Education - Litigation - Legislation



ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026

The Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws (ACSOL)

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OUR MISSION

The Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws (ACSOL) is dedicated to protecting the Constitution by restoring the civil rights of registrants and their families. In order to achieve that objective, ACSOL will educate and litigate as well as support or oppose legislation.

ACSOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elie Miller, President

Sherri Moreno, Vice President

David Whitehead, Secretary

Frank Lindsay, Treasurer

Janice Bellucci, Executive Director

Ben Adams

Catherine Carpenter

Alex Gittinger

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Danell Puglisi-Knutson

Jeff Stein

Sean Wood

A NOTE FROM LEADERSHIP

Fifteen years ago, the Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws (ACSOL) was established by Executive Director Janice M. Bellucci to advocate for those who have been impacted by state and federal sex offender registration laws. ACSOL's activities include legislative lobbying, civil litigation, criminal litigation for the termination of registration, holding monthly meetings and providing emotional support groups for registrants, as well as to sponsor yearly conferences to engage, educate and empower members.

ACSOL is a national organization whose members include current and former registrants, family members of registrants, lawyers, educators and community supporters. ACSOL has many goals, the most important one is to terminate the registry. Despite the ruling in Smith v Doe, a 2003 Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) opinion upholding registration and ruling that it is a civil and nonpunitive measure, all registrants would agree that registration is punitive and tantamount to public shaming.

ACSOL members annually meet in California's state capital, Sacramento, and discuss issues of concern to registrants with Assembly and Senate members. Civil lawsuits that have been filed, and won, include a request for an injunction to prohibit federal Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) regulations to be imposed on California registrants; the unconstitutional requirement of registrants in Missouri to post Halloween signs stating no-treats-at-this-residence; mandated treatment of registrants while on parole supervision in California, the classification of female registrants using the same instrument designed for male registrants, and housing laws by a county to impose restrictions on registrants that is preempted by state law. Also, ACSOL members participate in a yearly vigil in front of the SCOTUS on the anniversary of the opinion in Smith v. Doe.

California's registration law was enacted in 1947 and enumerated 11 offenses and imposed lifetime registration; today the number of offenses requiring registration has ballooned. In 2017, the registration law was amended and a tiered registry was established. As of July 2021, registrants in Tier 1 or Tier 2, 10- and 20-year registration requirements, respectively, became eligible to file a petition with the court for termination of registration. Unfortunately, lifetime registration continues to exist for those registrants assigned to Tier 3. ACSOL advocates changes to the Tiered Registration law to make it just and reasonable. Currently in California, approximately 103,000 individuals are required to register.

ACSOL believes that it can change the onerous laws that unfairly target registrants and their families. To quote Rhonda Byrne, an Australian writer, "all things are possible when you believe." ACSOL will remain a voice for registrants in the years to come and we hope that someday no one will be identified as a registrant.

Eleanor Miller, ACSOL President

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Litigation

Halloween sign law declared unconstitutional – Challenge to Missouri state law that required all registrants to post sign on their home on Halloween. Lawsuit filed October 2023. Trial court decided that law violated 1st Amendment because it compels speech. Trial court issued statewide permanent injunction. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed trial court's determination that the law was unconstitutional in January 2026 but required trial court to change remedy due to U.S. Supreme Court decision, Trump v. CASA. Trial court subsequently limited injunction to plaintiff. State of Missouri filed petition for review of 8th Circuit decision in U.S. Supreme Court in July 2026. An amicus brief in support of the petition was filed by an additional 16 states. The Court denied this petition in October 2026.

CA Department of Justice – Challenge to agency decision to assign registrants convicted of an attempted offense to same tier as those convicted of a completed offense. Lawsuit filed in 2022. The parties filed cross-motions for summary judgment. The court denied ACSOL's motion for procedural reasons, but agreed with ACSOL on the merits, and for that reason denied the DOJ's motion in a written ruling. Before the date set for trial, the DOJ agreed to a settlement agreement and stipulated judgment requiring the DOJ to revise its policy for tiering attempts consistent with the trial court's ruling. The DOJ did so and issued an "Information Bulletin" to local law enforcement agencies communicating this change, which results in most attempted offenses being assigned a lower tier.

Women on the registry – Challenge to California Department of Corrections (CDCR) unvalidated method used to determine risk of re-offense of women on the registry. As a result of this method, most women on the registry were determined to be high risk. This determination meant that the women could not reside within one-half mile of any school, thus prohibiting them from residing in many cities and towns. Case settled. CDCR no longer uses this method and have changed determinations of those women from high risk to low risk.

