

PRESS STATEMENT

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Ohio Anti-Sexual Violence Coalition Says Trump Verdict Speaks to Need for Eliminating Statute of Limitations in Ohio, Across the Country

On Tuesday, a federal jury in New York City found former President Donald Trump liable for sexually abusing columnist E. Jean Carroll in 1996. The civil case was possible due to a New York state law that opened a one-year window beginning in November 2022 during which people can sue their alleged abusers for sexual assault, despite the typical statute of limitations having passed.

As the federally designated anti-sexual violence coalition for the state, the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence (OAESV) affirms that survivors should be believed no matter the length of time it takes to share their stories.

We hope that this feels like some semblance of justice for E. Jean Carroll, and we recognize that justice and healing is found in many varying ways for survivors.

There is a current bill in the Ohio Legislature to address the statute of limitations in Ohio for survivors of sexual violence. House Bill 124 is sponsored by Representative Jessica Miranda and Representative Tavia Galonski. If passed, the bill would extend the civil statute of limitations for victims of child sexual abuse, allowing civil actions to be brought at any time until the victim reaches 55 years of age. It would also eliminate the criminal and civil statute of limitations for victims who experience rape as adults (O.R.C. 2907.02).

OAESV is a longstanding advocate for the elimination of criminal and civil statutes of limitation relating to sex offenses in Ohio. We believe that justice should not be tied to an arbitrary time limit.

Interested community members can:

- Participate in <u>our one-click campaign</u> to contact legislators in the House Criminal Justice Committee
- Sign up for our public policy update newsletter by sending a simple request email to publicpolicy@oaesv.org
- Learn more at oaesv.org/PublicPolicy, as well as our HB 124 Fact Sheet

Interviews available upon request.

As Ohio's statewide coalition, OAESV uses an anti-oppression lens to advocate for comprehensive responses and rape crisis services for survivors and to empower communities to prevent sexual violence.