

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Media Advisory

Safe & Just
Michigan

Expungement fair offering free eligibility screening coming to Michigan Works! in Marquette July 12-13

MARQUETTE — People who have been held back from getting good-paying jobs and safe, affordable housing because of old items on their criminal record have an opportunity to see if they can remove those old convictions under Michigan’s new Clean Slate laws at an expungement fair coming to Marquette July 12-13. The free expungement fair will be held at the U.P. Michigan Works! location on **Friday, July 12 and Saturday, July 13 at the Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! office, 1498 Odovero Drive in Marquette, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days.** Pre-registration for this event will remain open up until **July 11** at bit.ly/SJM24MarquetteExp. Walk-in participants will also be accepted as space is available. This event is sponsored by Lansing-based nonprofit Safe & Just Michigan, a nonprofit that advances policies that end the over-use of incarceration and promote community safety and healing, as well as Michigan Works! and the Michigan Attorney General’s Office.

The benefits of an expungement can be enormous. According to a 2020 study from University of Michigan researchers, people who receive an expungement see their wages raise an average of 22 percent in the year following the expungement — mostly because previously unemployed people were able to find jobs, and minimally employed people were able to find steadier or higher-paying jobs.

“Expungements have the potential to change a person’s life for the better, but figuring out whether you qualify for one, and then how to go about getting one, can be a confusing process,” said Safe & Just Michigan’s Clean Slate Program Manager **Kamau Sandiford**. “We’re glad to partner with Michigan Works! and the Attorney General’s Office to bring this opportunity to people in the Upper Peninsula who have earned a second chance.”

WHO: Kamau Sandiford, Safe & Just Michigan Clean Slate Program Manager
WHAT: Marquette Expungement Fair
WHERE: 1498 Odovero Drive, Marquette, MI
WHEN: **Friday, July 12 and Saturday, July 13, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days**

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Safe & Just Michigan (www.safeandjustmi.org) 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.