



For Immediate Release

Fresh Start record screening and sealing program returns next month; Online registration opens Aug. 3 at noon

July 29, 2026 — The popular Fresh Start Record Screening and Sealing program will return next month, helping eligible participants clear not just their records but the related barriers to jobs, housing, education, and other opportunities.

The upcoming Fresh Start is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 22, from 10 a.m. to noon. Online registration for record screening is required, and opens at noon on Monday, Aug. 3: www.ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm.

Free screening is available to adults with a Harris County criminal record. Eligibility for record sealing is determined by state law. Eligible participants must meet income requirements to receive record sealing services.

Demand for the program continues to surge with thousands of people competing for a limited number of slots. Registration often fills in minutes. Participants are encouraged to review the updated [Registration Tutorial](#) to prepare for the process.

“Record sealing gives community members a chance to put their mistakes behind them and open doors that have been closed,” Harris County Criminal Courts at Law Presiding Judge Ashley Guice said. “When people can move forward, they’re less likely to come back through the criminal justice system, which benefits all of us.”

Launched in April 2022, the second-chance program helps people get back on track after encounters with the criminal justice system by sealing their eligible criminal records and connecting them to community resources. The program helps people meet their basic needs and reduce recidivism, making neighborhoods safer in the process.

Other resources available in August include:

- **Harris County Public Health ACCESS Harris County:** Register for assistance related to education, food security, job placement, counseling, peer support, healthcare and insurance, housing, and transportation.
- **South Texas College of Law Legal Clinics:** Apply to determine eligibility for assistance with civil legal matters.
- **Consulate General of Mexico in Houston:** Support for Mexican citizens needing legal documents or services.
- **Harris County Office of Managed Assigned Counsel (MAC):** Learn about your legal rights and resources.

For more information about the program or to register, go to www.ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm.

Fresh Start is hosted by BAYOU City Community Court, the community outreach arm of the Harris County Criminal Courts at Law. It’s offered in partnership with Harris County Public Defender’s Office, Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, Harris County State District Criminal Courts, and Harris County Constable Precinct One.



MEDIA CONTACT

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YOUR FRESH START BEGINS HERE



CRIMINAL RECORD SCREENING & SEALING

Get back on track after experiences with the criminal justice system. Sign up to have your Harris County criminal history screened for record sealing eligibility:

- Space is limited and slots fill extremely fast
- Harris County criminal records only
- Pre-registration required: www.ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm

HELP WITH CIVIL LEGAL MATTERS

Meet with representatives from South Texas College of Law Legal Clinics, and sign up to determine if you're eligible for their assistance with civil matters, including debt relief and estate planning.

ACCESS HARRIS COUNTY RESOURCE ASSISTANCE

Register on-site for support and resource assistance related to:

- Education
- Job Placement
- Primary Care Physicians
- Food Security
- Transportation
- Health Insurance
- Housing
- Counseling
- Peer Support

LEGAL RIGHTS AND RESOURCES

Meet with representatives from the Harris County Office of Managed Assigned Counsel (MAC) to learn about your rights and connect with available resources.

CONSULAR SUPPORT FOR MEXICAN CITIZENS

Meet with Houston's Consulate General of Mexico and learn about the legal services and legal documents available to Mexican citizens.

WHEN

Saturday, Aug. 22
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

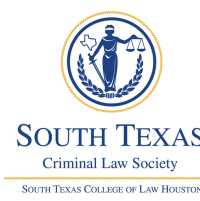
WHERE

Harris County
Jury Plaza
1201 Congress St.
in Downtown
Houston

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



LEARN MORE: WWW.CCLHCTX.NET/FRESHSTART.HTM



SU FRESCO COMIENZO EMPIEZA AQUÍ



SELLADO DE ANTECEDENTES PENALES

Vuelva a la normalidad después de experiencias con el sistema de justicia penal. Regístrese para que se revisen sus antecedentes penales del condado de Harris para determinar su elegibilidad para el sellado de antecedentes penales:

- El espacio está limitado y los espacios disponibles se llenan extremadamente rápido
- Solo es para antecedentes penales del condado de Harris
- Se requiere preinscripción: www.ccl.hctx.net/FreshStart.htm

ACCESO CONDADO DE HARRIS ASISTENCIA DE RECURSOS

Regístrese en el sitio para recibir asistencia y recursos relacionados con:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Educación | • Colocación Laboral | • Médicos de Atención Primaria |
| • Seguridad Alimentaria | • Transporte | • Seguro Médico |
| • Vivienda | • Asesoramiento | • Apoyo entre Compañeros |

AYUDA CON ASUNTOS LEGALES CIVILES

Reúnanse con representantes de las Clínicas Legales de South Texas College of Law, e inscribáse para determinar si es elegible para recibir ayuda con asuntos civiles, incluyendo el alivio de deudas y la planificación patrimonial.

DERECHOS Y RECURSOS LEGALES

Reúnanse con representantes de la Oficina de Abogados de Oficio del Condado de Harris (MAC) para informarse sobre sus derechos y conectarse con los recursos disponibles.

APOYO CONSULAR PARA CIUDADANOS MEXICANOS

Reúnanse con el Consulado General de México en Houston y conozca los servicios legales y documentos legales disponibles para los ciudadanos Mexicanos.

CUANDO

Sábado
22 de Agosto
10 a.m. a 12 p.m.

DÓNDE

Plaza del Jurado
del Condado
de Harris
1201 Congress St.
en el centro de
Houston

**ESCANEAR
PARA OBTENER
MÁS INFORMACIÓN**



APRENDE MÁS: CCLHCTX.NET/FRESHSTART.HTM

