



**OFFICE OF THE
KANKAKEE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY**

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March 15, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC COMING TO KANKAKEE COUNTY

KANKAKEE, IL – Kankakee County State's Attorney Jim Rowe and Pastor Montele Crawford of Morning Star Church are hosting a free expungement and sealing clinic to assist Kankakee County residents with re-entry into the workforce. The clinic will be held on **Saturday, April 22nd from 11am-1pm at Morning Star Church**, 570 N. Harrison St. in Kankakee.

Volunteer attorneys at the Clinic will assist participants in determining whether their record is eligible for expungement or sealing; if it is, they will help complete the necessary paperwork. Employers and job-placement services will also be present, as will volunteers to assist with resume writing and interviewing skills. Participants will be able to create and print resumes on-site. No taxpayer dollars are being used to fund this Clinic, and it is being staffed entirely by volunteers.

"Even though a person has been cleared of a criminal allegation, or they have successfully completed a diversion program and paid their debt to society, that person can still be negatively impacted by public use of such information – it may prevent them from getting a job or renting a home, and can also block approval for professional certifications or licenses. So like a lot of things in life, it comes down to the paperwork – and that is where this Clinic can help. Some may be surprised by how many people are laboring along, who are hopeless and discouraged and may have minor nuisance offenses that they can expunge and they just don't know that option – to start over with a clean slate - is available to them. When we improve one's quality of life, we lower the chance of recidivism – and that improves the quality of life for all residents of Kankakee County," said State's Attorney Jim Rowe.

For further information, contact State's Attorney Jim Rowe at (815) 936-5800.