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SOMB Remarks Nov 16, 2026

Madam Chair, Representative Powell, and members of the Board, good afternoon. I'm Gary Hardy with the Collaborative Justice Institute.

When I began my doctoral studies in 2013, my principal advisor told me, "You're going to learn a lot about a little and realize you know nothing about really important things."

What he wanted me to take from the program was a willingness to ask why, to investigate, to challenge assumptions, and to write honestly about what I found. Those are the tools I bring to this Board. I want to help Arizona write reasonable laws that improve public safety without needlessly damaging thousands of lives.

At your October meeting, Representative Powell asked what evidence would justify Arizona adopting SORNA. I'd like to bring that same question to the guidelines before you today. What evidence justifies continuing supervision in an individual case?

My report, *Rethinking Arizona Sex Offense Policy*, traces an estimate cited in *McKune v. Lile* to a magazine article that gave no source for it. The phrase "frightening and high" carried forward into *Smith v. Doe* and later decisions.

Consider what Karl Hanson and his colleagues found. In a group initially assessed as high risk, the five-year sexual reoffense rate was twenty-two percent at release. Among those in that same group who had spent ten years offense-free in the community, it was about four percent over the next five years.

The harm to victims deserves our full attention. When we recommend continued supervision, we should be able to tell the court what specific risk it addresses today and what evidence would warrant a different recommendation.

Please read the report before you vote. Page three explains how the estimate gained authority. Page seven lays out what this Board can change. I ask you to return the proposed criteria and court-filing template to the subcommittee for revision.

And I'll leave you with the question at the heart of Adam Grant's *Think Again*.

What evidence would change our minds?

Thank you.

NOVEMBER 16TH 2026

GOOD AFTERNOON MADAM CHAIRWOMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. DARREN STANLEY REGISTERED CITIZEN IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA. I WAS HAPPY TO SEE ON THE AGENDA THE SUBJECT OF EARLY TERMANATION OF PROBATION. SOMETHING IM VERY INTERESTED IN AND PASSIONATE ABOUT. IVE SPOKE TO THIS BOARD ON THIS SUBJECT BEFORE. WITH THAT BEING SAID SOMETIMES REPETITION OF A SUBJECT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE IT SINK IN. I CAN ONLY TALK ABOUT MY EXPERIENCES FILLING FOR ETOP. ALL ENTITIES PROBATION, PROSECUTORS, AND THERAPISTS SHOULD FULLY UNDERSTAND GUILDLINES ARE GUILDLINES THEY ARE NOT WRITTEN IN STONE, IM VERY TIRED OF HEARING THE ARBITRARY EXCUSES OH YOURE NOT OUT OF TREATMENT TWO YEARS. YOU HAVENT BEEN IN THE COMMUNITY FIVE YEARS. EVERY CASE SHOULD BE JUDGED ON THE INDIVIDU NOT MINIMUM GUILDLINES THAT ALL PARTIES SEEM TO THINK ARE MANDATORY. THEY ARE NOT, THEY ARE GUILDLINES. IN MY CASE I COMPLETED SOETP IN PRISION AND OUTSIDE. MY OUTSIDE THERAPY GAVE ZERO CONSIDERATIC TO WORK I DID INSIDE. IM OVER 600 HRS OF GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL THERAPY. THATS A NUMBER MANDATED FOR MAXIMUM RISK INDIVIDUALS. I AM A MINIMUM RISK FOR DEOFFENSE. NO ONE SEEMS TO TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT. IM ALSO CURIOUS WHY NO ONE EVER DOES ANY DUE DILIGENCE INTO A VICTIM'S STATEMENT WHEN NEW CLAIMS ARE CONSTANTLY BE MADE AND STORIES CHANGING MY GUESS IS NO ONE CARES OR HAS THE TIME BECAUSE OF CASE LOADS I HAVE TO TAKE A MANDATORY POLYGRAPH

ON THE ANNUAL BASES. WHY CAN'T I ADDRESS ANY OF THESE FALSE STATEMENTS BEING MADE ON THAT. ALSO WHEN I PAY FOR POLYGRAPHS AND TESTING. WHY DOES MY ATTORNEY NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE RESULTS? SHE HAS TO GET A COURT ORDER TO RECEIVE THEM AND MOST LIKELY IT WILL BE DENIED. IN MY CASE I COMPLETED TREATMENT IN DEC 2024 AND WAS NOT RELEASED UNIL ALMOST JUNE 2025. DURING THIS TIME I WENT THROUGH SOMEWHERE AROUND 8 DIFFERT THERAPISTS. TWO DIFFERENT STAFFINGS AND THE DIRECTOR OF MOUTAIN VALLEY LOSING MY RPP AND WANTED ME TO E-MAIL HER ANOTHER COPY HOW DID SHE NOT KNOW I CAN'T USE THE COMPUTER. THE ONLY PERSON IN MY RPP GROUP THAT COULDN'T AND STILL CAN'T. AS MOST OF YOU HAVE HEARD BEFORE THE RECIDIVISM RATE OF A SEX OFFENDER IN THIS STATE IS AROUND 2.94% WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE? AS I ALWAYS SAY IN CLOSING I'M AVAILABLE TO TALK ONE ON ONE, OR TO A SUBCOMMITTEE, ID BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO TALK OFF THE RECORD IF IT WOULD HELP. I'M NOT BLAMING ANYONE HERE. WHY IS CHANGE SO INCREDIBLY DIFFICULT? WHEN THERE IS SO MUCH DATA AVAILABLE TO PROVE MY POINT.

ONE MORE THING I WAS ABLE TO ATTEND THE MINDS, JUSTICE, AND THE LAW: NEURODIVERGENCE AND THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM. THAT WAS HELD IN THIS VERY ROOM A WEEK AGO. ONE OF THE INTERESTING SUBJECTS WAS PROFOUND ISOLATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM. THE OTHER WAS A PROGRAM THAT TEACHES

YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE SPECTRUM PROPER BOUNDARIES IN SEXUAL AND SOCIAL SITUATIONS THAT THEY OFTEN DON'T UNDERSTAND. BRIAN KELMAR SPOKE ABOUT IT. IT WAS DESIGNED FOR K-12. MY THOUGHT WAS THIS IS SOMETHING EVERY YOUNG PERSON SHOULD BE TAUGHT. MOST PARENTS AREN'T DOING IT AND IT NEEDS TO START EARLY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION