## **NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION**

## TO: ALL <u>PAROLABLE LIFERS</u> WITH A *CONSECUTIVE* SENTENCE

Please take notice that a class action was filed in Ingham County (30th) Circuit Court in August 2012. The case is:

## Allen, et al., v. Heyns, et al., File No. 12-907-CZ.

The case challenges an MDOC/Parole Board interpretation of its authority to consider for parole prisoners serving a "parolable life" sentence with a consecutive sentence, who are treated as if they were serving a "mandatory life" sentence. This statutory interpretation makes these prisoners forever ineligible for parole and thus "commutable only." The MDOC/Parole Board's interpretation of Michigan's parole and sentencing laws, specifically MCL 791.234(3) and MCL 768.7A(1), is being challenged in this lawsuit.

The class definition is:

All parolable lifers in the custody of the Michigan Department of Corrections who are also serving a consecutive sentence that the defendants claim forever deprives the parole board of jurisdiction to parole the prisoners, making them forever "commutable only" and thus converting their effective sentence to mandatory life.

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The plaintiffs are represented by the Michigan Clinical Law Program, 363 Legal Research Building, 801 Monroe Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1215. The lawyers will contact you when you there is new information to report. Please see attached **Class Newsletter #2.**