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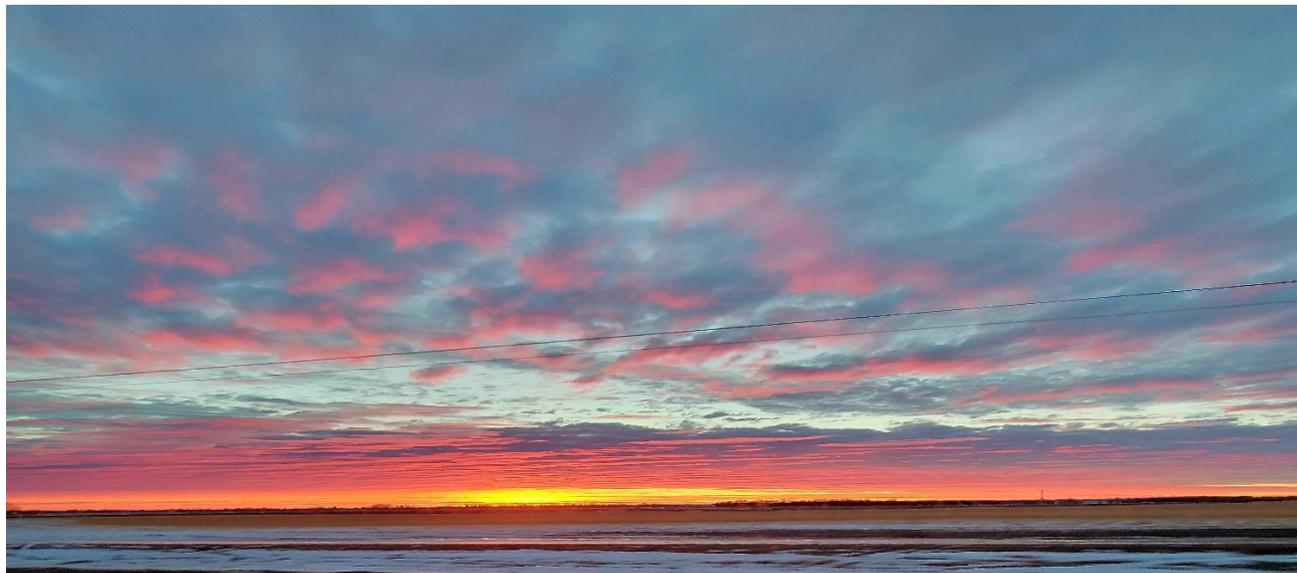
Winter 2026

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From the President

KEVIN, GLASS, ITASCA COUNTY PROBATION



Dear MACPO Members,

I hope you are all doing well during these unprecedented events taking place in Minnesota. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) has been conducting raids/arrests on a level not seen in Minnesota before; this has impacted the State even if the raids/arrests are not happening in your community. During difficult times is when Minnesota seems to show its resiliency as we did when COVID was at its peak. Minnesotans seem to strive when we come together, which MACPO continues to do with all of your support.

MACPO membership started out as County Probation Officers (CPO) and for a while now membership has been open to all probation delivery systems, which has only made MAPCO stronger. The collaboration taking place between delivery systems is at a pinnacle with the Community Supervision Advisory Committee and collaboration on trainings such as the MACPO/MCA Annual Juvenile Justice Training and the Safety Summit this summer.

With legislative priorities such as the reasonable retirement bill, these are crucial times for us to have our voices heard and through MACPO this is possible. Your membership is key for this to happen in the first place. MACPO will continue to be a leader in having a voice for probation in Minnesota and being a leader in training & safety! I hope to see you all at the MACPO Conference this Spring!

Sincerely your President,

Kevin Glass

Probation Director

Committee Updates

Legislative Committee

Nicole Grams, Steele Waseca Probation

The Probation Officers and 911 Telecommunicator Pension Plan Work Group completed their draft study and proposed legislation which will be filed soon with the chair and executive director of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement. On January 26, 2026, MACPO hosted a Townhall to share highlights on the study and proposed bill. A huge shout out to “Team Probation” who is comprised of Nicole Kern (MACCAC), TamiJo Lieberg (MCA), Eric Johnson (MACPO), Devin Bruce (MAPE), Ed Reynoso and Jim Hawkins (Teamsters), and Latonya Reeves (AFSCME). These folks passionately advocated on behalf of all probation officers statewide to seek a reasonable retirement and it is moving in the right direction. Nancy Haas and Courtney Jasper, Lobbyists have been helping spearhead these efforts and will host future Townhalls to help communicate how the bill will affect your pension options. Please join us at the 2026 Capitol Day on March 24, 2026, in the Lady Slipper Room located on the first floor of the Centennial Office Building from 12:00 p.m. to 2 p.m. Stay tuned for further details to register. This is a great opportunity to meet with your senator or representative before or after the program. You can find who represents you at <http://gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/> and schedule your meeting. A Townhall will be offered prior to Capitol Day to learn how to advocate for MACPO’s legislative platform along with sharing how valuable probation is to public safety in Minnesota.

