



FOA VALLEY NEWS

Your community resource hub to increase civic participation through faith-based and civic organizations.



ACTIVISTS IN NEVADA PUSHING TO CHANGE DRIVERS FROM BEING ARRESTED FOR UNPAID TICKETS

Report by Felina Banks, Community Organizer with Faith Organizing Alliance
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On a mission to decriminalize traffic fines is the Mass Liberation Project. On May 6th they spearheaded the Black Mama's Day Bail Out fundraiser to help mother's get back home to their families.. Many of the mothers were incarcerated for long periods of time due to traffic tickets and suspended licenses, which turned into fines and warrants, ultimately leading to the mothers getting locked up due to being unable to pay. Per project activist Akiko Cooks, "it doesn't make sense for anyone to be sitting in a cage for a traffic ticket." Some of the incarcerated were stuck in jail because they simply could not afford to pay the \$50 bail fee. Fellow activist Leslie Turner knows this plight just after birthing her son in 2016. To learn about her story, [CLICK HERE](#).

Nevada is 1 out of 13 states where traffic offenses are classified as criminal misdemeanors. This means that judges can issue arrest warrants for people who don't pay traffic fines. [Leisa Moseley](#) is a Social Justice Advocate and Nevada State Director for the Fines and Fees Justice Center and has been on a mission to eliminate fees associated with the Criminal Justice System. She is currently fighting in Legislation for [AB 116](#) sponsored by Assemblywoman Rochelle Nguyen in an effort to decriminalize traffic fees ending the practice of warrants for those who are unable to pay a traffic ticket. Leisa became passionate in 2008 when she moved to Las Vegas, Nevada and was heavily impacted by such laws due to expired registration which turned into tickets, to warrants, to facing being arrested. Local business owner and poet Jessica Washington shared a similar struggle of traffic violations adding to steadily increasing financial woes as a single mother of 2 when first settling into Nevada in 2006. Her story can be found [HERE](#). Leisa's goal is to get rid of warrants for traffic violations. For more information on this bill, [CLICK HERE](#).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Input by Gabriele Shields, Community Organizer with Faith Organizing Alliance
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[AB 186](#) proposed a ban on police departments' long-suspected practice of requiring officers to write a certain number of traffic tickets, survived a late Friday committee hearing after undergoing an amendment that allows law enforcement agencies to "suggest" ticket quotas.

Nevada's economy and state budget were hit hard by the pandemic. SB 448 will require the state's largest utility, NV Energy to invest, \$100 million in charging infrastructure over the next three years, providing much-needed economic stimulus without straining the state's budget. And a minimum of 40% of these investments will be made in communities that have borne a disproportionate share of transportation pollution.

WHAT'S NEXT:

FOA IS HIRING FOR:

- SOCIAL MEDIA PERSONNEL
- COMMUNITY ORGANIZER.

FOR SERIOUS INQUIRIES CONTACT
FAITH@FAITHORGANIZINGALLIANCE.ORG

COVID TESTING & VACCINATION SITES

- ONGOING - VACCINATION SITES WITH SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT AND PARTNER VACCINATION CLINICS:
[HTTPS://COVID.SOUTHERNNEVADAHEALTHDISTRICT.ORG/VACCINE/DISTRIBUTION/](https://COVID.SOUTHERNNEVADAHEALTHDISTRICT.ORG/VACCINE/DISTRIBUTION/)
- ONGOING - COVID-19 TESTING SITES WITH SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT.:
[HTTP://COVID.SOUTHERNNEVADAHEALTHDISTRICT.ORG/TESTING/](http://COVID.SOUTHERNNEVADAHEALTHDISTRICT.ORG/TESTING/)

FUNERAL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT

THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY WILL PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR COVID-19-RELATED FUNERAL EXPENSES INCURRED AFTER JANUARY 20, 2020. NEVADANS CAN CALL 844-684-6333 BETWEEN 6 A.M. AND 6 P.M. PACIFIC TIME TO APPLY FOR THIS ASSISTANCE. MORE INFORMATION [CLICK HERE](#).

RECOGNIZED DATES

- 5/31 MEMORIAL DAY

"One of the most important things you can do on this earth is to let people know they are not alone." – Shannon L. Alder

