



Operation Rio Grande  
Expungement Day Fact Sheet  
April 5, 2018

**What is Expungement Day?**

A program to help former offenders clear their criminal records, making it easier to obtain housing, employment, and access to education – moving towards self-sufficiency. Eligible individuals meet with an attorney to help fill out court petition paperwork and obtain a legal expungement. In addition to seeing clients scheduled to participate, walk-ins will be accepted from 12:30-2:00 PM.

**Client application process and fees:**

- Salt Lake County began accepting expungement applications in February 2018
- Those eligible to participate received certificates (legal proof of expungement eligibility) for every charge or conviction to be expunged
- 52 people submitted applications for a \$50 fee each
- 32 applicants qualified and were issued 191 certificates
  - 160 certificates issued to expunge convictions for a \$56 fee each
  - 31 certificates issued to expunge charges at no fee
  - Eight applicants were issued 10 or more certificates per person

**Expungement Day costs and volunteers**

- \$19,200 in private donations cover costs of application and certificate fees for eligible clients
- 40 attorneys volunteering legal aid
- Complete list of participating agencies on reverse side

**Basic Expungement Process:**



**Individuals are not eligible for expungement if they have any of the following (exceptions apply for drug offenses):**

- Open/pending criminal cases
- 2 or more felony convictions, stemming from separate criminal episodes
- 3 or more class A convictions, stemming from separate criminal episodes
- 4 or more class B convictions, stemming from separate criminal episodes
- 5 or more convictions of any type (infractions excluded), stemming from separate criminal episodes
- Outstanding fines, fees, interest or restitution owing to the court or to a victim

**Waiting period from conviction to eligibility (exceptions for drug offenses):**

Felony	7 years
Class A Misdemeanor	5 Years
Class B Misdemeanor	4 Years
Class C Misdemeanor or Infraction	3 Years
Misdemeanor DUI	10 Years

## **On-Site participating agencies**

- **Salt Lake County:** Lead coordinator
- **Utah State Bar:** providing financial support to cover the cost of fees, volunteer attorneys, and breakfast and lunch for volunteers
- **Department of Workforce Services:** Supporting program as part of Operation Rio Grande efforts, connecting individuals to employment resources, helping with client intake
- **Catholic Community Services:** Donating location to host Expungement Day
- **Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification (state agency that issues expungement certificates):** on-site to answer process questions
- **SLC Justice Court:** Judge available to accept fee waiver filings and help resolve open cases
- **SL County District Attorney:** Review petitions and provide legal assistance for individuals with open cases
- **Legal Defenders Association:** Legal assistance for individuals with open cases
- **University of Utah Law School:** Students assist with client intake
- **Utah Community Action:** Resources for housing services
- **SLCPD Community Connections Center:** Information and resources for substance use and mental health treatment services
- **Criminal Justice Services:** Assisting to clear open warrants and set new court dates
- **Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness (USARA):** Assist with client intake, provide information about peer support and recovery resources
- **Utah Health Policy Project:** Enrolling eligible clients into the state of Utah's targeted adult Medicaid program

*Expungement Day Sponsors include Catholic Community Services, the Utah State Bar, Utah Bar Foundation, Dorsey & Whitney, Snell & Wilmer, Bugden & Isaacson, Zimmerman Booher, the Pioneer Park Coalition, and anonymous donors.*