

Clean Slate

CLEARINGHOUSE

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Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Juvenile Defenders and Civil Legal Aid Attorneys Collaborating for Record Clearance

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Speakers

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The Council of State Governments Justice Center

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Clearinghouse

- Online clearinghouse of each state's adult and juvenile record clearance policies, resources, guides, and legal service providers

Audience

- Legal service providers, reentry and workforce service providers, people with criminal records, policymakers

Goals

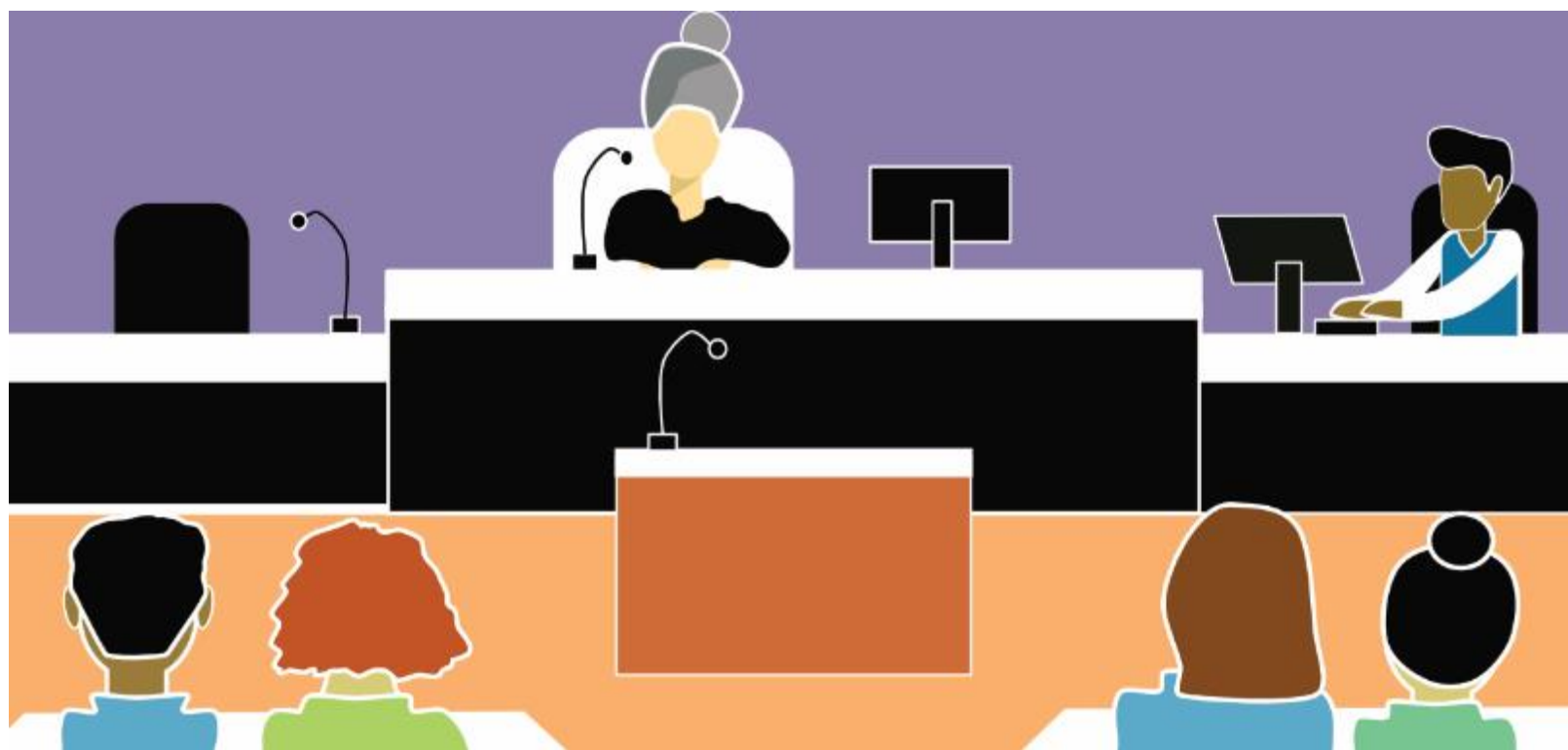
- Provide accessible, up-to-date information on record clearance policies across the country
- Increase capacity of legal service providers and create a community of practice for record clearance

cleanslateclearinghouse.org

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

The Crisis

Why is record clearance important?



Common Collateral Consequences

Records	Public Benefits
Employment	Public Registry
Education	Fees, Fines, & Restitution
Housing	Immigration
Sentencing Enhancements	Military Service

Robbie

Employment

- Disorderly conduct adjudication from 2009
- Graduated from high school in 2011
- Earned associate's degree in IT in 2013
- Now works in construction

How can Robbie pursue his career when his juvenile record repeatedly blocks opportunities for employment in his chosen field?

Jimena

Housing

- Drug-related adjudication from 2016
- Gave birth to beautiful baby girl three months ago
- Just graduated from high school
- Not getting along with her mother

How can Jimena find stable housing for herself and her new baby when her juvenile adjudication can be used as a reason to deny her housing application?

Juvenile Record Clearance

Records

- **Public / Confidential Records**
- **Police Records**
- **Fingerprint Records**
- **DNA Records**
- **DMV Records**

Record Clearance

- **Sealing**
- **Expungement**
- **Expunction**
- **Destruction**
- **Deletion**
- **Vacating**
- **Erasing**



Opportunity Through Partnership

Juvenile Defenders

- **Experts in adolescent development and representing youth**
- **Understand delinquency court and collateral consequences of a juvenile record**



Civil Legal Aid Attorneys

- **Experts in civil legal remedies**
- **Understand other systems – housing, public benefits, health, etc.**



Record Clearance Partnership

- **Juvenile record clearance clinics**
- **Pro bono projects**
- **Joint outreach and educational events**
- **Ongoing source of referrals**
- **Host externally funded fellowships**

Examples of Partnerships

- **Legal Aid of Nebraska & Lancaster County Public Defender's Office**
- **TeamChild & Public Defender Offices in Washington state**

Resources and Tools

Resources & Tools

- **Clean Slate Clearinghouse**
 - www.cleanslateclearinghouse.org
- **Law school clinics**
- **Workforce development – state and local**
- **Recreation centers**
- **Local places of worship**
- **Other community organizations**

Resources & Tools

State-specific resources

- California
- Colorado
- Delaware
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- Washington

www.njdc.info/collateral-consequences





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Clean Slate Clearinghouse Project

Questions?

Email cleanslate@csgjusticecenter.org

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