Brooklyn Defender Services Seeks Assistance with Developing Know Your Rights Materials

Available

Project Title

Brooklyn Defender Services Seeks Assistance with Developing KYR Materials

Scope of Work

Timing

The work should be done within 2 months of staffing.

Jurisdiction

NYC, Federal

Contact Information

Please contact Guerby Noel (guerby@lawfirmantiracismalliance.org) & Molly Meltzer (mmeltzer@bds.org) if you are interested in taking on this matter.

Description

In NYC, juvenile records seal automatically for dismissals or findings in family court of "not responsible," but for adjudications as a Juvenile Delinquent (JD), records seal automatically to the public upon turning 16, though available to justice system participants. As a result, it requires motions to be filed in court when the youth turns 18 which for many reasons does not happen for every kid. For Youthful Offender (YO) adjudications, records seal automatically to everyone except the justice system and schools. For older offenses, adults can apply to seal up to two eligible convictions (one felony max) after 10 crime-free years under CPL 160.59, with ineligible offenses like violent felonies barred.

Unfortunately for our clients, questions around how to answer questions about arrests, juvenile delinquency findings and YO adjudications come up all the time for them and their families. We'd like a pro bono team to do some basic research on this issue and develop a mini-practice guide for BDS attorneys and social workers as well as a one-page 'know your rights' or information pamphlet/document we can provide to our clients at the completion of their cases.

Subtasks (0)