

**Nebraska Voting Rights Coalition:**

Common Cause of Nebraska

New Covenant Justice & Peace Center

Family and Friends of Inmates, Omaha

Family and Friends of Inmates, Lincoln

Crossroads Connection Outreach

Center/Presbyterian Outreach

Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in  
the Public Interest

Lincoln Friends Meeting

Omaha Friends Meeting

ACLU Nebraska

Information & Service Network

OASIS, Inc.

Archdiocese of Omaha Social Ministry

Commission

Lincoln Chapter of NAACP

**If you have questions or  
concerns about your right  
to vote please contact:**

**Nebraska Voting  
Rights  
Coalition**

**1-800-845-3746**

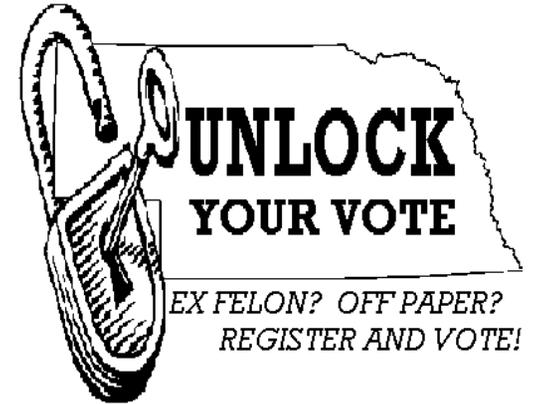
**or**

**League of Women Voters  
of Nebraska**

**402-475-1411**

**For additional  
information on voting  
rights of ex-felons, visit  
the League of Women  
Voters of  
Nebraska website:**

**<http://lwv-ne.org/>**



**A GUIDE  
TO EX FELON  
VOTING RIGHTS IN  
NEBRASKA**

**“Without a vote, a voice, I am a  
ghost inhabiting a citizen’s space.”  
Anonymous, Ex Felon**

**“Voting is an opportunity to move  
forward. Voting is an opportunity to  
have a voice in the communities we  
live in and contribute to everyday.”  
Julie, Nebraskan, Ex Felon**

# RESTORE YOUR VOICE, YOUR VOTE, YOUR POWER!

For a long time Nebraska had one of the most restrictive felony disenfranchisement laws in the country—people with felony convictions lost their right to vote forever, unless they received a pardon. But Nebraska has taken a first step toward making our democracy more inclusive. As of September 4, 2005 state law automatically restores the voting rights of certain Nebraskans with past felony convictions, immediately permitting approximately 50,000 ex-felons to register and to vote in all state and federal elections.

## **When can an ex-felon register and**

**vote in Nebraska?** If you are an ex-felon, you can register and vote when you have: completed all terms of your sentence (incarceration, parole, probation) and waited for two years since completing your sentence. In addition, you must: be a U.S. citizen; at least 18 years old on or before the first Monday in November; live in Nebraska; and not have been found mentally incompetent.

**How do I register to vote?** You can register to vote in the following ways:

- go to your county clerk/election commissioners office and fill out a registration form,

- Get a registration form online ([www.sos.state.ne.us](http://www.sos.state.ne.us)) or from a phone book, public library, or state agency and mail it to your county clerk/election commissioners office.

If you are registering for the first time, and you register by mail, you must include a copy of a valid photo ID or other documents showing your name and address. You will need to provide basic information, including your driver's license number, or if you do not have a driver's license the last 4 digits of your social security number. You must also affirm, under penalty of law, that you :

- live in Nebraska at the address you provide on the form;
- have not been convicted of a felony or, if convicted, it has been at least two years since you completed your sentence, including parole; and
- have not been found mentally incompetent.

## **What documents do I need when I register**

**to vote?** None, if you register in person. However, if you register by mail, and you are registering for the first time, you must include a copy of a valid photo ID or another government document showing your address.

## **What if I was convicted of a misde-**

**meanor?** Your voting rights are not affected and you remain fully eligible to register and to vote in all state and federal elections.

## **What if I was convicted of a felony in**

**another state?** You will be eligible to vote in Nebraska two years after you have completed all terms of your felony sentence and you otherwise meet the voting eligibility requirements in Nebraska.

## **Are there any felony convictions which**

**bar me from automatically regaining my voting rights after two years?** Yes. If you have been convicted of treason under Nebraska law or the laws of the United States you must apply for a restoration of your civil rights before you can register or before you can vote.

## **What if I have been charged with a fel-**

**ony but have not been convicted?** You have a right to register and to vote if you have not been convicted, even if you are incarcerated and awaiting trial.