

Hello. My name is Mr. Jones. That is not my name since putting it out there would elicit more issues to deal with. I'm on the present SORA list. I have been on the list since 1995. My 25 year date is coming up and was looking forward to the restrictions put upon me by the law as it stood 25 years ago to be out of my life. I wasn't OK with that, but thought I can do this! But now because of changes to the law, I'm on it for life. WOW! I can only say that if I knew then what I know now, I would have done things differently. I would have not settled on a plea deal that leaves me vulnerable to human bigotry and insensible thinking. I have lost jobs over being on the list. I have been refused medical treatment because of being on the list. I have not been to any of my grand children's softball, soccer, basketball games because of my being on the list. The public nature of the 'LIST' makes me look over my shoulder almost every day. I have discovered ways to compensate, but those I will not disclose since they are for me. You have set me up for failure and you don't care. You think you are keeping people 'safe' when in fact you encourage me to be at my worst every day. Think about this as you decide what to do about Michigan SORA law. Do you want us, who are on the list to be the 'best' we can be? Best at what? Eluding dealing with what is wrong with-in us because we are spending so much time and thought on what do I need to do to survive, Or dealing with what is wrong with our minds, that we would commit such a crime. That's what I need to be dealing with, what's wrong with my thought process that I could possibly do what I did. Even I abhor that action of mine. It's what led me to accept the plea deal that I did. But now! I can tell you that my mind would not have been on righting a wrong that I committed as what happened, but instead I would have fought for every bit of ground I could have, including going to trial, putting my victim through the proverbial ringer to get a judgment that would not have left me vulnerable to having my name on a list that has both become public and permanent! I hesitated even now to put my 'hat' in the ring of those who would testify for fear you would look me up and tell my local law enforcement to keep a closer eye on me. This is how a SORA felon has to operate in the world we now find ourselves in. Is that the kind of world you want to live in. I hope not!