## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021

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## Statement from Safe & Just Michigan Executive Director John S. Cooper on the Signing of DUI expungement bills:

"Safe & Just Michigan thanks Gov. **Gretchen Whitmer** for signing these popular bipartisan bills, which represent a long-awaited chance for a fresh start for tens of thousands of Michiganders whose opportunities have been limited by a single old DUI conviction," Safe & Just Michigan Executive Director **John S. Cooper** said. "Drunk driving is a serious problem in Michigan, but permanently limiting a person's ability to work and drive based on a one-time, decades-old mistake does not make sense. People who can show that their DUI conviction was a one-time mistake should have an opportunity to make a fresh start."

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Safe & Just Michigan (<a href="www.safeandjustmi.org">www.safeandjustmi.org</a>) works to advance policies that end Michigan's over-use of incarceration and promote community safety and healing. We partner with Michigan organizations and leaders from across the political spectrum, including business and community leaders, faith communities, crime survivor organizations, formerly incarcerated individuals, prisoners and their families, as well as Michigan taxpayers statewide.