

Make
BIG
Changes
— in —
SMALL
Steps

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My Journey from Convict to Conviction

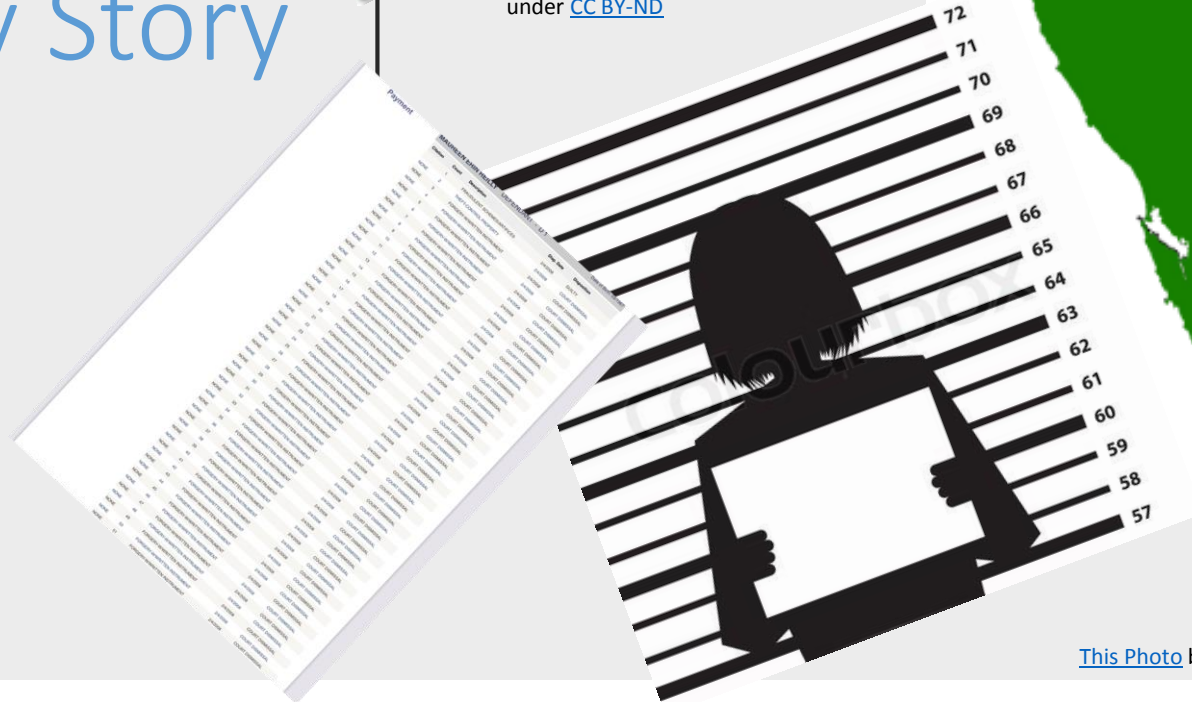
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My Story



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CHASING THE LOSSES



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My Story - After Release

- Treatment
- Hired as a House Manager
- 1st experience of an unethical practice
- 2015 Joined advocacy efforts in Prescott for HB2107

