# HOW EX-FELONS CAN RESTORE THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE IN ALABAMA

## Can Ex-felons Restore Their Right to Vote in Alabama?

- YES! There are two available ways for ex-felons to restore their right to vote.
- Ex-felons can either:
- (1) apply for a Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote ("Certificate") or
- (2) Apply for Clemency

## When Can Ex-felons Apply for a Certificate?

 NOW! The new law allowing ex-felons to restore their right to vote by applying for a certificate of eligibility to register to vote became effective on September 25, 2003.

## How can Ex-felons Apply for a Certificate?

- Request a Certificate application form from the Board of Pardons and Paroles.
   After completing the application, return it to:
- The Board of Pardons and Paroles: 500 Monroe Street

  Montgomery, Al 36130-3019
  (334) 242-8700

#### **How Can Ex-felons Apply for Clemency?**

- Request a clemency application form from the Board of Pardons and Paroles.
   After completing the application, return it to:
- The Board of Pardons and Paroles: 500 Monroe Street

Montgomery, Al 36130-3019 (334) 242-8700

-Please see the chart on the other side describing the Certificate and Clemency processes

For More Information Call
The Alabama Restore the Vote Coalition

#### **AVERA**

(Alabama Voter Education and Registration Alliance) 445 S. McDonough St. Montgomery, Al 36104 Jerome Gray: (334) 263-4040 jerome.gray@theadc.org

#### ACLU

(American Civil Liberties Union of Alabama)

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## Certificate Applications vs. Clemency Applications?

RESTORE VOTING RIGHTS	CERTIFICATE ELIGIBILITY	CLEMENCY ELIGIBILITY
WHO	-Those who lost their right to vote  AND -Those who fulfilled the terms of their sentence*	-Those who lost their right to vote -Those who are not eligible for a certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote
WHAT	-The staff has no later than 45 days from when an ex-felon returns the Certificate application to the Board of Pardons and Paroles to give the board all reports and recommendations regarding a Certificate must be given to the board no later than 45 days from the date the process began.  -The Certificate will be granted unless a Board member of Pardons and Paroles objects within 5 days  -Board members can only object if you do no meet the requirements by law **  -If you are denied you must be given a reason why  -If you are denied, you should reapply after you have met the requirements. If you find out that you are not eligible for a Certificate, you should apply for Clemency.	-Requests for a Pardon can be made by writing the Board of Pardons and Paroles at P.O. Box 302405, Montgomery, AL 36130-2405Once your request is received, it will be assigned to a probation officer for the completion of an investigation. There is no required time-limit on this investigationIf, after the completion of the investigation, you are granted a pardon, this does not guarantee that you will have your civil and political rights restoredYou will be required to submit a DNA sampleIf you have committed any excluded crime**, you can only restore your right to vote by applying for clemency
How	-Request a Certificate application form from the Board of Pardons and ParolesReturn the completed application to:  The Board of Pardons & Paroles 500 Monroe Street Montgomery, AL 36130-3019 (334) 242-8700	-Request a clemency application from the Board of Pardons and ParolesReturn the completed application to:  Board of Pardons and Paroles 500 Monroe Street Montgomery, AL 36130-3019 (334) 242-8700

<sup>\*</sup> You have fulfilled the terms of your sentence when you have done <u>all</u> of the following:

Paid all fines, court costs, fees, and victim restitution ordered by the sentencing court;

When you have been released upon completion of your sentence, been pardoned, or have successfully completed probation or parole.

Impeachment, treason, murder, rape, sodomy, sexual abuse, incest, sexual torture, enticing a child to enter a vehicle for immoral purposes, soliciting a child by computer, production of obscene matter involving a minor, production or possession of obscene matter, parents or guardians permitting children to engage in obscene matter, or possession with intent to distribute child pornography.

<sup>\*\*</sup> You are NOT eligible for a Certificate of Eligibility to Register to Vote if you were convicted of any of the following: