

Media Release:

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## Marion County Prosecutor's Office will host two in-person Second Chance Workshops

Registration is now open for Second Chance Workshops on June 22 and June 24

Indianapolis, Ind. — Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears announced today that the prosecutor's office will host its first in-person Second Chance Workshop since January 2020. The Workshops are free events to assist community members seeking restoration of a suspended driver's license and expungement of a criminal record.

The first Second Chance Workshop will be held **Tuesday**, **June 22**, at the Pike Township Government Center from 4 p.m. -7 p.m. The succeeding Workshop will be held **Thursday**, **June 24**, at the Warren Township Government Center from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. More in-person Second Chance Workshops and remote Workshops will be held later this year.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure that all participants can be safely served, registration is limited and required to attend the event. Walk-in services will not be available. Registration is available at www.indy.gov/mcpo.

In March 2020, the prosecutor's office made the decision to postpone in-person Second Chance Workshop services due to the COVID-19 public health crisis. Since then, the prosecutor's office has held 11 virtual Workshops and served over 1000 residents.

The Second Chance Workshops are offered in partnership with the Indianapolis Legal Aid Society, the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic Expungement Help Desk and Indiana University McKinney School of Law SCRAP Program, as well as Pike Township and Warren Township Trustee's Offices.

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Prosecutor Ryan Mears strives to set new expectations for the criminal justice system in Marion County by increasing access to justice through initiatives like Second Chance Workshops, the <u>Good Faith Initiative</u> to address past due child support and <u>Project Valid</u> for traffic violations. These programs, as well as progressive policies, are designed to increase fairness and equality within the criminal justice system. While maintaining the highest ethical standards and preserving the rights of victims, the Marion County Prosecutor's Office believes that access to justice is a necessary step in achieving this goal.