



OUT FOR JUSTICE

## **Value My Vote Campaign.Today Toolkit**

### **Out For Justice, Inc**

In preparation for the 2020 General Election, Out For Justice, Inc launched Value My Vote.Today -- a new voter empowerment campaign aimed at educating, registering, and mobilizing currently and formerly incarcerated citizens in Maryland.

This toolkit is designed so for advocates and the general public to promote Value My Vote.Today Everything in here is free to use or adapt.

For more information, contact Nicole Hanson-Mundell, Executive Director of Out For Justice, Inc at [nhanson@out4justice.org](mailto:nhanson@out4justice.org).

Social Media:

- Twitter: @Out4JusticeOrg
- Facebook:@OFJ2014
- Instagram: @OutForJusticeInc
- YouTube.com/channel/UCxMUK4fMrCsXEiVBuSB023w/videos
- Website: [out4justice.org](http://out4justice.org); [valuemyvote.today](http://valuemyvote.today)
- Hashtags: #ValueMyVote; #ValueMyVote2020; #BlackVotesMatter #FelonyVote

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### **Core messages**

- If you are home, you can vote.
- You can vote if you have a previous felony conviction.



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- You can vote if you are on parole or probation.
- You can vote if you are in pre-trial detention

## Sample social media posts

These posts can be used or adapted for Facebook, Twitter or Instagram:

Did you know that if you are not behind bars, you can VOTE this November? Even if you have a past felony or several convictions, are on parole or probation, you can vote in Maryland. Learn more at [www.valuemyvote.today](http://www.valuemyvote.today)

Behind the Walls awaiting trial, or convicted of a misdemeanor? You have the right to vote in November! Get registered today, because your vote matters! Learn how you can register at [www.valuemyvote.today](http://www.valuemyvote.today)

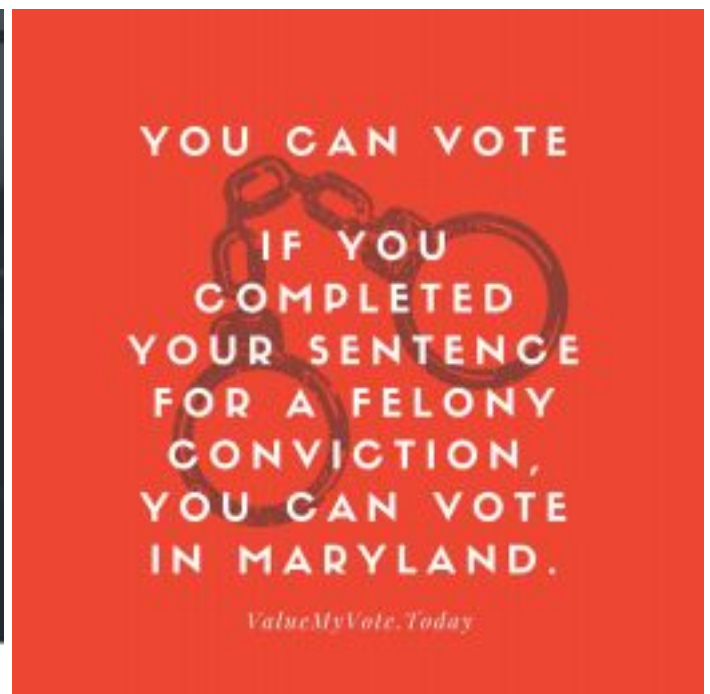
Make your voice heard, whether you are Behind the Walls or have a past felony conviction; you have the right to vote! Find out more by going to [www.valuemyvote.today](http://www.valuemyvote.today)

## Social media graphics

Standalone social media graphics:



#VALUEMYVOTE



4-part "Did you know" series:



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**DID YOU KNOW**



If you live in Maryland and you were previously incarcerated, you **CAN** Vote.

[READ MORE →](#)

#VALUEMYVOTE



**DID YOU KNOW**

In 2016, Maryland's law changed.

The new law is simple:

If you aren't behind bars for a felony conviction, you can vote.

[READ MORE →](#)

#VALUEMYVOTE



**DID YOU KNOW**

Who does this law apply to?