This year’s legislative session will start on February 17 and end on May 18, 2026, with 7 days of legislative breaks. We anticipate that the legislature will focus on the three F’s this year to include firearms, fraud, and federal impacts along with safety measures at the capital. There are at least 17 members of the House and Senate that have announced their intent to retire along with Governor Walz announcing he will not run again. It will be a busy year for new candidates to get out there and campaign. Lots of excitement with changes on the horizon.

Communication Committee

JOANNIE GONTAREK (CHAIR), OTTER TAIL COUNTY PROBATION

Please see the [Resources](#) section for information to assist you in your work as a correctional practitioner.

Spring MACPO is right around the corner, officially scheduled for May 6-8, 2026, at Breezy Point! Registration will open soon at www.macpo.net. The Communications Committee is working closely with other MACPO Committees to help ensure another successful MACPO conference.

As we move into 2026, there are significant changes in our field. We are committed to keeping members informed and connected as the year ends. Be sure to follow MACPO on Facebook for updates, reminders, and timely information.

Membership Committee

There are no updates at this time. Please stay tuned for MACPO Conference updates in the spring!

Training and Education Committee

The Training and Ed committee continues to work hard planning the spring conference. Spring will be here before we know it and so will the conference. The 2026 conference will be adding several breakout sessions that qualify as Evidence Based Practice. The committee has been searching high and low for national speakers to bring you as a keynote. The conference will continue to host the annual golf tournament and awards banquet. To nominate a colleague for an award at the 2026 spring conference, please check the MACPO website for detailed award descriptions and the nomination process. Nominations are encouraged for colleagues who have shown outstanding leadership, professionalism, or have implemented a new program meriting recognition. Specific award nomination details and timelines will be located on the MACPO website.

Save The Date; MACPO Spring Conference; May 6-8, 2026, at Breezy Point Resort

Safety Committee

AMY HERTZOG, WRIGHT COUNTY COURT SERVICES (CHAIR)

RACHEL DECK, CASS COUNTY PROBATION (VICE CHAIR)

The safety committee has been working on putting together safety trainings for MACPO!! Search and Seizure training has been a request from several agencies. We look forward to providing a great hands on training to help Agents feel more comfortable in the field. Get registered, you won't want to miss it! The committee will also be presenting on Safety 101, look for that in the breakout sessions. With lots of seasoned Agent and new Agents we are trying to provide appropriate trainings for all. We look forward to seeing you in one of the Safety Trainings!!

See you all at MACPO!

MACPO Safety Committee

CPO Director's Committee

JON SCHIRO, WASECA COUNTY COURT SERVICES

MACPO County Spotlight

Carver County Court Services
 Court Services Director – Eric Johnson
 Carver County, MN



Carver County, MN, organized in 1855 and named for explorer Jonathan Carver, boasts a rich history from early Dakota use and Woodland cultures to significant immigrant settlement (German, Irish, Swedish) driving logging and farming. Key historical moments include the 1851 Traverse de Sioux treaties opening land, the rise and fall of river trade in towns like Carver, the formation of "ghost towns," the county seat's move to Chaska in 1856, and significant sporting events like the 2016 Ryder Cup at Hazeltine.

Carver County Court Services (CCCS) is located in beautiful Chaska, MN. Flanked by the vast Minnesota River, Chaska is home to 30,167 residents (2024). Carver County includes the following cities: Chaska, Chanhassen, Waconia, Victoria, Norwood Young America, Cologne, Mayer, Hamburg, Watertown, and Carver. Carver County population in 2024 was 112,628.

Carver County Court Services operates under MN Statute 244.19 and thus supervises adult misdemeanants and juveniles. Within Carver County, Court Services functions as a unit under Health and Human Services.

Carver County Court Services consists of 19 total FTEs. Our personnel complement is made up of the following:

Eric D Johnson, Director

Nicole Kuettel, Program Supervisor (supervises staff directly below)

Jennie Pinnow, Jail Reentry Coordinator

Mikaela Hunley, Treatment Court Coordinator

Rory Hoese, Corrections Administrative Assistant

Mary Lacey, Corrections Administrative Assistant

Kristi Holcomb, Probation Supervisor (supervises staff directly below)

Stephanie Ponath, Adult Agent

Scott Lorenz, Adult Agent

Renee Kleber, Adult Agent

Carter Bouavichith, Adult Agent

Talli Dorf, Adult Agent
Dan Muggli, Adult Agent
Will Jenson, Adult Agent

Jackie Nichols, Juvenile Agent
Lindsay Jayawardena, Juvenile Agent
Ryan Jaehnert, Juvenile Agent
Mitchel Dickison, Juvenile Agent
Parker Harris, Juvenile Agent

Carver County Court Services, like many CPO counties, boasts incredible career longevity within its agency, with agents and managers employed there for decades. CCCS also enjoys a symbiotic relationship with our local Department of Corrections (DOC) office, partnering in the area of treatment courts, cog programming, and other initiatives. CCCS thrives on collaborating with other justice partners and has always fostered an effective relationship with our sitting Judges.

