

PARDONS Continued from Front Page

This presidential pardon also DOES NOT apply to individuals who have been charged or convicted of marijuana charges at the state level, which is why President Biden is urging state Governors across the country to make an executive decision at the state level to pardon those who were convicted and received a state possession charge.

If governors choose to follow the president’s lead and make that level of executive decision, it would be massive and significantly impactful, in that there are more individuals who have been charged at the state level than those who have received a conviction under federal laws.

Despite President Biden’s pleas for cooperation from the top brass of each state, a few governors have already come out the gate stating that they will not issue pardons for simple marijuana possession convictions at the state level.

Of course, one of those governors who was quick to come out and state he will not be issuing pardons is Texas Governor Greg Abbott, who is on the ballot in November.

In a statement released via Twitter by his spokesperson, Renae Eze, Gov. Abbott expressed his sentiments regarding the call to action by President Biden, stating:

“Texas is not in the habit of taking criminal justice advice from the leader of the defund police party and someone who has overseen a criminal justice system run amuck with cashless bail and a revolving door for violent criminals. The Governor of Texas can only pardon individuals who have been through the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles system with a recommendation for pardon.”

Gov. Abbott has made comments in the past that could lead to some movement on the issue in the upcoming legislative session in 2023, should he get re-elected.

His opponent is hoping that Gov. Abbott won’t be at the helm to make those decisions, as he is running to unseat him and has gone on the record on the marijuana issue.

Texas Democratic gubernatorial candidate Beto O’Rourke has consistently campaigned that he would legalize marijuana if elected to replace Gov. Abbott in November’s midterm elections.

On his campaign website, O’Rourke states that Texans shouldn’t be “locked up for a substance that is legal in much of the rest of the country.”

O’Rourke continues to state on his campaign website:

“Marijuana arrests have created vast racial disparities in our criminal justice system, generated an unnecessary burden on Texas taxpayers, and diverted law enforcement officers’ time and attention away from violent crime. When I’m governor, we will legalize marijuana and expunge the records of those arrested for marijuana possession—and we’ll use the nearly \$1 billion in new state revenue and reduced criminal justice costs to invest in public schools and reduce property taxes.”

In Texas, possession of up to two ounces of marijuana is considered a Class B misdemeanor and could result in up to 180 days in jail and a \$2,000 fine. Polling shows that most Texans support the decriminalization of marijuana, although nothing has been done in Austin to pass legislation to reduce penalties for possession during the last two legislative sessions in Texas.

Reverend Al Sharpton, Founder and President of the National Action Network (NAN), issued a statement on President Biden’s marijuana reforms, stating:

“The United States will never justly legalize marijuana until it reckons with the outdated policies that equated thousands of young Black men with hardened drug pushers. President Biden’s righteous action today will give countless Americans their lives back. They were thrown behind bars for years on end for simple possession, a non-violent offense, for a substance that red states and blue states are now legalizing at a furious clip. This held them back from jobs, homes, and the general dignity they now get back with this full pardon. The National Action Network began pushing for these reforms nearly a decade ago, when it became clear the conversation around legalization began to change. We will continue to monitor the legalization and hold the federal government to its word. I echo the President’s call on governors to follow suit and deliver this same justice at the state level. They cannot legalize marijuana at the state house until they rectify what went on at the jail house.”

David Villalobos, who serves as the Statewide Right2Justice Coordinator of the Texas Organizing Project, issued a statement on President Biden’s marijuana reforms, stating:

“The positive change that President Biden’s actions will have on the lives of thousands of Americans cannot be overstated. His announcement marks a significant step in the right direction toward the marijuana reform that a clear majority in our country support. Already, twenty states and Washington D.C. have legalized marijuana for nonmedical use. It also signals a further shift away from failed and discriminatory War on Drugs policies that for decades have targeted Black and Latino communities – tearing apart families, devastating neighborhoods, and contributing to our nation’s astronomical incarceration rate.”

Mattie Jackson, a TOP Right2Justice campaign member in Houston, also added:

“Black Americans are nearly four times more likely to be arrested for marijuana charges than their white peers, yet both consume marijuana at roughly the same rates, underscoring how reforming our nation’s laws on marijuana IS about racial and economic justice. These bold steps from President Biden are absolutely welcome and must be expanded on. Countless promising lives have been shattered by our unjust marijuana policies rooted in racism. Will Greg Abbott now act on President Biden’s call for governors to pardon

simple state marijuana possession offenses? Knowing our radical, out-of-touch governor, we’re not holding our breath. Of course, he won’t.”

