

## MISSION

The Maryland Restorative Justice Initiative is a four phase initiative. Our mission is to advocate and promote humane and sensible criminal justice and sentencing policies for those incarcerated long term in Maryland prisons. We believe that through actions of restoration, redemption and reconciliation, we can create long-term systemic change.

After serving 39 years for a crime he did not commit, and witnessing the dismal conditions of the Maryland Criminal Justice system, Walter Lomax, in conjunction with the listed partners and sponsors, organized a seminar on May 14, 2008. The goals of the initial seminar was to bring together members from the three branches of Maryland State Government, along with members of Congress, advocates, volunteers, and professionals from various levels of society together to foster conversations around restorative and humane criminal justice policies to address existing systemic problems.

The aims and objectives of this initiative was to craft legislation and policies so that individuals who spend many years in prison may receive meaningful consideration of release. What we hoped to accomplish was to begin to develop sensible policies, and if need be, changes in the law, so that those individuals who have spend many years in prison under laws and policies that have since changed, may receive meaningful consideration of release, especially for deserving individuals who have rehabilitated and habilitated themselves.

### Project Director

Walter Mandela Lomax

### Executive Committee

*Legislative Chair* Connie Smith  
*Executive Chair* Kimberly Haven  
*Judicial Chair* Angie Callahan  
*Secretary* Polly Riddims  
*Technical Advisor* Clarence T. Davis

*At large members*  
Jeanette Kingsberry

### Sponsors

Morgan State University,  
Department of Social Work  
Justice Policy Institute  
CASE Maryland  
Fusion Partnerships Inc.  
Families Against Injustice  
Justice Maryland  
Maryland CURE  
Baltimore NAACP  
The Sentencing Project

### Partners

Drug Policy Alliance  
Families of Prisoners Coalition  
Families Against Mandatory Minimums  
Community Conferencing  
Baltimore Chapter Outside Connection  
Community Conferencing

### Maryland Restorative Justice Initiative

A program of Fusion Partnerships  
1601 Guilford Avenue, 2 South  
Baltimore, Maryland

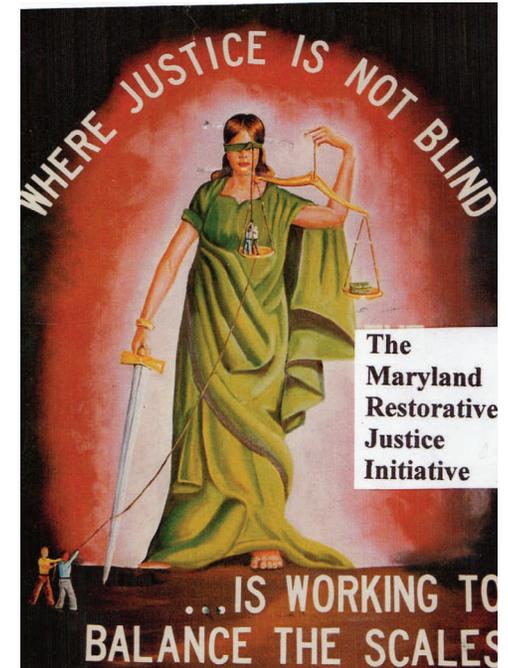
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## MARYLAND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE PHASE II CONFERENCE



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK



WITH GENEROUS  
SUPPORT FROM

**Justice Policy**  
INSTITUTE

# HISTORY

This initiative began in 1995 when policies changed in the Maryland Division of Correction for persons serving long term incarceration. The policy changes were addressed both legally, and legislatively.

In May 1999, the first ever all-day seminar was scheduled to bring members from the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Maryland State Government together, seeking to establish policies, and if necessary, changes in the law. The purpose of the seminar was to bring about meaningful and sensible criminal justice policies. For various reasons, the seminar did not take place. It was again scheduled for December 2001, but morphed into a photo opportunity and general discussion.

The event was rescheduled to take place in September 2006, but the tragic death of a correctional officer at the Maryland House of Correction, and its subsequent closing, again was canceled. Finally we were able to host the first phase of our four phase initiative May 14, 2008.

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 20, 2008  
8:30am - 3:00pm

**WHERE:** Morgan State University  
Murphy Fine Arts Center  
2201 Argonne Drive  
Baltimore, MD 21251

**Please RSVP to 410-889-4700 or send email to [lbzold@fusiongroup.org](mailto:lbzold@fusiongroup.org) OR [mrji4phases@yahoo.com](mailto:mrji4phases@yahoo.com)**

**Key Note Speaker**  
**Former Maryland State Delegate**  
**Clarence "Tiger" Davis,**  
**Tiger Associates, LLC**

Clarence Davis, affectionately known as "Tiger" to his friends was born in Wilkes County, Georgia in 1942. His family moved to Baltimore in 1948 where he attended public schools, graduating from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in 1960 after a distinguished career in academics and athletics. He was captain of the football team and president of his class. After serving four years in the United States Air Force, Tiger attended Morgan State College and University where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and a Masters of Arts Degree in History-Social Science. He also pursued doctoral studies at MSU. While attending college, he served as a civil rights organizer for the *Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)*. He later published a newspaper in Harford County, *The David Walker Journal*, and served as host for a local television talk-show, *Strategy For Action*. He has served his community in many different capacities. In 1993, he was commissioned an Honorary Colonel of the Maryland Line and was appointed an Honorary Member of the 175th Infantry Regiment by Order of the Secretary of the Army. In November, 1982, he was elected to the House of Delegates of the Maryland General Assembly where he held several leadership positions. He was an Associate Professor of History at Essex Community College from 1986-96 and currently lectures in history at Morgan State University.

Professionally, he has served veterans as Director of Veterans Affairs at Catonsville Community College and as Director of the Mondawmin Vet Center where he provided socio-psychological therapy for Vietnam combat veterans. Additionally, he served on the National Faculty of the VA's Outreach Program. He continues to visit veterans in prison and provide aftercare on a volunteer basis.

In 1995, when former Governor Glendening's removed the possibility for persons serving parole eligible life sentences, he was the first to introduce legislation calling for the removal of the Governors authority to sign for their release, and has continued that struggle to this day. We are honored to welcome him as our key note speaker.

## Voter initiative

Family members and friends are encouraged to cast their vote for their incarcerated loved ones in a bloc vote. They will be provided with information on who their Senator and Delegates are in their legislative districts.

## Legislative Agenda

- Bills we hope to have introduced in the 2009 legislative session.
- 1. Parole reform
- 2. Drug treatment
- 3. Health Care
- 4. Education/habilitation

## Voter Registration

Voter registration will be available and licensed voter registers will assist with registration.

## Family Issues and concerns

A work shop will be convened to address family members and friends concerns

## Data Base

We encourage all family members and friends to enter into a data base by providing their contact information; address, phone numbers, fax, e-mail, etc., to create a bloc vote initiative.