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Tampa Bay Reentry Organizations Unite in Support of Returning Citizens and on Voter Registration Efforts

Tampa Bay Region, FL (June 30, 2020) - On July 7th at 5 p.m., the Pinellas Ex Offender Reentry Coalition (PERC), Hillsborough Empowerment Reentry Network (HERN), Pasco County Reentry Alliance (PCRA) and the Manatee Reentry Coalition (MRC) collectively has invited the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC) to lead an Amendment 4 update and training for social service, faith-based and all other grassroots community groups which help people impacted by the criminal justice system.

Due to recent federal court rulings, many people with felony convictions are now eligible to register to vote even if they still owe money from their felony conviction(s). As a result of these court decisions, clients, neighbors, family members, and friends with past convictions may be eligible to vote.

This training will provide pertinent, up-to-date information about who qualifies and how these individuals can easily register to vote as part of their efforts to more fully reintegrate into their communities. The effort to engage people and communities in counties across the Tampa Bay area will begin with a zoom call led by FRRC and area reentry leaders. Hundreds of nonprofits, ministries, churches, and reentry practitioners are expected to join the call.

“We are excited to partner with people and organizations on the front lines of our state’s reentry efforts,” said Desmond Meade, Executive Director of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition. “Getting people plugged into their community and registered to vote helps to improve people’s lives and create safer and healthier communities.”

PERC, HERN, PCRA and MRC are joining forces to embrace the opportunity provided by Amendment 4’s passage in 2018 and the recent US Federal Court decision to better help integrate people into the community post-conviction. This collaborative effort is the beginning of regional reentry efforts across Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco and Manatee counties in support of returning citizens.



FRRC Register to Vote Link: <https://floridarrc.com/register/>

Zoom Event Registration Link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_J_Qcm1nlQxaRKQjo5DhPrg

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FRRC is a grassroots, membership organization run by Returning Citizens (Formerly Convicted Persons) who are dedicated to ending the disenfranchisement and discrimination against people with convictions and creating a more comprehensive and humane reentry system that will enhance successful reentry, reduce recidivism, and increase public safety.