Reentry Programs and Resources

This month, MACPOST would like to highlight reentry resources available around Minnesota for our clients to utilize whether it be integrating back into the community, needing support, job search assistance and so much more. Below there are a few of those programs and details about what their programs offer.

Freedom Works

Thank you for reaching out and for your interest in FreedomWorks. I appreciate the work you do in supporting individuals on probation, and I'm glad to share a bit about our program.

FreedomWorks is a reentry and recovery program for men that provides supportive services aimed at helping participants successfully transition back into the community. Our services include structured housing, accountability, case management support, life skills development, employment readiness, and coordination with treatment, probation, and other community partners. We strive to create a stable and supportive environment that promotes responsibility, growth, and long-term success.

FreedomWorks is a faith-based program; however, we are not faith-forced. We welcome individuals of different faith in the program.

If you would like more detailed information or would like to discuss whether FreedomWorks may be a good fit for someone you are supervising, do not hesitate to contact me. I have attached the following documents which provides additional information which you can use for your newsletter:

1. FreedomWorks One Page Placement Summary; and
2. FreedomWorks Program Staff Contacts.

Purpose

FreedomWorks provides immediate stabilization for men being released from incarceration by meeting basic needs and connecting them to housing, treatment, and supportive services so they can begin rebuilding their lives.

Who FreedomWorks Serves

Men reentering the community who need safe housing, food access, clothing, structure, accountability, and access to recovery and supportive services.

Basic Needs Provided (All Men)

- Housing / Shelter
- Three meals a day, seven days a week (Housing Support and Free Standing Room & Board only)
- Weekly access to the Bread of Life food shelf
- Clothing and basic toiletries upon arrival through the Blessings Closet (donated by church partners)

Placement & Housing Options

1. Housing Support (formerly Group Residential Housing – GRH)

Best for men with no income at release. Government-funded housing with residential support and three meals per day, seven days a week.

2. Free Standing Room and Board (Substance Use Treatment)

Best for men who require substance abuse treatment. Stay is paid through insurance (typically Medical Assistance – MA). Includes housing, treatment coordination, and three meals per day, seven days a week.

3. Self-Pay Program

Best for men with income who can pay for their stay. FreedomWorks does not provide meals under the self-pay program. Program fees are offered at a reduced cost. Men interested in spiritual growth may participate in the Discipleship Program. Men not in the faith-based program must attend required campus programs.

Quick Placement Guide

- No income at release → Housing Support
- Needs substance abuse treatment → Free Standing Room and Board (Insurance/MA)
- Has income and can pay → Self-Pay Program

On-Campus & Community Partnerships

- Partners in Behavior Health (PBH) – substance use treatment
- Amethyst Recovery – peer recovery support
- Kai Shin Clinic – on-campus telehealth medical care

Life Skills & Education

On-campus presentations include budgeting, financial literacy, health and wellness, education, learning pathways, and technology skills.

Family Support

A family room is available for men with minor children for overnight visitations when there are no court-ordered restrictions. Must meet other program requirements.

Contact Information

Ethan Yang, Program Director (612) 704-5267 | ethany@myfreedomworks.com
 Mark Hershberger, IOP Manager (612) 322-5708 | markh@myfreedomworks.com
 Barry Kennedy, GRH Manager (612) 791-7199 | barry@myfreedomwroks.com

** Contact Mark Hershberger or Barry Kennedy for placement. Online and paper application can be found on our website at www.myfreedomworks.com

Ethan Yang

Program Director

FreedomWorks

ReEntry and Aftercare Service

Campus Administration Building

2900 Fremont Ave. N.

Minneapolis MN, 55411

www.myfreedomworks.com

Direct 612-704-5267



Staff Contacts

George Lang, CEO	612-750-9159	george@myfreedomworks.com
Ethan Yang, Program Director	612-704-5267	ethany@myfreedomworks.com
Mark Hershberger, IOP Manager	612-322-5708	markh@myfreedomworks.com
Barry Kennedy, GRH Manager	612-791-7199	barry@myfreedomworks.com
Joe Erickson, GRH Coordinator	612-946-8109	joe@myfreedomworks.com
Jonathan Campbell, Discipleship	612-719-9965	jonathanc@myfreedomworks.com

For questions regarding placement please contact Mark Hershberger or Barry Kennedy.

