

Partnership Report

Results from Code for America's Automatic
Record Clearance Pilot with the Los Angeles
County District Attorney's Office

CODE *for*
AMERICA

FEBRUARY 2020



“ The dismissal of tens of thousands of old cannabis-related convictions in Los Angeles County will bring much-needed relief to communities of color that disproportionately suffered the unjust consequences of our nation’s drug laws. ”

— **Jackie Lacey**, Los Angeles County District Attorney

Leveraging Clear My Record technology to fulfill the promise of Proposition 64

In April 2019, DA Jackie Lacey and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office joined Code for America in the first partnership of its kind to leverage technology and user-centered design to proactively review criminal convictions that qualify for relief under Proposition 64 (marijuana legalization). Previously, people had to petition the court on their own, but this is a time-consuming, expensive, and confusing process.

With the aid of technology, a DA's office can dismiss or resentencing convictions proactively and automatically. This requires no action on the part of the individual, and minimal government staff time and resources — and reduces barriers to employment, housing, health, and education that hundreds of thousands of Californians face.

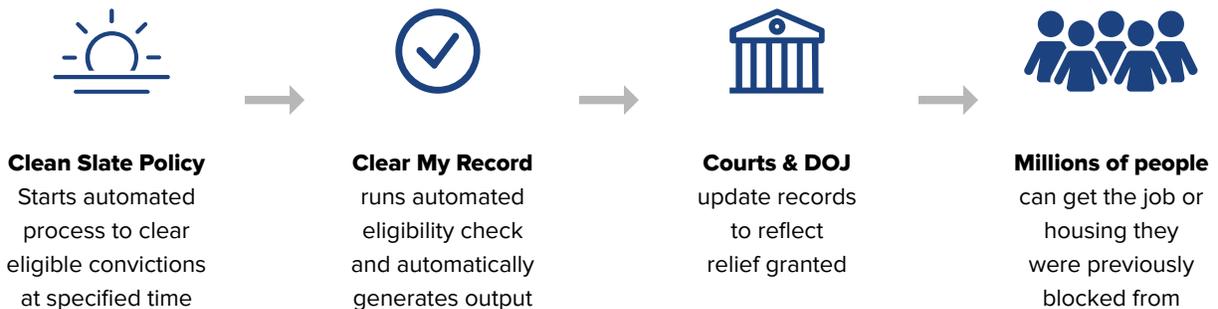
By providing proactive and automatic record clearance services, counties can address the wrongs caused by the failed war on drugs, felt most pronouncedly in communities of color, and fulfill the promise of the reforms aimed at remedying the legacy of mass incarceration in California.

Using technology to automatically clear criminal convictions demonstrates that government has the infrastructure to deliver relief to people in faster, more dignified ways—and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office and Code for America are leading the way.

How does Code for America's Clear My Record technology work?

Clear My Record is technology developed by Code for America that can automatically and securely evaluate eligibility for convictions by reading and interpreting conviction data. It can determine eligibility for thousands of convictions in just a few minutes.

This alleviates the need for DA staff to go through state criminal records one by one to evaluate eligibility, a time- and labor-intensive process. Streamlining conviction data processing will also make it easier for the courts to update records.



About Code for America

Code for America believes government can work for the people, and by the people, in the digital age, starting with the people who need it most. We build digital services that enhance government capabilities, and we help others do the same across all levels of government. We organize thousands of volunteers across nearly 80 chapters nationwide who improve government in their local communities. Our goal: a 21st century government that effectively and equitably serves all Americans. Learn more at codeforamerica.org.

Impact of the Automatic Record Clearance Pilot

Los Angeles County marijuana convictions

based on Los Angeles County criminal record data



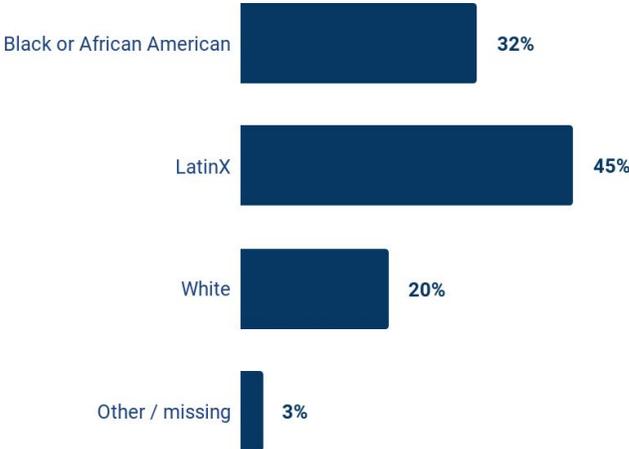
22,000

People who now have no felonies on their CA record

15,000

People who now have no convictions on their CA record

Race Breakdown



Has my record been cleared?

To find out if your record has been cleared, or for more information about this initiative, contact the Los Angeles County Public Defender’s Office by phone at **(323) 760-6763** or visit <http://pubdef.lacounty.gov>. The Public Defender’s Office will reply to all inquiries.