

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

Record Clearance Project

Changing lives...one petition at a time.



The RCP has changed my life. I have a new chance at seeing my full potential and new career opportunities opened because of you guys.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

- RCP Client



As we pass the torch of justice to the next RCP class, we will take with us our clients' stories of survival — beautiful fragments of fortitude that have transformed us into advocates of those whose voices need to be heard and whose rights need to be fought hard for.

Although we will need to move on, we will keep on looking back to this semester in our lives.

- RCP Student



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www.facebook.com/recordclearanceproject

[recordclearanceproject](https://www.instagram.com/recordclearanceproject)

Who we are

The SJSU Record Clearance Project (RCP) is the only undergraduate legal clinic in the country. Under attorney supervision, RCP students learn and apply legal skills to open doors to clients' new futures. In RCP's mentoring program, former clients whose records are cleared assist people leaving custody as they move forward.



RCP Mentors

I feel like a heavy burden has been lifted that I thought I was going to have to carry for a lifetime. Thank you for this life-changing gift.

- RCP Client

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Student Engagement

RCP's unique curriculum and program offers students advanced-level engagement with the community through the following courses:

- JS 140 Practical Legal Skills: Students learn a range of legal skills, including legal analysis, research, interviewing, writing and working with an interpreter.
- JS 180 Workshop: Advanced students guide JS 140 students in practicing concepts learned,
- JS 141 Representation: Students assist clients seeking to get their criminal convictions dismissed. Under attorney supervision, they apply their education to help people change their lives.
- JS 142 Community Engagement: Students work with people as they come out of custody to move forward with their lives.

The Record Clearance Project truly "changes lives, one petition at a time" and it has changed mine. I look forward to continuing being part of the team through volunteering and assisting and, no matter how far I'll go, I will always remember and come back.

Thank you for making me feel like I belong to something so great and wonderful.

- RCP Student

RCP Services

RCP students and a former client, accompanied by an attorney, give **legal rights presentations** to let people know about opportunities for their futures.

RCP students, under attorney supervision, provide **individual interviews** to review clients' records and advise them regarding their next steps in getting their California convictions cleared.

RCP provides **legal representation in court** to people with cases in Santa Clara County.

RCP **assists people leaving custody** with service navigation, guidance and support.

RCP teaches **Computers and the Internet classes** focused on employment searches to formerly incarcerated participants.

All RCP services are free.

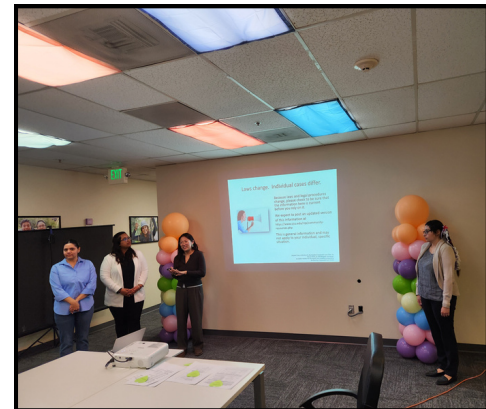


Project Supervisor Kanita Ilic, client and her husband

My journey of reintegration back into society after being formerly incarcerated has been a challenging yet transformative experience. I felt uncertain about how I would navigate the transition, but then I was introduced to the San Jose State Service Navigation Program.

At first, I was skeptical about how much they could really help me, but I quickly realized that this program was different. From the beginning, they made me feel welcome and understood. They didn't offer basic assistance; they provided the support I needed to rebuild my life step by step. ...

- RCP Mentoring client



RCP by the Numbers

The SJSU Record Clearance Project...

- Has a **99% success rate** across over **2,040 court petitions**.
- Has presented information regarding expungement law and procedure at over **500 community education presentations** to over **17,300 people** in the community and in custody.
- Has individually interviewed more than **2,700 people** at Record Review Interviews.
- Trained over **1,150 students** to use their education to assist others by providing legal services with compassion and respect.
- Since 2019 we have enrolled **912 service navigation clients** and **assisted with 15,237 linkages**.

Expungement ... is a gift not only to the individual, but a gift that affects the person's family and entire community.

- RCP Client



Expungement of criminal records leads to increased employment and housing opportunities as well as greater earning capacity, increased tax revenue, and reduction of reliance on public assistance payments.

The estimated benefits of expungement outweigh costs by about \$6,500, per person in one year.

-Senate Bill 1106 Section 1(m)



Bette & Dave Loomis, RCP students and staff after court

The program challenged me to look deep within myself and it made me believe that simple people like me do have the power to help others, if we have the right tools and guidance. I cannot begin to thank everyone involved in the project for making this happen.

- RCP Student