HB2107

2016

State of Arizona

House of Representatives

Fifty-second Legislature

Second Regular Session

<https://www.azleg.gov/legtext/52leg/2r/bills/hb2107p.pdf>

2016 – Senate Committee



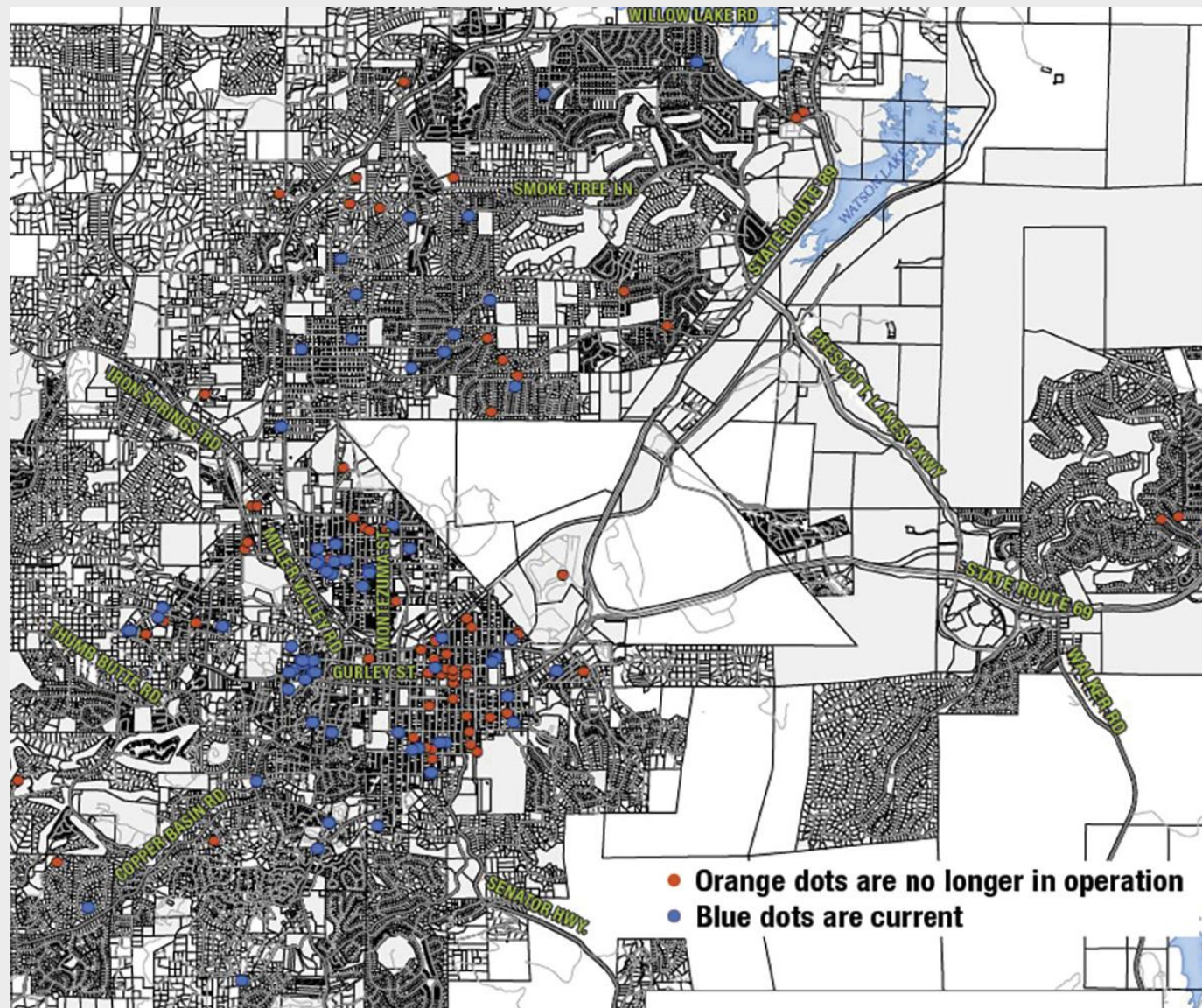
Prescott Ordinance

Effective January 1, 2017

ORDINANCE NO. 5006-1544

- License Required
- Medication Training
- 24 hour awake staff
- Training for House Managers
- Minimum requirements for House Managers
 - 21 years or older
 - 1 year of sobriety
 - Not on probation
 - H.S. Diploma or equivalent

Prescott Sober Living Homes



Common Treatment Practices in Prescott

- Unethical billing practices
- Buying/Selling Clients
- Paying for Insurance policies
- Paying travel expenses
- Waiving Deductibles
- Underqualified Personnel
 - BHT's providing services
 - Only need 1 licensed person

Prescott in the National Spotlight



- New York Times- City of Entrepreneurs
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/12/27/business/new-drug-rehabs.html>

Current Advocacy Efforts

- Statewide Sober Living Regulation Bill
- Patient Brokering Bill

2018 – State Regulation for Sober Living Homes

SB1465

This bill would require DHS to contract with a private third-party certifying entity that is a statewide association

who falls under a national association to certify all sober living residences and create policies for safety and well-being of client. They would also set up a way to complain about bad actors and who would investigate these claims and what actions they would take

2018 – Patient Brokering Ban

SB1451

It would make it illegal for any person, healthcare facility or sober living to offer or pay an commission, kickback, rebate, fee-splitting etc. to induce patient referrals.

Failed in 2017.

Spoke to Senators and Representatives to find out why it failed.

Re-worded the bill.

Future Advocacy Efforts

- More Prevention Efforts
- Gambling crimes deferred to a gambling court or drug court
- Consistent reimbursement for F63.0 from Insurance Companies

Current Committees

- President of Northern Arizona Recovery Association (NARA)
- Trainer for the House Manager Training
- Sworn in on the Mayor's Commission of Prevention, Addiction and Recovery

2018 – Mayor's Commission on Prevention, Addiction & Recovery



More Ex-Con Advocacy

- Mike Gonzales-Recovery First Interventions & Betterment Recovery
 - Mike is currently developing a podcast to out the bad players and expose them.
 - Mike advocates for clients to have access to ethical treatment.
 - Mike joined the team on A&E show Intervention this season.

Questions or
comments

Pages cited

- <https://www.dcourier.com/photos/2017/apr/17/984938330/>
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