



KEY EVENTS 'N YOUR AREA

Central Arkansas & Beyond!

State and Local Leaders Host Clinic to Help Drivers With Suspended Licenses

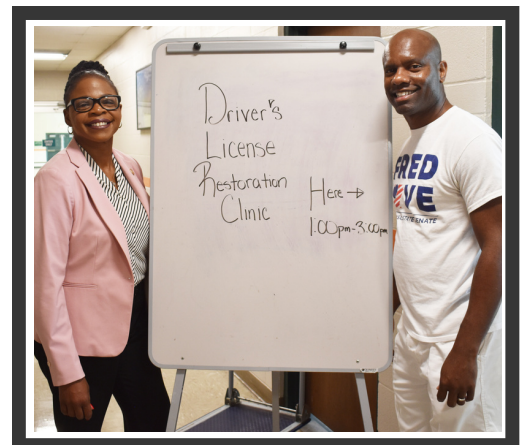


by Kelly K. Eddings

Special to Today's Communique

"If people don't have a driver's license, they're disenfranchised in everyday life." - State Senator Fred Love

There are currently 108,000 Arkansans with suspended driver licenses. What's more, there are nearly 7,000 Arkansans with suspended CDL licenses. Drivers stopped while operating a vehicle with a suspended license face hefty fines and worse, possible jail time. On Saturday, July 29th, State Representative Tara Shephard and State Senator Fred Love co-hosted the inaugural Driver's License Restoration Clinic at the Southwest Community Center in Little Rock. It was an extraordinarily productive event.



Rep. Tara Shephard and Sen. Fred Love welcome attendees

According to Representative Shephard, the main purpose was to, "...help citizens sort through life's challenges." Representatives from Arkansas Drive Control were present to help attendees navigate the process of getting their license's restored. Anticipating that some attendees may have needed more support than what Driver Control could offer, Arkansas Legal Aid was present to assist with potential legal concerns

The turnout was impressive – 60 registered in advance and more than 40 attended.



Rep. Shephard checks in with volunteer

One attendee arrived from Benton to receive the important services the restoration clinic offered. A handful of participants admittedly came with a healthy dose of skepticism, but left pleasantly satisfied.

The bottom line, according to Sen. Love is the restoration of the opportunity to be productive members of society. "If people don't have a driver's license, they're disenfranchised in everyday life", he said.

Both Rep. Shephard and Sen. Love are committed to working on getting the number of drivers with suspended licenses reduced. They indicated that there will be future clinics and once the dates are determined, they will be announced.

Kelly Eddings is an experienced communications specialist throughout various industries. He holds an economics degree from Morehouse College and an MBA in marketing. His biggest claim to fame however, is younger brother to Today's Communique founder.