Online and paper application along with other information about FreedomWorks can be found on our website at: www.myfreedomworks.com. Please have the client answer the

Twin Cities R!SE

Twin Cities R!SE has provided comprehensive workforce development to under and unemployed individuals since 1993. **Our Mission** is to transform the lives impacted by racial or socio-economic barriers through Personal Empowerment, career training, and meaningful employment. We envision a community where all individuals, especially people of color, have attained financial independence through employment success.

We offer three career development and personal empowerment programs, **My Road to Success**, **Customer Support**, and **Facilities Maintenance Specialist**. These programs prepare participants for full time employment and individuals become **EMPOWERED** and **EMPLOYED**.

TCR Programs:

My Road to Success

A customizable career training program designed for individuals seeking to identify their next professional steps. Participants will discover transferable skills and learn how to apply them in a professional setting. Upon successful completion, participants receive a certificate from **Dakota Technical College**.

Customer Support

This program equips participants with the skills to deliver exceptional customer experiences across various industries. Graduates earn a certificate from **St. Paul Technical College** upon completion.

Facilities Maintenance Specialist

Participants learn the fundamentals of facility operations, including blueprint reading, hand-tool usage, and safety standards. Graduates receive **OSHA 30 certification** and a completion certificate from **Century College**.

Program Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be at least 18 years old
- Willing and able to work **full-time**
- Income at or below **200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline**
- Criminal backgrounds welcome (*excluding SO or arson convictions*)

Referral Options:

1. Complete an online application: <https://twincitiesrise.org/job-seekers/>
2. Email our Outreach Team: outreachteam@twincitiesrise.org

Anthony Richmond

Community Outreach Manager

Direct: (612) 275-2083

Office: (612) 279-5873

twincitiesrise.org

1301 N Bryant Ave

Minneapolis, MN 55411

Emerge

I firmly believe that this is the best Re-Entry program in the Metro area. We try to walk along side of each participant and assist them with overcoming their particular barriers. Currently, this Re-Entry team is made up of 6 team members, and all of us have been Justice involved. My view is who better to assist someone during their transition than someone who has had to transition themselves. Our programming is specifically chosen due to what is most needed for our participants. Our work readiness is specific to the justice impacted and is designed to utilize employment/education while incarcerated and how to explain your criminal background to employers. Digital literacy programming is offered because a lot of participants have not had access to computers during their incarceration. Navigating in society today is practically impossible for someone who does not have some level of computer savvy. We also have a financial coach on site once per week to assist participants with work on budgeting and correcting/establishing credit. Additionally, we have a weekly support group called RTR (Re-Entry Trauma Recovery) to assist participants with their mental health. The therapist is available for 1on1 support if the participant would like to start 1on1 sessions as well.

Our ultimate goal is to assist participants obtain career employment in a field they enjoy doing and able to make a livable wage to sustain themselves. If the participant does not have a skill set to secure career employment, we offer training in Fork/Boom/Scissor Lift, Manufacturing, Construction & CDL. If these trainings do not coincide with career goals, we will do our best to find training available. If needed, we offer Transitional employment (currently paying \$16.37 an hour) and participants are able to participate in all of the programs/trainings mention except CDL, while working on the clock.

I hope this provides enough of an overview. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We would love to work with your referrals as they begin their Transition. All a person has to do is show up for one of our Info Session held every Weds at 10:00. (Attached Flyer)

Thank you,

Larcell Mack | Sr. Director of Re-Entry Programs

EMERGE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

1179 15th Ave SE. Minneapolis, MN 55414

> 612.787-3769 | Fax 763.324-0800 | mackl@emerge-mn.org | www.emerge-mn.org



Updates to Hemp-derived THC in Minnesota

University of Minnesota – November 25th, 2025

[Updates to hemp-derived THC in Minnesota | University of Minnesota](#)

New legislation from Congress could affect Minnesota’s cannabis market, with a ban on hemp-derived THC products scheduled to begin in November 2026. While this would not directly affect non-hemp products sold in licensed cannabis dispensaries, it could end sales of low-dose THC edible and beverage products produced from hemp, which have become popular with consumers throughout the state since the Minnesota legislature formally legalized them in 2022.

The Cannabis Research Center (CRC) at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health studies hemp-derived THC and other cannabis-related issues. Colin Planalp, a senior researcher at CRC, is available to comment on the potential impact of the new legislation.

Colin Planalp:

“The recent action by Congress to change the federal definition of hemp, effectively outlawing the hemp-derived THC products we see in Minnesota and many other states, has created a great deal of uncertainty that could have serious implications for Minnesota’s hemp industry.”

“If the federal government were to take an aggressive approach to implementing this new ban on hemp-derived THC products, it could effectively end what had been operating in Minnesota as a legal industry.”

