



Statewide Leadership Council

SYSTEM-IMPACTED LEADERS
TRANSFORMING JUSTICE IN

Sponsored by Texas Center for Justice & Equity

MEDIA ADVISORY

March 1, 2024

Contact: Mark Anthony Vasquez

m.a.miran@mail.com

Leaders Impacted by Criminal Punishment System to Host RGV Event

“Know Your Rights! - Navigating the Legal and Carceral System” Takes Place on Saturday, March 2

EDINBURG, TX — This Saturday, system-impacted Texans will gather in Edinburg for a community-building event. Organized by the Texas Center for Justice and Equity’s Statewide Leadership Council (SLC), the event will expand outreach to local community members who’ve been arrested, incarcerated, on probation or parole, or family members of those who have. “Know Your Rights! - Navigating the Legal and Carceral System” is free and will be hosted at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg.

“Together in community, inspired by our experience with the justice system, we reclaim our voice and our rights seeking equitable outcomes for the formerly incarcerated and system-impacted,” the event organizers shared.

The SLC has previously hosted events in communities including Austin, Beaumont, Dallas, Houston, Pharr, San Antonio, and Tyler. Saturday’s event will be their first in the Valley, as the coalition continues to expand its reach to system-impacted Texans in every corner of the state. Attendees will learn about advocacy, hear from impacted leaders, and receive information on record clearing resources and Clean Slate policies.

With questions about the event or for additional RSVP, please contact event organizer and SLC Steering Committee member Mark Anthony Vasquez at m.a.miran@mail.com. With questions about the SLC or to connect with the Texas Center for Justice and Equity team, please contact Madison Kaigh at mkaigh@texascje.org.

Event details:

WHAT: Know Your Rights! - *Navigating the Legal and Carceral System*, a gathering focused on reaching more system-impacted Texans in the RGV and building community power for new and experienced advocates

WHO: The Statewide Leadership Council (SLC), a coalition of formerly incarcerated and system-impacted Texans coordinated by the Texas Center for Justice and Equity. The event is also supported by local and statewide partner organizations.

WHEN: Saturday, March 2, 2024, 11:00am-2:00pm CT



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WHERE: University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, 402 N Sugar Road Liberal Arts Building - North, Edinburg, TX 78541

WHY: To build power among system-impacted Texans, create opportunities for advocacy, and share resources about record-clearing and Clean Slate policies

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The Texas Center for Justice and Equity's Statewide Leadership Council is a group of formerly incarcerated and system-impacted Texans who advocate for change in the (in)justice system