



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Media Advisory: Florida Rights Restoration Coalition To Discuss Important Potential Clemency Changes During Press Conference and Advocacy Day at Florida State Capitol; Executive Director Desmond Meade Scheduled for Second Hearing on Possible Pardon**

**TALLAHASSEE, FL (March 9, 2021)** — After the first clemency board meeting of 2021, where important changes to the clemency process in the state are being discussed, the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRRC) will hold a press conference and Advocacy Day at the Florida State Capitol to discuss the importance of clemency reform.

FRRRC's leaders will be responding to the Executive Clemency Board's proposed clemency revisions which will include a restoration of civil rights to returning citizens who gained voting eligibility under Amendment 4. Many of FRRRC's previous recommendations for clemency are included in the current proposal. FRRRC believes that when Florida's returning citizens successfully reenter the community without stigma and barriers to opportunity the entire state benefits. The sooner people are able to fully participate in their community, the less likely they are to reoffend, which lowers the tax burden on Floridians, expands democracy and creates safer communities throughout the state.

Clemency reform is a 2021 priority in FRRRC's [policy platform](#) and will allow more of the state's tax dollars to be allocated towards educating Florida's children, bolstering the economy and preventing crime from occurring in the first place.

During the hearing, FRRRC Executive Director, Desmond Meade will also be present as a follow up to a hearing in 2020, when Meade's application for a pardon was delayed. Meade, a 2019 Time Person of the Year, has led FRRRC and its legislative victory to restore voting rights to 1.4 million returning citizens under Amendment 4. After the clemency board meeting, FRRRC leadership, staff and supporters will mobilize to sign up registrants in Tallahassee for its Fines and Fees Program, register voters and educate returning citizens on the status of their rights.

**Who:** Desmond Meade, Executive Director  
Neil Volz, Deputy Director  
FRRRC supporters, chapter members and staff

**What:** Press conference at noon ET  
Post-clemency press availability at 2 p.m. ET  
Community organizing event at 3 p.m. ET

**When:** Wednesday, March 10, 2021  
Noon - 4 p.m. ET



**Where: Noon:** Florida State Capitol (press conference)  
400 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

**2 p.m.:** Press Availability

[Zoom](#)

Meeting I.D.: 894 3560 9782

Mobile Dial-in: (646) 876-9923

**3 p.m.:** Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church (community organizing)

615 Tuskegee Street

Tallahassee, FL 32305

### **About The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition**

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. For more information, [visit https://floridarrc.com/](https://floridarrc.com/).

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