“The future of the hemp industry in Minnesota and other states is almost certain to be an ongoing policy issue for at least the next year, as we approach the November 2026 deadline for hemp-derived THC products to be banned at the federal level. The University of Minnesota Cannabis Research Center is committed to continuing to research these issues and contribute to the conversation with data and research evidence so that policymakers can make informed decisions.”

Colin Planalp is a senior research fellow at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health Cannabis Research Center. He focuses on helping policymakers and public officials use data-based evidence to form policies that equitably enhance public health. His interest in cannabis research emerged from years of research into the U.S. opioid crisis, growing levels of alcohol death rates and other related topic.

2025 Legislative Changes to Chapter 342

The Office of Cannabis Management (OCM), established in 2023 following the enactment of House File (HF) 100, is charged with developing and implementing the operational and regulatory systems to oversee the cannabis industry in Minnesota as provided in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 342. OCM identified opportunities to build upon the structure of Minnesota’s cannabis law and advanced a series of proposals for the 2025 legislative session. The final bill, Senate File (SF) 2370, included many of OCM’s recommendations as well as new provisions from the Legislature. The following is a summary of key changes in the cannabis policy legislation in the 2025 session, effective upon enactment. Changes to Cannabis Business Licensing to Support Market Launch

- New license variance process for cannabis testing facility applicants: The law allows OCM to issue a cannabis testing facility license to an applicant with pending laboratory accreditation status if the applicant meets a series of requirements, including proof of progress toward accreditation and passing inspection. The change should address the potential for a testing bottleneck if there are an insufficient number of licensed facilities for the anticipated number of retailers while also maintaining important testing standards. Previous law required proof of full accreditation at time of initial application, posing a significant barrier in the timing of any testing facilities seeking licensure.
- Clarity in the role of local registration: The law makes a technical change to Minnesota Statutes, section 342.22 to allow local governments to issue a retail registration to an applicant who has preliminary approval rather than being required to wait until the applicant is fully licensed.
- Updates to cannabis business application process: The law removes duplicative application requirements for applicants seeking a cannabis business license and removes the requirement for a corporation or association to submit two officer signatures. Additional Changes to the Cannabis Business Licensing

- Social equity applicant criteria expansion: The law expanded the list of qualifying criteria for social equity status to include applicants who have received stays of adjudication under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 609 and adjudications of delinquency under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260B.
- Samples allowed at licensed cannabis events: The law repeals the prohibition on samples at licensed cannabis events and sets limitations for authorized retailers to offer samples of cannabis products while on-site at a licensed cannabis event. All adult-use cannabis products, including samples, can only be sold or provided to individuals at least 21 years of age.
- Modification of transportation requirements: The law removes the cannabis transporter requirements of two employees per transportation vehicle and randomized transportation 2 routes. In short, cannabis transporters will not be required to implement randomize routes or staff the vehicle with multiple employees.
- Updates to authorized activities of cannabis businesses: The law clarifies authorized activities for several license types to ensure consistency across the supply chain, including the ability for cannabis microbusinesses and mezzo businesses to purchase cannabis products, lower-potency hemp edible and hemp-derived consumer products from other cannabis and hemp businesses, and the ability for cannabis cultivators to sell immature cannabis plants, seedlings, and cannabis flower to other cannabis businesses. The law also adds new authorized activities to the medical cannabis combination business license type, including transportation and delivery of medical cannabis and the transportation of adult-use cannabis.
- Updates to municipal cannabis licensing: The law now permits a city or a county that establishes, owns, or operates a municipal cannabis store (under a cannabis retailer license) to also hold a lower-potency hemp edible retailer license. Changes to the Lower-Potency Hemp Edible (LPHE) Industry – Product Regulation, Licensing, and Authorized Activities
- Clarity for hemp business application process: The law removes the requirement for OCM to establish the hemp business application process by rule, aligning the authorities of OCM with the cannabis business application

process, and supporting a timely hemp business market launch this fall. The law also removes the requirement for hemp business applicants to submit two officer signatures. Finally, the law ensures consistency in the requirements for lower potency hemp edible licensees to maintain compliance with local laws and regulations as well as maintain clean and sanitary premises.

