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**“ANOTHER CHANCE” EVENT WILL BE HELD FOR THIRD TIME IN BRONX;
SPONSORED BY BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE, OFFICE OF COURT
ADMINISTRATION AND THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY**
**New Yorkers Can Resolve Outstanding Summons Warrants for Quality of Life Offenses;
Learn About Sealing Old Convictions and Expunging Marijuana Possession Convictions**

District Attorney Darcel D. Clark announced today that her office will host “Another Chance,” a summons warrant forgiveness program in the Bronx on October 26, 2019, inviting residents from all five boroughs and giving them the opportunity to clear their records and continue with their lives, and experience first-hand criminal justice reform.

The “Another Chance” event will be held in partnership with the Office of Court Administration and The Legal Aid Society on Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Thessalonias Worship Center, located at 941 Rev. James A. Polite Avenue in the Longwood section of the Bronx.

District Attorney Clark said, “I am thrilled to host the ‘Another Chance’ event in the Bronx again, which brings the court to the community. This time, we will have defense attorneys to help participants learn how to seal old convictions, as well as get information on expunging marijuana possession convictions faster, bringing criminal justice reform to life for New Yorkers. If you committed low-level offenses, like drinking alcohol in public, littering or riding a bike on the sidewalk and did not resolve that summons, you could face arrest for that past mistake, and it could affect employment and housing. I strongly urge residents with summons warrants to attend the event so they can remove the burden.”

Bronx County Criminal Court Supervising Judge George Grasso said, “I commend Bronx County District Attorney Darcel Clark for her continuing efforts to bring justice to the community that we so proudly serve. This is exactly the type of collaboration that is encouraged throughout the Criminal Justice System by our Chief Judge Janet DiFiore. The New York City Criminal Court is proud to stand with our partners to effect justice and fairness in Bronx County.”



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Peter Jones, Attorney-In-Charge of the Bronx Trial Office at The Legal Aid Society, said, “Living with an outstanding summons warrant or unsealed low-level conviction presents daily challenges including access to employment, housing, or critical benefits. The Legal Aid Society – in conjunction with the Bronx District Attorney’s Office and the Office of Court Administration – is proud to collaborate on Another Chance again to help Bronxites resolve warrants, seal dated low-level convictions, and address other pressing legal questions. No one should be judged solely on their worst moment, and we look forward to helping more New Yorkers move on with their lives.”

Rev. Malobe Sampson, Pastor of the Thessalonía Worship Center, said, “The church needs to be a hub in the community. It is important to address the disparity between arrest records of minorities and whites in the South Bronx for marijuana and other low-level offenses, and it is important that we bridge the gap between the community, and police, elected officials and court officials. Holding ‘Another Chance’ at Thessalonía Worship Center helps to accomplish these goals.”

A mobile courtroom will be created in the Thessalonía Worship Center with Honorable Bahaati Pitt, Criminal Court Judge, presiding, as well as attorneys and staff from the Bronx District Attorney’s Office and The Legal Aid Society. The event will also include a resource fair, where residents can obtain information on health care and social services from a vast array of organizations.

District Attorney Clark said over 300 people attended the last Another Chance event, held in 2017, and approximately 226 warrants were cleared at that event.

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