



RICHMOND CITY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
RICHMOND CITY JUSTICE CENTER
1701 FAIRFIELD WAY
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23223
C.T. WOODY, JR., SHERIFF

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Dr. Sarah Scarbrough
Office: (804) 646-0987
Cell: (804) 837-7779

FORMER CONGRESSMAN KENNEDY TO HOST RECOVERY RALLY AT JUSTICE CENTER

Former Congressman Patrick Kennedy (D-Rhode Island) will join Sheriff C.T. Woody, Jr. for a Recovery Rally at the Richmond City Justice Center on Monday, October 6, 2014 at 11:45 a.m. The rally is being sponsored by the RCJC's Program Department and will be attended by the REAL Program participants as a means to energize and motivate them in their walk of recovery and desire to change their life. Son of Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy, P. Kennedy was the last remaining member of the Kennedy family to serve in office in the nation's Capitol.

Kennedy has had a lifelong battle of addiction. He fought cocaine addiction when he was a teenager and abused prescription pills and alcohol while in college, which continued into his adult life. While Congressman, his continued battle of addiction was publicly revealed after a car accident in 2006 that was a result of being under the influence of pills. At this time, he once again checked himself into a treatment facility. As a result of this battle, he has continued to dedicate his life to the recovery movement and traveling the nation to speak on this; he also campaigns against the legalization of marijuana. For Kennedy, it is a "lifelong process" and he will continue to do whatever it takes to ensure he does not relapse again.

During his time in Congress, he was the author and patron of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Act of 2008, which now provides care to millions of Americans who previously were denied access to mental health treatment. He is the founder of the Kennedy Forum on Community Mental Health, which celebrates the 50th anniversary of the landmark bill that laid the foundation of today's mental health policy, President Kennedy's Community Mental Health Act.

Also joining Kennedy at the Recovery Rally is John Shinholser and Carol McDaid, founders of the McShin Foundation, who have found it their lifelong mission to provide recovery treatment to those who battle the disease that affects millions in our county. Vanessa Winkler, a woman in long-term recovery, will also share her story of survival and sobriety.

Kennedy will be delivering his message to approximately 150 male residents before joining Delegates Betsy Carr and John O'Bannon for a Parity Field Hearing at the Virginia Capitol, hosted by the McShin Foundation, to discuss implementation and enforcement.

The Richmond City Sheriff's Office is responsible for maintaining a secure jail and a safe court system, along with seamless inmate transport and civil process to preserve public safety. We remain committed to performing these duties with unsurpassed integrity and professionalism, with progressive training that incorporates best practices and technology. While partnering with the community, we strive to lower recidivism by bridging the gap from incarceration to reentry into the community by addressing criminogenic needs and barriers most closely related to reoffending.