# Denver's Turn Over a New Leaf Program 

Safety, Housing, Education, \& Homelessness Committee April 24, 2019

## Marijuana Convictions

Mayor Michael B. Hancock signed on to a resolution on June 2018 at the U.S Conference of Mayors urging "local governments, where marijuana has been legalized, to act, moving with urgency to vacate misdemeanor marijuana convictions for conduct that is now deemed legal".

## Colorado: Marijuana Arrest Rates



## Disparities in marijuana arrests by race




## Turn Over a New Leaf Program Sponsors and Partners

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## Turn Over a New Leaf Program

- Over 10,000 cases potentially eligible
- Vacate, dismiss, and seal
- Case by case dismissal upon request
- Collaborative effort with Office of Marijuana Policy, City Attorney's Office, District Attorney's Office


## Turn Over A New

 Leaf Process
## 1. Intake

- The first step of the process is to fill out an intake form! You can do this in person when you check in at one of our four clinics [link], or you can expedite the process by filling out an online intake form here [link].
- Intake forms are available in English and Spanish.
- The intake forms will help our attorneys determine whether an you are eligble for the program.


## 2. Screening

- A special team of City Attorneys and District Attorneys will review your intake form for eligible convictions.


## 3. Notification of Eligibility

- Once an attorney has finished the screening, you will be notified of the results of the screening.
- If you are eligible, you will receive a written motion to sign and return to the attorney.
- If you are ineligible, you will be notified that you do not qualify for the program. However, you may consult with a private attorney for further guidance.
- Sometimes a screening attorney might need more information to determine eligibility. If this is the case, you will be contacted by the an attorney.

4. Motion

- If you are eligible for the program, you will be provided with a copy of the motion to vacate your conviction(s).
- You must sign and return this motion to the attorney in order to have your conviction considered for sealing!


## 5. Court Process

- A District Attorney or a City Attorney will file your signed motion with the Denver County Court within 1-2 business days.
- You do not have to pay the processing fee of $\$ 65.00$.
- A judge from the Denver County Court or Denver District Court will rule on the motion without a hearing.


## 6. Notification of Ruling

- The Court will notify you of the ruling on your motion.
- If your motion is granted, the Court will dismiss the charge, vacate the conviction, and order the record sealed.
- If your motion is not granted, you will be notified by the Court. You may wish to seek further guidance from a private attorney

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## 7. Record Sealing

- If your motion is granted, the Court will send the order to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- If your case appears in the criminal justice records in their custody, CBI will seal any records related to that conviction. You do not have to pay the CBI fee of $\$ 28$ to seal your CBI criminal justice record.
- If your case does not appear in the CBI criminal justice records, the sealing process is complete, unless your records are in the custody of any other custodian of record.

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- You may also provide the court order to any other custodian of your criminal justice records, and the custodian must then remove the records that are subject to the order. Additional fees may apply to have these records removed.


## Results (as of April 2019)



## Turn Over a New Leaf Eligibility Criteria

1. The defendant was convicted of an offense involving marijuana prior to Amendment 64; and
2. The conduct underlying the conviction is now legal; and
3. All of the charges that the defendant was convicted of in a case are eligible; and
4. The conviction occurred in Denver.

## Next Steps

## Montbello Clinic

- When: May 18, 2019
- Where: Denver Broncos Boys and Girls Club, 4397 Crown Blvd, Denver, CO 80239


## County and City Jail Training

- April-June 2019

Continued online application availability

## Thank You!

Web: Denvergov/Marijuanalnfo
Email: Marijuanalnfo@Denvergov.org

