

STATE OF TEXAS

RESOLUTION

of the

TEXAS JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Public Trust and Confidence Committee Clean Slate Recommendations

WHEREAS, the Texas Judicial Council is the policymaking body for the Texas Judicial Branch, created under Chapter 71, Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Council is charged with improving the administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, the Public Trust and Confidence Committee was charged with studying ways to improve racial justice, equity, and inclusion in the justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Public Trust and Confidence Committee was charged with continuing to monitor public trust and confidence in the Texas Judiciary and recommend any necessary reforms to increase public support and respect; and

WHEREAS, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety, over 9 million Texans have some sort of criminal record; and

WHEREAS, although many individuals became eligible for an order of nondisclosure of criminal history record information under the 84th Legislature's SB 1902, many Texans continue to face records relief barriers; and

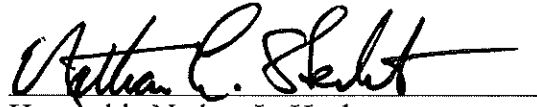
WHEREAS, records can create barriers to employment, housing, and education; and

WHEREAS, records sealing can help justice-involved Texans reintegrate into their communities, lessening the likelihood of future criminal activity;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas Judicial Council requests the Legislature:

1. Automate the record sealing process for people with first-time, non-serious misdemeanors who the Legislature has already deemed entitled to presumptive relief; and

2. Expand eligibility for petition-based record sealing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan L. Hecht", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Nathan L. Hecht
Chair, Texas Judicial Council