There are still many questions looming as to how this will truly affect those who have been issued pardons by President Biden, and whether their marijuana conviction records will be fully expunged or not.

On the surface, this appears to be a major win for the thousands of people who have been convicted of nonviolent marijuana use or possession charges, and a progressive path forward to having the Attorney General and the Department of Health and Human Services reclassify marijuana from a Schedule I drug to a less dangerous substance.

TURNER Continued from Front Page



Details from an independent autopsy report requested by Turner’s family described the graphic details of Turner’s death. According to the independent autopsy, out of the five bullets that came from Delacruz’s gun, three of those bullets struck Turner from a distance. One shot hit Turner in the chest, another one in the abdomen, and a final one struck her in the face, which left her face significantly disfigured and unrecognizable, according to the family.

The Harris County Medical Examiner ruled Turner’s death a homicide.

Turner had a history of mental illness and had been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia. If he would have been found guilty, Delacruz was facing a potential punishment of five years to life in prison.

As has been previously reported, the Turner case has gained national attention and community activists have demanded justice for Pamela Turner and her family ever since the tragic shooting occurred. Many community activists went to court and witnessed the proceedings.

Civil rights attorney Lee Merritt chimed in after the decision via Twitter.

“Another Texas Jury just acquitted a police officer of murder,” said Merritt. “We need federal intervention in Texas’ “justice system””

Nationally renowned civil rights attorney Ben Crump, who stepped up to represent the family of Pamela Turner immediately after the 2019 shooting, expressed his displeasure with the verdict.

Turner’s family filed a wrongful death civil lawsuit in federal court last year, on what would have been Turner’s 46th birthday. The family continues to hope for some form of justice.

The Forward Times will continue to follow the details of the federal civil lawsuit and keep our readers up-to-date on them.

HELP WANTED

(CAREGIVERS) ELDER CARE/COMPANIONS - job is for 5 Days a Week – 5 Hours per Day – Salary is \$20 per Hour.clean record, good recommendations, mobile, with many skills For more details about the position, email (jasonburkley147@gmail.com)

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit by Revolution Recreation LLC dba Revolution Soccer Complex, to be located at 15111 Ella Blvd, Houston, Harris County, Texas. Owners of said corporation are Michael Mador, Co-Founder and CEO, and Nathan Woodbridge, Co-Founder and COO.

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

Request for Proposal – Houston-Galveston Area Council – Public Services – Job Order Contracting IDIQ – JC02-23

The Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) seeks to establish a broad range of “as-needed”, indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity Job Order Contract (JOC) construction services from a licensed, experienced contractor(s) in the areas of minor construction/rehabilitation/renovation for a variety of HGACBuy Member properties as dictated by the specific needs of the HGACBuy member.

To view/download the solicitation documents visit <https://www.h-gac.com/procurement> or [ESBD \(txsmartbuy.com\)](https://www.esbd-txsmartbuy.com)

Response Deadline: November 10, 2022 @ 12:00 P.M. CST

LEGAL NOTICE for RFP 22-44

The Houston Housing Authority (HHA) is soliciting sealed proposals from Independent Accounting Firms to conduct a financial audit of HHA, in accordance with the requirements and terms and conditions specified in RFP 22-44 Third Party Independent Audit Services.

Interested parties who wish to respond to this solicitation must submit the required documents in a sealed envelope by 2 P.M. CDT, October 26, 2022 to the Houston Housing Authority Attn: Austin Y. Crotts Subject: RFP 22-44 Third Party Independent Audit Services - DO NOT OPEN 2640 Fountain View Drive Houston, Texas 77057.

RFP 22-44 can be obtained by going to the doing business with HHA section of HHA’s website at www.housingforhouston.com, or by sending an e-mail to HHA’s Procurement Dept. at [Purchasing@housingforhouston.com](mailto: Purchasing@housingforhouston.com) with RFP 22-44 in the subject line.