Registrants on parole – Challenge to California Department of Corrections (CDCR) policy that required all registrants on parole to undergo treatment the entire time they are on parole. This policy adversely impacted the ability of registrants to be released early from parole. Case settled. CDCR published new regulations that provide registrants with written explanations when a decision has been made to continue their treatment beyond one year.

Residency restriction – Challenge to California Department of Corrections (CDCR) policy that allows the agency to order parolees convicted of certain qualifying (usually violent) offenses to move their residence at any time upon request by a victim. Habeas petition filed June 2025. Trial court denied challenge and the court's decision was appealed.

SORNA – ACSOL is a plaintiff in this case which challenges regulations issued by the federal government in December 2021. The lawsuit was filed in October 2022. The regulations significantly and adversely impact registrants in many ways including registration up to four times a year and providing all internet identifiers to the government. The trial court ruled in plaintiff's favor in 2026 on the issue of due process and issued a permanent injunction that prohibits the federal government from enforcing these regulations for registrants in California. The parties have filed notices of appeal of this decision to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Fresno County (CA) – Challenge to county ordinance that limits number of registrants who can live in the same residence, and primary impacts rehabilitation programs. Lawsuit filed in February 2026. Discovery has commenced and ACSOL will move for summary judgment.

Legislation

CA Assembly Bill 1568 – ACSOL strongly opposed this bill because if passed it would have blocked many registrants who are otherwise eligible to petition for removal from the registry. Those registrants include, but are not limited to, registrants convicted out of state, by military courts and by some federal courts. The bill was passed unanimously in two committees and on the Assembly floor. However, the author of the bill withdrew this legislation after ACSOL and its members testified in opposition to the bill, called committee members and wrote letters.

Improvements to the CA Tiered Registry Law - ACSOL continued its efforts to lobby the state legislature in order to improve the Tiered Registry Law by increasing the number of

registrants eligible to petition for removal from the registry. In its efforts, ACSOL emphasized the fact that the California Sex Offender Management Board formally recommended to the legislature that the Tiered Registry Law be improved.

CA Senate Bill 286 and Assembly Bill 47 – ACSOL strongly opposed these bills because they would block many registrants from the benefits of the California Elderly Parole program. As a result of the efforts of ACSOL and allied organizations, these bills were stopped.

CA Assembly Bill 2753 - ACSOL strongly opposed this bill because it would prohibit anyone on the registry as well as anyone formerly on the registry from running for public office. This bill was passed by Assembly committees and on the floor of the Assembly, however, it was stopped by the Senate Committee on Elections.

Education

Legal issues – ACSOL conducted monthly meetings via Zoom educating registrants, family members and supporters regarding legal issues. Issues included recent court decisions as well as pending litigation. Meetings also included information regarding domestic and international travel as well as scams targeting registrants. Guest speakers, including a victim of sexual abuse were the focus of some meetings.

In-person meetings - ACSOL conducted quarterly in-person meetings in four different locations: Berkeley, Pasadena, Sacramento and San Diego.

Conference – ACSOL conducts a yearly conference for members. Some years it is in-person and some years it is virtual. Each conference includes guest speakers and panelists covering a variety of relevant topics. The conferences are also an opportunity for registrants, family members and their supporters to meet. The theme for the 2026 conference held in Los Angeles is *United We Stand, United We Change.*

Emotional support – ACSOL board members lead emotional support group meetings on a regular basis. One group meets twice a month via Zoom on Saturdays while another group meets weekly via Zoom on Thursdays. Registrants and family members are encouraged to attend these meetings where both problems and solutions are discussed.

Communication with Members

ACSOL communicates regularly to members using email, text, and Tweets about important events and issues. Member information is kept secure and never leaves ACSOL.

Our primary information is on our www.all4consolaws.org website. It offers:

- Upcoming ACSOL meetings and events
- News covering California, other states, and national issues
- Members can make comments on any article
- A list of scams to be aware of
- Recordings of meetings
- Links to registration laws
- Domestic travel information
- International travel information
- International living information
- CA tiered registry resources
- Self-defense resources
- Job search information
- Housing links
- Compliance check information
- Useful books
- Links to support and advocacy groups
- Support hotline information
- 290 registrants stories
- Janice's monthly journal
- Donation information