards in order to assist in their successful reentry into society, California State Assembly Member Mark Stone visited Soledad State Prison and participated in a meeting of Success Stories and along with group members created a detailed 10-year plan for his life. Included in his plan is continuing to implement sustainable and meaningful reforms of California's prison system.

Success Stories is a project of Dignity and Power Now— whose motto reads, in part, “for all incarcerated people, their families, and communities.” DPN Board Member Richard Edmond Vargas founded Success Stories, a prisoner-run, 55-member, 25-week group that aims to rehabilitate prisoners, primarily 35 years of age and under, gang members, and repeat offenders, by challenging them to explore the root causes of their lifestyle choices and provide the training necessary to have sustainable success.

“More state legislators should follow in Mark Stone’s footsteps and prioritize healthy transitions from prison,” says Patrisse Cullors, executive director of Dignity and Power Now. “We applaud Assembly Member Mark Stone for his progressive work towards the success of *all* members of our community – including those who have been imprisoned.”

For more information, please visit endsheriffviolence.org.

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