

For Immediate Release –January 31, 2019

From: The League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge

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### **“Mental Illness and Capital Punishment” Topic of Next League Luncheon**



The next “Lunch with the League” program will be held on Tuesday, February 5. The speaker will be Sarah Graham McGee, statewide coordinator for the Tennessee Alliance for the Severe Mental Illness Exclusion (TASMIE). TASMIE is a coalition of mental health advocates and other organizations that are educating Tennesseans about their concerns with sentencing those who have severe mental illness to death.

The meeting will be held from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall of the Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church, located at 809 Oak Ridge Turnpike.

McGee received her bachelor’s degree from Vanderbilt University and her J.D. degree from the University of Tennessee. In 2014, she completed the E. Barrett Fellowship at Georgetown University Law Center where she earned her L.L.M. degree with Distinction. McGee has worked as a victim-witness coordinator for the Davidson County District Attorney’s Office, and served as an assistant public defender for the Nashville Defenders. She recently completed an article on the nationwide movement to exclude people with severe mental illness from the death penalty.

*Lunch with the League* is a public service program open to the community. Membership in the *League of Women Voters* is not required and there is no cost to attend.

The presentation will begin at 12:00 noon. Lunches are provided by the Soup Kitchen and are available at 11:30 a.m. on a first-come basis for \$8, or you may bring your own. Coffee and tea are provided.

The *League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge*, a nonpartisan political organization for men and women, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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