

CITY OF DETROIT

PROJECT
Clean Slate

The DEN

A QUARTERLY
EXPUNGEMENT NEWSLETTER



Welcome Back!

These past few months brought exciting milestones for Project Clean Slate, including the celebration of Second Chance Month, the release of the program's 10-Year Impact Report, and the achievement of more than 20,000 expungements. This spring and summer, the team has been taking advantage of the warm weather by attending community events across Detroit and connecting with residents. Read on for program updates, a client testimonial, our staff spotlight, and more!

JUNE 2026

20,000 Expungements Celebration

In March, PCS obtained its 20,000th expungement! Mayor Mary Sheffield announced this milestone at a celebration hosted at the Northwest Activity Center. Opeakers included PCS Executive Director Stephani LaBelle, who announced the release of PCS' ten-year Impact Report, 36th District Court Chief Judge William McConico, State Court Administrator Tom Boyd, DPD Chief Todd Bettison, and two PCS clients who shared their stories.





Impact Report

The Michigan Justice Fund funded Project Clean Slate's 10-Year Impact Report which features a decade's worth of program data, Clean Slate legislation history, and client testimonials. PCS extends heartful gratitude to MJF for their ongoing support.





2026 STATS (to date)

1,167
Applications Filed

2,997
Convictions Expunged

35
Expungements Denied



Since 2016, PCS has expunged over 21,800 convictions with an expungement success rate of 99%!

Community Events



Returning Citizens Day



Occupy the Summer Kickoff



Walk a Mile Wednesdays



UAW Local 22's Expungement Clinic



During Second Chance Month, the Project Clean Slate team attended the Detroit Pistons Social Impact Summit, where staff registered new clients and assisted dozens of Detroiters with expungement applications. The Detroit Police Department provided free fingerprinting services!

CHARLES PORTER

After getting into trouble in his 20s, Charles Porter spent years living with a criminal record that kept opportunities out of reach.

"When you have a record, people tend to hold that against you in so many ways. You are judged immediately from a piece of paper before you are even given a chance," Charles said. "I have always felt, until now, the system was designed to keep you with the original penitentiary number they gave you. You are incarcerated and serve your time, and your second sentence starts when you get out of jail and can't find a job."

Determined to leave his past behind him, Charles turned to Project Clean Slate for expungement support. "The team was awesome. They walked me through this process step by step. They taught me patience pays out. I never doubted them," Charles said. "When I would become restless with the waiting process, they would send an email out of nowhere. They truly came through."

When his expungement was granted, Charles said the moment felt unreal. "I literally jumped for joy. I also shed some tears," Charles said. "I honestly could not believe it was real. I could not believe my dreams had come true."

Today, with a clear record, Charles is looking forward to the future and the opportunities ahead. "I'm going to take this second chance and opportunity to the moon," Charles said.





Madeline Weekley

Staff Spotlight

Madeline has been a member of the PCS team since April 2025. She joined the program because she believes people deserve the chance to move on from past mistakes and build a better future.

As the automatic expungement specialist, Maddie interfaces with the State Court Administrator's Office, Michigan State Police, and courts across the state to ensure the auto set aside statute is being applied correctly. Each week, she reviews hundreds of criminal records for automatic expungement eligibility and works with courts to ensure the convictions are properly sealed. Maddie also manages PCS' social media pages and interviews clients about their expungement experience.

"My favorite part of my job is talking with our clients and hearing about what they're excited to finally be able to do with a clean record," Madeline said.