PROJECT CLEAN SLATE'S

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THE DEN

A QUARTERLY EXPUNGEMENT NEWSLETTER

PROJECT Clean Slate

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

2025 was a monumental year for Project Clean Slate! We exceeded our goals, attended hundreds of events, hosted multiple expungement clinics, and helped change the lives of thousands of Detroiters. In this issue of The Den, we share highlights from 2025 and thank those who make our work possible.

2025 HIGHLIGHTS



In June, PCS hosted a celebration announcing 15,000 expungements obtained for Detroiters. Speakers included PCS Director Stephani LaBelle, former Deputy Mayor Melia Howard, Corporation Counsel Conrad Mallett, DPD Chief Todd Bettison, Hon. Donald Knapp, and two PCS clients.



Also in June, PCS kicked off its campaign to advise City of Detroit employees that they may apply for PCS even if they do not live in the City of Detroit. The first event was held at the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department.



In September, The Mathis Community Center hosted a Project Clean Slate expungement clinic that drew over 500 Detroiters. Speakers included Mayor Mary Sheffield, Judge Greg Mathis, Councilmember Angela Whitfield-Calloway, and CRIO Director Jade Mathis.



In October, Mayor Mary Sheffield (then-Council President) hosted an expungement clinic with PCS at the Butzel Family Center. Mayor Sheffield announced that PCS obtained its 18,000th expungement for Detroiters! Hundreds of Detroiters attended, taking the first step on their path to a clean record.



All year, PCS hosted several ICHAT Update clinics to help clients correct mistakes on their criminal records, which prevent them from accessing expungement. After those errors were corrected, several hundred Detroiters became eligible for expungement.



In November, PCS Project Manager Lillian Weekley and Executive Admin Assistant Sharron Lewis presented to former Mayor Duggan's Cabinet at the newly renovated Helen Moore Community Center.

2025 Metrics

10,400+
Detroiters Registered

4,700+
Expungement applications filed

5,500+
Convictions Expunged

18,800+
Expungements since 2016









Client Corner - Christopher Pate

Christopher Pate had long dreamed of working in the mental health field, but his decades-old felony record prohibited him from doing so. When he applied for a counseling role with Macomb County, his application was rejected solely because of his record.

“It almost sent me into a depression when they told me I couldn't. I really wanted that job,” Pate said. He regained hope after learning about Project Clean Slate at an expungement fair and began the process to clear his record. Once his expungement was granted, Pate reapplied for the counseling job.

“When I was able to go back and tell them that I had my record expunged, they were glad to have me,” Pate said.



Pate thrived in the role. His annual income increased by $10,000, making it easier to support his family. The career change also benefited his health. With a heart condition, leaving labor-intensive factory work was crucial. His current responsibilities - talking with clients, delivering medications, and providing support - are far less taxing.

“My felony was old, but it hindered me,” Pate said. “Project Clean Slate really helped me.”



Candice Ware
Administrative Assistant

Candice is a proud Detroit native who joined the Project Clean Slate team in March 2025. She was drawn to the program’s mission of supporting the community. In her role, she handles mail, scheduling, file creation, and several additional behind-the-scenes tasks. One of her favorite parts of her job is working with the Project Clean Slate team, a group of people Candice says are deeply committed to helping Detroiters. Her favorite memory is the 15,000-expungement celebratory event, where she enjoyed seeing so many community members and PCS partners come together.

Thank You

PCS would like to thank its partners, funders, and supporters. We could not assist as many Detroiters as we do without this crucial support.

- Ballmer Group
- Bloomberg Associates
- Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
- Court Staff (statewide)
- Detroit Future City
- Detroit Pistons
- Detroit Police Department
- Detroit At Work
- Hudson-Webber Foundation
- Judges (statewide)
- Mary Sheffield, Mayor
- Michigan Department of the Attorney General
- Michigan Justice Fund
- Michigan State Police
- Mike Duggan, Former Mayor
- Miller Canfield
- Sam Bernstein Law Firm
- The Simon Foundation
- State Court Administrative Office (SCAO)
- The University of Michigan



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