



NEWS RELEASE

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*Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project to Host
Free Legal Clinic on Thursday, August 21, 2025*

Hattiesburg, MS - The Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project is hosting a Fresh Start Family and Expungement Law Clinic to assist low income residents with their eligible legal matters. The event is scheduled for Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in Lakeview Room 1 at the Lake Terrace Convention Center. The address is 1 Convention Center Plaza, Hattiesburg, MS.

This legal clinic is open to the public. Persons seeking assistance are **strongly encouraged** to register in advance and be screened for eligibility by MVLP. Participants will receive court documents prepared by licensed Mississippi attorneys and/or legal advice on the following legal matters: uncontested divorce, uncontested guardianships, simple name changes, simple birth certificate corrections, advance healthcare directives, power of attorney documents, simple wills, and expungements. Participants will need to visit <https://mvlp.org/clinics> for a list of documents needed to attend the clinic.

Individuals seeking an expungement **must** bring their abstract (municipal/justice court), sentencing order (circuit court), indictment, Capias executed, Bench Warrant executed, and discharge document. **EXPUNGEMENT PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RECEIVE SERVICES IF THE PROPER DOCUMENTS ARE NOT OBTAINED PRIOR TO THE CLINIC.**

The legal clinics are *self representation* clinics, meaning the individuals who attend and receive services from the attorneys are empowered to handle their legal matters in court on their own. The pro bono attorney will not go to court with the participant. Eligibility to attend a clinic is limited to people whose income is at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. For example, that would be an annual income of \$31,300 or less for an individual, or an annual income of \$64,300 or less for a family of four, based on the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

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About MVLP

The [Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project \(MVLP\)](https://mvlp.org) is a 501(c) (3) legal nonprofit entity that was formed as a collaboration between the Mississippi Bar Association and the Legal Services Corporation to provide free legal services to low-income residents of Mississippi, for more than thirty-five years. Founded on the belief that everyone should have access to courts, MVLP's early efforts of reaching those in need were accomplished exclusively through directly representing clients. MVLP currently assists clients with civil legal matters, primarily in the following areas: uncontested divorces, emancipations, simple wills, adoptions, guardianships, name changes, birth certificate corrections, child support contempt matters, child support modifications, conservatorships and visitation matters.