You **CAN** vote if you:

- completed your period of incarceration for a felony
- are awaiting pre-trial
- are on probation or parole
- only have a misdemeanor

[READ MORE →](#)

#VALUEMYVOTE

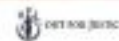


**DID YOU KNOW**

Ready to vote?

Visit **ValueMyVote.Today**

#VALUEMYVOTE



## Events

This election season, Out For Justice is hosting a series of events to promote the Value My Vote campaign. All events are free and open to the public.

### **Prison Power Podcast**

Every Tuesday from 5-6pm, join Nicole Hanson-Mundell (Executive Director of Our For Justice) as she speaks with guests from across Maryland about the ongoing fight to restore voting rights to all Maryland citizens. Register now: [bit.ly/prison-power](https://bit.ly/prison-power)



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Social media graphics:



Follow Out For Justice on Social media to find new graphics featuring each week's guests

### **Day of Action**

Value My Vote knows that people's voices matter. Join us for our monthly Day of Action, where we organize, show up and make our voices heard. Please bring signs.





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### **Weekly Voter Registration**

Every Thursday from 12-2pm, Out For Justice hits the streets to register people in person. Volunteer and join us! Text Bobby Perkins, Outreach Coordinator at 443-858-9273 to find out how you can get involved and make a difference.

## **Fact sheet**

### Maryland

- Maryland is one of sixteen states that automatically restore voting rights to formerly incarcerated citizens upon their release from incarceration.
- "Automatic restoration" does not mean that voter registration is automatic. The person is responsible for re-registering through the normal voter registration process upon their release.

### Nationally

- Nationwide, over 6 million citizens are disenfranchised from voting.
  - 1.5 million of those citizens are incarcerated (Behind the Walls).
  - 4.5 million citizens who have either served their time behind the walls and/or completed their court-ordered sentences, but are still prohibited from exercising their right to vote.
- Since 1997, an estimated 1.5 million people have regained their right to vote due to the progressive push by advocacy organizations such as Out for Justice.
  - Since 1997, 23 states have amended their draconian voting rights laws in an effort to reduce their restrictive laws around voting.

### History of the restoration of rights movement in Maryland

- Between 1851 and 2007, anyone with a felony conviction was permanently disenfranchised from voting.
- In 2002, a group of voting rights advocates known as the Maryland Voting Rights Restoration Coalition, helped lead the charge to finally have that antiquated law changed.
- The Voter Registration Protection Act of 2007 allowed 50,000 Maryland residents who completed their court-ordered sentence and remained free for three-years after release regained their right to vote. ● In March of 2016, The Unlock the Vote coalition successfully advocated to restore voting rights for formerly incarcerated individuals who were on probation and parole
  - The latest change in law is simple, if you aren't behind bars you can vote.
  - This expansion legislation restored voting rights to an estimated 42,000 citizens.



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## Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Type	Event Name	Press
9/14	9:00-10:30am	9/15	5:00-6:00pm	Prisoner Power Podcasts Conversation around Voting
	Announcement		Expand the Ballot Coalition	Behind the Walls
	Announcement			
9/17	4:00-5:00pm	Day of Action	attend Baltimore City Board of Elections monthly meeting	
			Prisoner Power Podcasts	Coordinated Campaign
9/22	5:00-6:00pm	9/29		Conversation w/OFJ, ACLU other partners- Behind the walls voter registration@ Carroll County Detention center.
			Prisoner Power Podcasts	
5:00-6:00pm			Prisoner Power Behind the Wall Voter Registration Event (National Voter Registration Day)	
10/06	5:00-6:00pm	Podcasts	Former Felon Facilitated Conversation	OFJ will do an educational workshop that includes what the job and requirements to be an elected.
10/9/20	8:30-9:45am	National Voter Education week		
			Prisoner Power descriptions of elected offices	
10/13	5:00-6:00pm			Podcasts Live Voter Registration Event (Last day to Register to Vote)
10/15	4:00-5:00pm	Day of Action	attend Baltimore City Board of Elections monthly meeting	
			Prisoner Power Podcasts	(Mail-In Ballot Deadline)
10/20	5:00-6:00pm	10/27		Conversation with candidates and legislators around voting on Election Day
			Prisoner Power Discussion around legislative priorities around voting in 2021	
5:00-6:00pm				

11/03 5:00-6:00pm

Podcasts Live Conversation at polling locations  
across the state

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