- **New LPHE wholesaler license:** The law creates a new hemp business license type, the lowerpotency hemp edible wholesaler license, as an addition to the lower-potency hemp edible manufacturer and lower-potency hemp edible retailer licenses. All three license types may be held simultaneously. A lower-potency hemp edible wholesaler license is authorized to purchase LPHE products from specified cannabis and hemp businesses and sell LPHE products to specified cannabis and hemp businesses. The lower-potency hemp edible wholesaler license is also authorized to obtain two endorsements, one to import LPHE products from out of state and a second to transport lower-potency hemp edibles, subject to all applicable requirements. The LPHE wholesaler license type has an application fee of \$250 and a license and renewal fee of \$10,000.
- **New delivery endorsement for LPHE retailers:** The law adds a new endorsement for the lowerpotency hemp edible retailer license type to authorize delivery of lower-potency hemp edible products by the license holder itself or through partnership with a different license holder with the delivery endorsement.
- **Serving size changes in LPHE beverages:** The law allows edible cannabinoid products/lowerpotency hemp edibles intended to be consumer as beverages packaged in a single container to contain up to 10 mg of THC and be labeled as one serving size rather than having to be labeled as two servings of 5 mg of THC. 3
- **Increases to CBD, CBG, CBN, and CBC limits in LPHE products:** The law increases the amount of cannabidiol, cannabigerol, cannabinol, or cannabichromene allowed in a lower-potency hemp edible product from 25 mg to 100 mg per serving.
- **Non-intoxicating product clarifications:** The law allows non-intoxicating hemp-derived topical products to be applied sublingually, a category previously prohibited. The law also removes the option for the use of a scannable barcode for this singular product type and instead will require all product types to provide information to consumers on the label, adding consistency for enforcement and education.
- **Updates to the lower-potency hemp edible on-site consumption endorsement:** The law allows LPHE retailer license holders with an on-site consumption endorsement to sell LPHE beverages for on-site consumption at an off-site event if:
 - o The event has been authorized by the local unit of government exercising jurisdiction over the event.
 - o The event organizer holds an on-sale license issued under chapter 340A.
 - o The event does not exceed four days in length.
- **New authorized activities under exporter endorsement for LPHE manufacturers:** The law allows licensed lower-potency hemp edible manufacturers to manufacture products that are not compliant for sale in Minnesota but are compliant in other states, provided the products have clear labeling that they are not for sale in Minnesota and are kept separate from products for sale in Minnesota. **Updates to the Medical Cannabis Program: Strengthened Protections, Reciprocity Access, and Clarifications**
- **Civil and criminal protections for medical cannabis patients, caregivers:** The law strengthens protections for medical cannabis patients, preventing discrimination for medical cannabis patients in housing, employment, or educational opportunities. These protections also include access to injunctive relief and are extended to include tribal medical cannabis patients.
- **Remote access for medical cannabis patients:** The law ensures remote access for medical cannabis patients seeking consultation and supports more cannabis businesses' ability to participate in the medical program, particularly in rural areas.
- **Tribal medical patient program reciprocity authority:** The law authorizes tribal medical patients from tribal medical cannabis programs with requisite documentation to access medical products at licensed cannabis businesses. The law also extends patient protections to include tribal medical cannabis patients. The reciprocity

does not authorize a tax exemption for products purchased by tribal medical program patients who are not also in the state's medical registry.

- Visiting patient reciprocity authority: The law permits visiting patients from other states with requisite documentation to access medical products at licensed cannabis businesses. This reciprocity does not authorize a tax exemption for products purchased by visiting patients.
- Health care facilities access: The law adds additional types of cannabis and hemp-derived products that a health care facility may permit on site for medical cannabis patients in the registry to access while receiving care at the facility. 4 Technical Changes, Office Duties, and Statute Clarifications
- Alignment with the state enterprise in Minnesota Statutes, section 10.65: The law adds the “Office of Cannabis Management” to the definition of “agency” in Minnesota Statutes, section 10.65, Government to Government Relationship with Tribal Governments which provides clear expectations and best practices to build collaborative relationships with Tribal governments in line with all other state agencies.
- Updates to definitions: The law updates several definitions in chapter 342 to provide clarity and consistency between sections and avoid potential gaps.
- Updates to chapter 152: The law clarifies OCM as the administrator of the state's medical cannabis program under chapter 152. This follows the transition of the Office of Medical Cannabis from MDH to OCM in July 2024. The medical program authority under chapter 152 will sunset in December 2025 after OCM transitions current operations to the licensing framework under chapter 342.
- New legislative proposal: The law requires OCM to develop a proposal to address the streamlining of the cannabis supply chain, which is currently bifurcated between adult-use and medical.
- Changes to the cannabis expungement process: The law makes several changes to the cannabis expungement process to offer clarification for the Cannabis Expungement Board.

