



JCC Table Talk

#SecondChancesInAction

March 3, 2026

Who We Are



JustUSCC.org

The JCC is a national federal policy table led by and created for individuals who are directly impacted. The JCC forms the connective tissue needed to catalyze full participation in policy practices and changes for formerly incarcerated people and directly impacted individuals and their communities.

Agenda



Zach Ruppel

Policy Analyst, JustLeadershipUSA



Ronald Simpson-Bey

Executive Vice President of
Strategic Partnerships, JustLeadershipUSA



Stephen Knight

Director of Communications, JustLeadershipUSA

- JCC Resource Library
- Tools of the Game Vol. 1 and 2
- The Cost of Conviction
- #SecondChancesInAction
- *“In Their Hands”* PBS Documentary
 - Viewing Party Opportunity
 - How to Share Events and Why It Matters
- Q&A
- Closing

JCC Resource Library



JUSTUS
COORDINATING
COUNCIL

Home #SecondChancesInAction The JCC Resources Reports News Join the Table

Resources

Tools of the Game Vol. 1

A set of advocacy frameworks, templates, and guides for any person interested in learning about and navigating policy making spaces.

Tools of the Game Vol. 2

A set of advocacy frameworks, templates, and guides for any person interested in learning about and navigating policy making spaces.

Policy Resources

Briefs providing background information and analysis of federal regulations, procedures, or policies that affect formerly incarcerated people and their families.

Reentry Mythbusters

Factsheets designed to clarify existing federal policies that affect formerly incarcerated people and their families.

Employment & Training

Resources and tools to navigate the workplace and more.

Your Rights & Protections

Resources and tools to identify discrimination and protect yourself from it.

Community & Social Supports

Resources and tools to create wellness and stability.

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Equal Employment Rights Your Rights & Protections https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/employer-background-checks-your-rights/	Identity Theft and Online Security Your Rights & Protections https://www.usa.gov/identity-theft	Overview of the Consumer Complaint Process Your Rights & Protections https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83neWMSAA=2s	Access the Consumer Complaint Database Your Rights & Protections https://www.consumerfinance.gov/data-research/consumer-complaints/
Federal Workforce Funding Overview Policy Resources https://www.dhs.gov/ipo-content/ig/ipoasst/2023/12/Roadmap-to-Equity_2024_Public.pdf	Careers in Clean Energy Employment & Training https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/nap-career-clean-energy	Permanent Punishment inventory Employment & Training https://jcc.nationalreentryresourcecenter.org/consumer-punishment-inventory	Targeted Hiring & Economic Justice Policy Resources https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2022/05/Creating-Local-Construction-Workforce.pdf
Department of Labor	Key Facts for Fair	Find Your Workforce	Ban the Box State and

Available at:
justuscc.org/resources

Tools of the Game



TOOLS OF THE GAME VOLUME 1



TOOLS OF THE GAME VOLUME 2



Vol. 1 - Agency Roles in Shaping Policy

OVERVIEW OF AGENCY ROLES IN SHAPING POLICY



As persons with lived experience, it's crucial to understand the different systems and individuals who have a say in public policy. These stakeholders influence decisions on issues like bail reform, voting rights, and even services such as food assistance. Let's explore four key stakeholder groups, the roles they play, and how we can engage with them to push for positive changes in our communities.

Government Agencies

Who They Are — Government agencies include departments (Department of Justice), offices (Office of Child Support Services), bureaus (Bureau of Motor Vehicles), and more. Each of these agencies are created to implement policy, procedures, and programmatic offerings that help systems function in the public or private sector.

Vol. 1 - Tips for Meeting Policymakers

IDENTIFYING POLICYMAKERS FOR IMPACT

To advance your campaign, you will need to identify policymakers who have power, interest, and connections to champion your effort. [*Tools of the Game, Volume One*](#), offers a number of considerations when identifying policymakers, including whether your goals are to shape legislation or administrative agency regulations. An effective tool in deciding this is completing a power map. A power map gives you a landscape view of where power relationships stand in relation to your issue and how the campaign team plans impact.

Vol. 1 - Public Comment Best Practices

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD: PUBLIC COMMENT

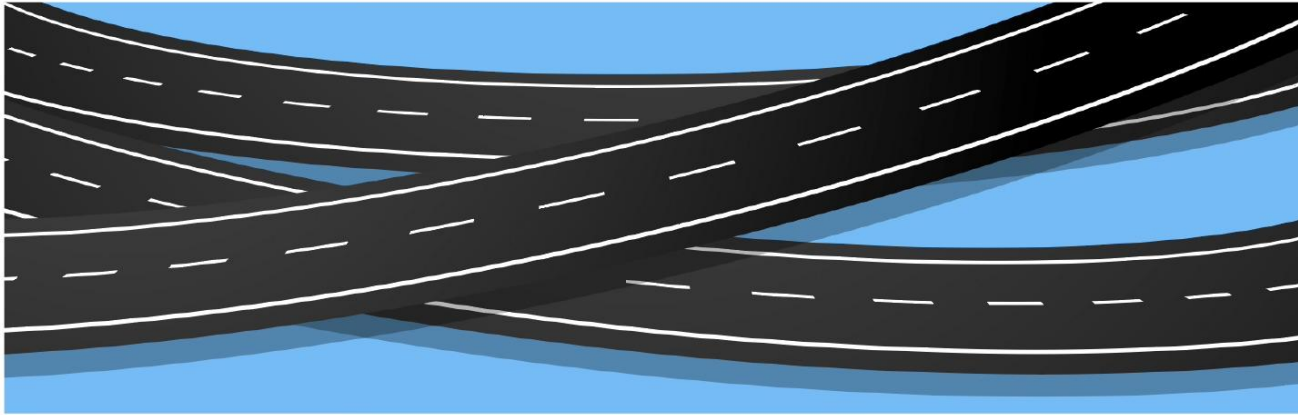


What is a Public Comment?

