Clean Slate GR: Expungement Program

AN OVERVIEW OF THE APRIL 2, 2022 EXPUNGEMENT EVENT HOSTED BY OPA
Each of us is more than the worst thing we’ve ever done.

– Bryan Stevenson
What is Clean Slate?

- In 2020, the State of Michigan passed “Clean Slate” legislation to allow Michiganders to expunge eligible criminal records.

- Clean Slate legislation went into effect on April 11, 2021.

- Automatic expungement (HB 4980) will go into effect in 2023.

This bill package makes Michigan a national leader in criminal record-sealing policy.

This also aligns to the commitments in the City’s and OPA’s strategic plans to advancing equity by identifying systemic issues that cause disparate outcomes in the justice system and implement strategies to address them. (GE 01: S1 & S5)
What is the Impact?

1. Traffic offenses are half of all criminal cases in Michigan, and no traffic offenses were eligible for expungement before Clean Slate was signed.

2. The new law makes first-time offenders of, DUI/OWI convictions (in which no one was injured), access to petition for expungement 5 years after probation ends.

3. The new law also makes all misdemeanors for marijuana possession and usage eligible for expungement, impacting an estimated 240,000 people.

4. The law expands eligibility to many people who were not previously eligible because they had more than one felonies and more than two misdemeanors or unpaid court fines/fees.
Who is Eligible?

- **Eligibility**: The Clean Slate law allows up to 3 felonies to be set aside in a lifetime and places a no-lifetime limit on misdemeanors.

- **Waiting Period**: The Clean Slate law reduces the waiting period to three years for misdemeanors and permits applications for multiple felonies after seven years.

- **Fines and Fees**: A person is eligible for record clearance in Michigan even if they have unpaid court-assigned fines and fees.

- **Exclusions**: Life offenses and criminal sexual conduct are not eligible under Clean Slate. The new law expanded eligibility to include most drug, property, and traffic offenses.
Step 1: Obtain certified copies of conviction records.

Step 2: Fill out application (without signature).

Step 3: Get fingerprinted.

Step 4: Sign application with notary.

Step 5: Make 5 copies of application + convictions records.

Step 6: File application with the County Clerk.

Step 7: Mail copies to the applicable prosecutor office, AG, and MSP.

Step 8: Complete proof of service.

Step 9: Prepare for hearing.

Note: Applicants who are denied must wait 3 years before filing again.
What Makes OPA’s Event Unique?

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

INTERVIEW SKILL BUILDING

RESUME REVIEWS
Community Resource Information

- Veteran's services
- Supportive housing and tenants’ rights organizations
- Homeless shelters and services
- Community-based health centers
- Substance use treatment programs
- Food pantries and food assistance programs
- Community colleges with scholarship opportunities
- Voting rights and advocacy groups
Clean Slate Event Preparations

Marketing
- Clean Slate GR has a webpage at: www.grandrapidsmi.gov/OPA
  - Event expectations
  - Expungement eligibility information
  - Benefits of attending
  - Participant Pre-registration form
  - Volunteer Sign-up form

Pre-Registration
- OPA staff will confirm expungement eligibility via ICHAT
- OPA staff request certified copies of conviction
- OPA staff request any other document necessary for expungement prior to the event

Finalizing Other Matters
- Assign volunteers to specific posts
- Finalize community resources

Pre-registration deadline is Monday March 28th
Clean Slate
Day of Event
(Tentative Schedule)

April 2, 2022

Center for Community Transformation
1530 Madison Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

8:00am
Volunteer check-in.

8:30am
Doors open for participants.

8:45am
Event kick off! Speaker and informational presentation of the Clean Slate GR expungement process.

9:00am
Participant check-in begins. Participants receive folder of copies of application, ICHAT, & certified copies of conviction.

10:00am-1:30pm
Resume and Interview Skills Workshop opens, hosted by NFBPA.

4:00pm
Doors close for new participants. All participants in line are assisted.

5:00pm
Event Concludes. Begin teardown.

6:00pm
Tear down complete. Take all folders back to OPA office.
Partners

- Center for Community Transformation
- Cure Violence
- Floyd Skinner Bar Association
- Michigan Legal Aid
- NFBPA
- Cascade Engineering
- Expecting Additional Partners
Clean Slate GR

When:
April 2, 2022, 8:30am-5pm

Where:
Center for Community Transformation
1530 Madison Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Registration:
Pre-register at: www.grandrapidsmi.gov/OPA
Deadline to register: March 28th, 2022
I believe it is necessary to recognize that we all need mercy, we all need justice, and – perhaps – we all need some measure of unmerited grace.

– Bryan Stevenson