Minnesota Clean Slate Act HF2023/SF2055

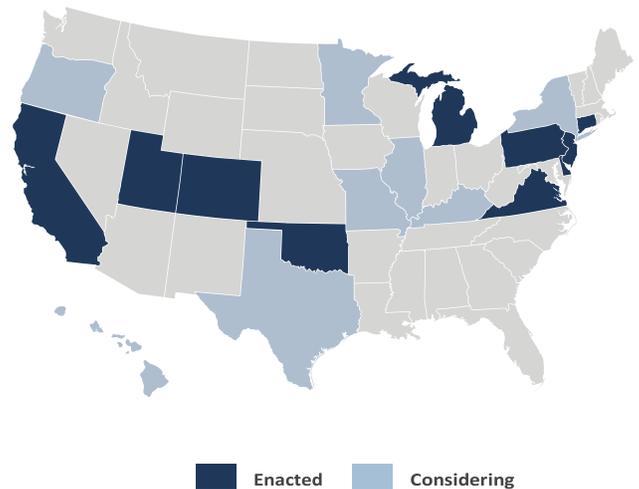
<https://www.house.mn.gov/comm/docs/SE1OQgmcKECtujeCi2gRcw.pdf>

The Minnesota Clean Slate Act of 2023 will automate expungements for offenses that already qualify for expungements under the current petition process. The legislation, authored by Rep. Jamie Long and Sen. Bobby Joe Champion, also expands the list of qualifying offenses eligible for the state’s petition-based expungement.

This legislation will automate and streamline the expungement process, reduce long-term costs to the Courts associated with expungements, and includes important employer and public safety measures. Under this legislation, an expunged record of conviction still may be viewed and accessed by law enforcement agencies and opened as part of a Department of Human Services criminal background check required for certain occupations, jobs or licenses.

Research shows cumbersome petition-based systems that do not automatically trigger expungement after a period of time fail to provide the intended and needed relief. In Michigan, a study found just 6.5% of eligible people obtained expungement within five years of eligibility. Providing an automatic expungement process for certain offenses will provide relief for Minnesotans while protecting public safety.

Ten states have enacted automatic expungement and several states are considering legislation.



Background on Automatic Expungement

Changes to Petition-based Expungements:

Adds 5th degree drug possessions and convictions deemed to be misdemeanors or gross misdemeanors due to a stay of imposition.

Qualifying offenses for automatic expungement:

Petty Misdemeanor Offenses

Excluding traffic regulation relating to the operation or parking of motor vehicles.

Waiting period: 2 years after discharge of sentence

Misdemeanor Offenses

Excluding any of the following:

- Fourth degree driving while impaired
- Violation of an order for protection
- Fifth degree assault
- Domestic assault
- Violation of a harassment restraining order
- Interference with emergency call
- Obscene or harassing phone calls
- Indecent exposure
- Interference with privacy
- Violation of domestic abuse no contact order

Waiting period: 2 years after discharge of sentence

Gross Misdemeanor Offenses

Excluding any of the following:

- Second degree driving while impaired
- Third degree driving while impaired
- Violation of an order for protection
- Fourth degree or fifth degree assault
- Domestic assault
- Criminal neglect
- Fifth degree criminal sexual conduct
- Malicious punishment of a child
- Escape from custody
- Tampering with witness
- Fourth degree burglary
- Interference with privacy

- Violation of a harassment restraining order
- Harassment or stalking
- Interference with emergency call
- Indecent exposure
- Nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images
- Violation of domestic abuse no-contact order

Criteria for qualifying for automatic expungement:

1. Person was arrested and all charges were dismissed after a case was filed unless dismissal was based on a finding that the defendant was incompetent to proceed; or
2. All pending actions or proceedings were resolved in favor of the person; or
3. Person successfully completed the terms of a diversion program or stay of adjudication and has not been charged with another offense, other than an offense that would be a petty misdemeanor, for one year immediately following completion of the diversion program or stay of adjudication; or
4. Person was adjudicated delinquent for, convicted of, or received a stayed sentence for a qualifying offense; and
 - a. Person has not been convicted of a new offense, other than a petty misdemeanor, in Minnesota during the applicable waiting period; and
 - b. Person is not charged with a new offense in Minnesota at the time the person reaches the end of the applicable waiting period.

Employer & Public Safety Protections:

- Current law under Minnesota Statute 181.981 offers significant protection to an employer from an individual or entity asserting a claim of negligent hiring based solely on an offense that was expunged.
- Courts, prosecutors, and law enforcement agencies still have access to expunged record data.
- Expunged record of conviction will be disclosed for the purposes of a background study by DHS and other licensing boards and agencies if required.
- Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) responsible for maintaining records and processing automatic expungements.
- BCA required to notify each arresting and citing law enforcement agency that expungement relief was granted.
- Prosecuting attorney shall notify victims under the manner provided in 611A.03, subd. 1 and 2.
- In any subsequent prosecution of a person granted expungement relief, the expunged criminal record has the same effect as if the relief was not granted.

Waiting period: 3 years after discharge of sentence *Felony Offenses moved from Petition to Automatic Expungement*

- Any felony offense currently listed as eligible for expungement by petition in section 609A.02, subdivision 3, paragraph (b) will be automatically expunged.
- Waiting period: 5 years after discharge of sentence

Thank You to Our Platinum Sponsors

Nexus – [CLICK HERE](#)

We provide short- and long-term treatment programs at our residential facilities for kids who need intensive support and care. Specialize in behavioral and mental health issues like: depression, anxiety, trauma, oppositional behavior, ADHD, borderline personality, bi-polar conditions relational problems, attachment issues, parenting support, family conflict, sexually problematic behaviors, and emotional/physical/sexual abuse.

