

Media Advisory – Probation Program Helps Clients Get Second Chance At Fresh Start

Sacramento, CA – February 14, 2017

WHAT: Sacramento County Probation will hold a Juvenile Record Sealing Clinic for adults with minor offenses on their juvenile records. The clinic, made possible by Probation's partnership with local legal organizations and technology companies, is a monthly workshop where attorneys, paralegals, and other volunteers donate their time to assist former probationers and prepare sealing petitions. The department currently partners with HP Inc., Hewlett Packard Enterprise, and DLA Piper, LLP – a global law firm.

WHEN: February 15, 2017, at 5:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: 4100 Branch Center Road, Sacramento, 95827

VISUALS: Attorneys, paralegals, and volunteers assisting clients with sealing their juvenile criminal records.

RESOURCES: More than ninety percent of the petitions filed by clients who have participated in Probation's record sealing clinics have been granted.

"The services we are able to provide at the clinics through our partnership with these firms can help change the lives of our clients," said Senior Deputy Probation Officer Catherine McCoin, who was instrumental in launching the program back in 2010. "By providing this free service, our clients can move forward with a clean slate, which can open so many doors to opportunities they might not have had, otherwise."

The program has been replicated and expanded into the Bay Area. In April of 2015, with input from Sacramento County Probation, a similar program was launched in San Mateo County. The following month, both programs were acknowledged for their successes when they were nominated for a Corporate Pro Bono Partner Award.

The attorneys and volunteers who participate in the program typically spend an average of four hours working on each client's case, equating to approximately 1,116 donated hours to date.

Chief Deputy Chris Johnson, who oversees the project under the department's Juvenile Court Services division, praises their contributions saying, "Their time and knowledge is invaluable. They have not only saved the department and clients thousands of dollars over the last six years, but they have also helped so many people get a fresh start."

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