Each federal agency must follow certain rules anytime they want to create, clarify, or change policy. These rules are separate from legislation that happens in Congress. We have the right to comment on federal policies, which the Executive branch must consider and respond to. However, this right is under-utilized. Comments are crucial for informing policy makers, potentially even causing them to act and make changes or add clarity to proposed policy. Our perspectives as individuals who are directly impacted are incredibly important to highlighting the harms of the criminal legal system. Effective comments provide relevant information and explain personal impacts. The notice-and-comment process allows public feedback and a response—and sometimes action—related to all unique comments.

Vol. 2 - Forming a Coalition

CHOOSING A STRUCTURE FOR IMPACT



It's important to think about how you will structure your coalition. Will it be an ad-hoc coalition with limited business functions needed, a fiscal sponsorship attached to another organization, or a 501(c)(3) / (c)(4) with both tax benefits and responsibilities? Again, this is up to you and what fits your community's vision.

Vol. 2 - Advocacy Campaign Alignment

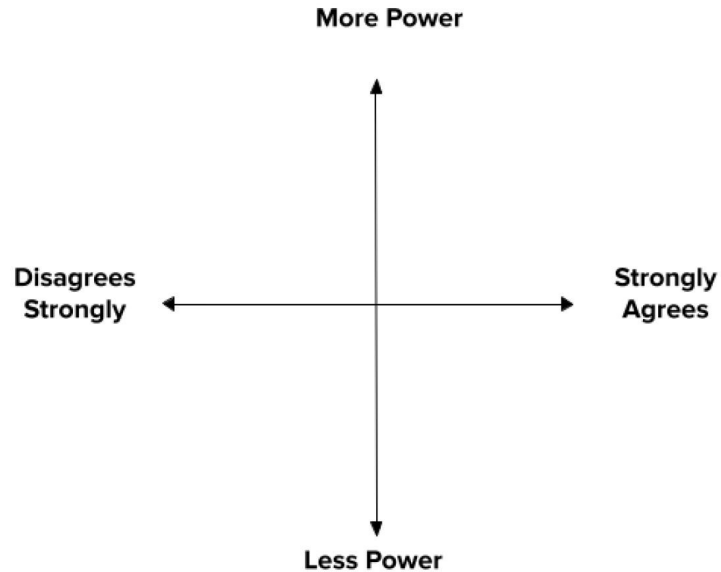
PLANNING FOR ACTION

When trying to mobilize support for an issue and change policy, two key tools at your disposal are direct action and advocacy/lobby days. Here are a few of the key differences between these events:

Category	Direct Action	Advocacy/Lobby Day
Type of Event	A rally, march, convening, protest, or other form of public issue-based gathering.	An event to connect with elected officials directly and explain or advocate for specific policy or legislation.
Typical Purpose	To garner public support and interest in an issue. Media coverage, amplification of the message, a call to action are goals.	To ask elected officials directly for support/sponsorship around specific policies and legislative action.
Type of Message	Broad, usually condensed in a slogan or sound bite.	Specific, articulating policy proposals and support for specific bills.

Vol. 2 - Power Mapping

Power Mapping Tool





The Cost of Conviction:

A use case for Tools of the Game: Volumes 1 & 2



BUILDING THE TABLE:

THE
COST OF
CONVICTION

Recommendation Example: Expand unfair practices protections at state level

Tools of the Game can...

- Help you build a coalition
- Guide comment writing
- Map key stakeholders
- Inform action steps



BUILDING THE TABLE:

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#SECONDCHANCESINACTION
justuscc.org/secondchances

**APRIL
2026**



#SecondChancesInAction

Examples of Actions

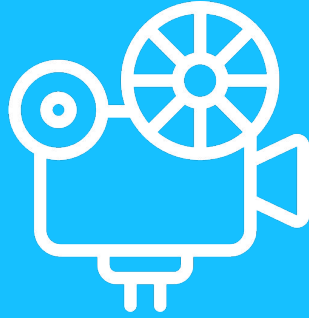


- Address Juvenile Life Without Parole
- Organize an Expungement Day Event
- Build Awareness on Applying for Federal and State Pardons
- Bring an Elected Official on a Visit to a Prison or Jail
- Call for a Second Chance Month Proclamation in Your State/City
- Educate Employers and Public Agencies about Hiring Formerly Incarcerated Individuals
- Host a Reentry Simulation Event
- Coordinate a Warrant Clinic
- Share #SecondChancesInAction on Social Media

In Their Hands Documentary



IN THEIR HANDS



Hosting Viewing Parties

How to Share Events and Why It Matters

1. Create a calendar event in your app of choice (e.g. Google Calendar, Outlook, etc.)
2. Include details such as title, date, time, location, and registration link in your calendar event.
3. Invite **communications@jlusa.org** as an attendee to your calendar event, and we will add it to this page!

Q&A



HELP SHAPE THE TABLE!

justuscc.org

CONTACT US

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TAKE OUR SURVEY!