LifeSafer - [CLICK HERE](#)
[Enroll Here](#)

Ignition Interlock Device - LifeSafer provides accurate, timely, and reliable services to help you successfully complete your ignition interlock program. Our [car breathalyzer costs](#) are some of the most affordable on the market.

Northwestern Minnesota Juvenile Center- [CLICK HERE](#)
(218) 751-3196

Licensed through the Minnesota Department of Corrections, Northwestern Minnesota Juvenile Center incorporates three distinct units (non-secure detention unit, residential treatment unit, and secure detention) within the building, as well as community-based satellite (foster) homes. The Center offers 35 day evaluations, community service and restitution work programs, 30/60/90 day programs, and detention services.

Prairie Lakes Youth Programs - [CLICK HERE](#)
320-231-1729

Prairie Lakes Youth Programs is a children's residential facility located in Willmar, Minnesota. Through our non-secure, group home, and secure environments, we provide individualized, trauma-informed, and culturally relevant care and treatment including: substance use disorder addiction recovery, pet therapy, individual therapy, group therapy, family therapy, truancy support, CHIPS support, and so much more.

Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance - [CLICK HERE](#)
(952) 435-9310

Serving criminal justice and human service partners by specializing in electronic monitoring, supervision, and alcohol & drug testing. Fully understand the needs of agents and agencies in correctional environments because it is owned and managed by experienced law enforcement and correctional professionals.

RSI Laboratories - [CLICK HERE](#)
612-287-1660

RSI LABORATORIES is a division of [RS EDEN](#). Based in Minneapolis, MN, RS EDEN is a non-profit organization providing recovery, accountability and support services to facilitate individual, family and community movement from non-productive behavior to responsible, self-sufficient lifestyles. Offer K2/Spice Instant test, Oral Testing, EtG Alcohol Instant Cup, and drug screens.

Teamsters Local 320 - [CLICK HERE](#)

612-378-8700

Teamsters Local 320's mission is to provide the benefit of unionism to all workers, and to protect and preserve the benefits obtained for members of this organization. We shall safeguard, advance, and promote the principles of free collective bargaining, citizen organizing, workers' rights, and the security and welfare of all people through political action, education, and other community activities.

Village Ranch - [CLICK HERE](#)

(320) 286-2922

Residential care with Minnesota locations in Annandale (female residents between the ages of 12-18), Cokato (male residents struggling with a range of mental health and behavior issues), Hutchinson (male residents between the ages of 15 & 19), and Rochester (group home for male residents between the ages of 15 & 19).

West Central Regional Juvenile Center - [CLICK HERE](#)

(218) 299-5150

Providing residential services for juveniles with behavioral, protection, dependency, and delinquency issues. Programming includes secure detention, secure residential, non-secure detention/social service emergency placement, 30 day evaluations, sexual therapy, and community living independent programming and skills.

Boys Town - [CLICK HERE](#)

800-217-3700

Boys Town offers a broad spectrum of [child and family services](#), [community programs](#), and [crisis services](#). We also provide [health and medical care through Boys Town National Research Hospital](#) and other resources; conduct cutting-edge [research](#) on child behavior issues; and provide services for children with severe behavioral problems through our Outpatient Behavioral Health programs and [residential care programs](#).

PORT Group Homes- [CLICK HERE](#)

218-829-2123

PORT offers programming for both boys and girls ages 12-18 located in the Brainerd area. PORT partners with Brainerd Public schools for educational needs. Additionally, PORT offers a 30 day evaluation, transitional services, 72-hour hold, group therapy, independent living program, and chemical dependency services.

Intoxalock - [CLICK HERE](#)

(844) 899-6211

Serves multiple locations throughout Minnesota for ignition interlock devices. They make it affordable, easy to use, and convenient to customers while also offering 24/7 customer support.

Nationwide Interlock Minnesota- [CLICK HERE](#)

866-694-6099

Ignition interlock device is the most commonly used technology to prevent drunk driving. A nationwide interlock customer service representative is ready to answer your questions and walk you through the process step by step.

MACPO would like to give a huge thank you to all our sponsors.

Please watch our website and future newsletters for new advertising for our sponsors. Logos and links to all our vendors can be found on our website, www.macpo.net.

MACPO 2025-2026 Elected Officers

Contact MACPO Secretary, Devin Petersen, Pine County Probation, for the location and time of MACPO Board meetings.

Executive Board

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Kevin Glass, Itasca County Probation
kevin.glass@co.itasca.mn.us

President – Elect

Rhonda VanSchoonhoven, Goodhue County Court Services
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President – Past

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