A Fair and Equal Employment Opportunity Agency. For assistance: Individuals with disabilities may contact the 504/ADA Administrator at 713-260-0528, TTY 713-260-0574 or 504ADA@housingforhouston.com

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE OF RESULTS OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF HOUSTON
DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS
BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION (HYBRID HEARING)
NOTICE OF RESULTS

On Wednesday, October 5, 2022, a public hearing was held before the Building and Standards Commission pursuant to subchapter C of Chapter 54 of the Tex. Loc. Gov’t Code and Chapter 10 of the Code of Ordinances, Houston, Texas. The Orders are recorded in the Real Property Records in Harris County and may be obtained at 201 Caroline, 3rd Floor, Houston, TX 77002. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission entered the following fact findings for the following properties located at:

4533 GLENGARRY ROAD (DETACHED SHED NO. 2), 77048; Legally described as LT 15 BLK 2 ALMEDA GENOA PLACE; Last known owner is BECK DAISY D. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to secure from unauthorized entry within thirty (30) days, obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

4533 GLENGARRY ROAD (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77048; Legally described as LT 15 BLK 2 ALMEDA GENOA PLACE; Last known owner is BECK DAISY D. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

794 PROSPER STREET (DETACHED SHED), 77088; Legally described as LT 103 BLK 4 LINCOLN CITY SEC 4; Last known owner is CURVEY HARRIET M. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,600.00; to secure from unauthorized entry within thirty (30) days, obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

2405 MILWAUKEE STREET (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77026; Legally described as LT 27 BLK 11 CENTRAL GARDENS SEC 2; Last known owner is MCCOY ANGELA YVETTE. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

2220 RIVERSIDE DRIVE (DETACHED GARAGE APARTMENT), 77004; Legally described as TRS 5 & 6A BLK 40 RIVERSIDE TERRACE SEC 7; Last known owner is JARMON TRUVIE M HARRIS. [The Building and Standards Commission approved the owner’s reset request for this matter.]

838 ALLSTON STREET (DETACHED GARAGE), 77007; Legally described as LT 22 BLK 245 HOUSTON HEIGHTS; Last known owner is VILLARREAL RACHEL % JANE R GARCIA. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to secure from unauthorized entry within thirty (30) days, obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

8913 ALLWOOD STREET (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77016; Legally described as LT 42 & TR 41B BLK 10 NORTH SHADYDALE; Last known owner is ROSS JEANENE ESTATE OF. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00; to secure from unauthorized entry within thirty (30) days, obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

10907 FAIRCROFT DRIVE (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77048; Legally described as LT 6 BLK 7 CRESTMONT PARK SEC 1; Last known owner is PERRY MARY LOU. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to secure from unauthorized entry within thirty (30) days, obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

6115 KASHMERE STREET (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77026; Legally described as TR 1275B BLK 52 KASHMERE GARDENS EXTN; Last known owner is THOMAS DEBORAH G. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00; obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

4207 ROSENEATH DRIVE (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77021; Legally described as TRS 11 & 12A BLK 61 RIVERSIDE TERRACE SEC 12; Last known owner is CURRENT OWNER. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

5022 FALLS STREET (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77026; Legally described as LT 5 BLK 24 VALENCIA PARK; Last known owner is ZION TEMPLE CHURCH GOD CHRIST INC. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to secure from unauthorized entry within thirty (30) days, obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

7704 SEALEY STREET (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77088; Legally described as TR 22 BLK 13 HIGHLAND ADDITION; Last known owner is REYES WENDY ARGUELLO. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,500.00; to secure from unauthorized entry within thirty (30) days, obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

8618 TILGHAM STREET (MAIN STRUCTURE), 77029; Legally described as LT 413 BLK 17 PLEASANTVILLE SEC 4; Last known owner is BONNIE LILIAN JUAN. [An order was issued requiring the owner/lien holder to obtain a permit, and complete repairs or demolition of this structure within ninety (90) days in accordance with Dangerous Building Requirements of Chapter 10 of the City of Houston Code of Ordinances from the day of this Order.]

2404 DEAMS STREET (BUILDING NO. 2), 77093; Legally described as LT 52 EASTMAN PLACE; Last known owners are GONZALES HENRY & DULCE. [Notice of this hearing was proper pursuant to Section 342.008 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The City has the right to and shall impose a lien against the minimum administrative fee of the actual tabulated cost of the work done, whichever is greater, in the amount of \$7801.94.]

2404 DEAMS STREET (BUILDING NO. 1), 77093; Legally described as LT 52 EASTMAN PLACE; Last known owners are GONZALES HENRY & DULCE. [Notice of this hearing was proper pursuant to Section 342.008 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. The City has the right to and shall impose a lien against the minimum administrative fee of the actual tabulated cost of the work done, whichever is greater, in the amount of \$10,677.70.]