

University of California, Los Angeles  
**RESEARCH INFORMATION SHEET**  
*California Expungement Study*

### **WHY IS THIS RESEARCH BEING DONE?**

California recently passed several laws enabling the expungement of criminal records. This study examines how one of these laws, for petition-based expungement, has been implemented in CA counties, the aspects that are working well, the challenges, and the experiences of people requesting expungement.

### **BACKGROUND**

Naomi Sugie from the sociology department at the University of California, Los Angeles and Dallas Augustine from the justice studies department at San Jose State University are leading this research study. This study is being funded by Crankstart Foundation in partnership with the nonprofit organization Californians for Safety and Justice. You were selected as a possible participant in this study because of your knowledge and experiences with petition-based expungement. Your participation in this research study is voluntary.

### **WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT A RESEARCH STUDY?**

- Someone will explain this research study to you.
- Whether or not you take part is up to you.
- You can choose not to take part.
- You can agree to take part and later change your mind.
- Your decision will not be held against you.
- You can ask all the questions you want before you decide.

### **HOW LONG WILL THE RESEARCH LAST AND WHAT WILL I NEED TO DO?**

Participation will consist of an interview, lasting about 30 minutes to 1 hour.

If you volunteer to participate in this study, the researcher will ask you questions about petition-based expungement in California. You may choose to skip questions and/or end the interview at any time.

### **ARE THERE ANY RISKS IF I PARTICIPATE?**

- There are no anticipated risks or discomforts related to the interview questions.
- If you chose to participate anonymously, there is a possibility of unintended disclosure of identifiable information. To mitigate this risk, research information is stored on a secure and password-protected university system.

### **ARE THERE ANY BENEFITS IF I PARTICIPATE?**

You will not directly benefit from your participation in the research.

The results of the research are intended to inform policy-relevant knowledge about the strengths and challenges of petition-based expungement in California.

### **What other choices do I have if I choose not to participate?**

Your alternative to participating in this research study is to not participate.

**AS A PROFESSIONAL WORKING ON EXPUNGEMENT, YOU WILL BE GIVEN A CHOICE ABOUT WHETHER YOUR PARTICIPATION IS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AND ANONYMIZED.**

**If you chose to keep your participation confidential:** how will information about me and my participation be kept confidential?

The researchers will do their best to make sure that your private information is kept confidential. Information about you will be handled as confidentially as possible, but participating in research may involve a loss of privacy and the potential for a breach in confidentiality. Study data will be physically and electronically secured. As with any use of electronic means to store data, there is a risk of breach of data security.

**Use of personal information that can identify you:**

If you chose to keep your participation confidential, your interview answers will be given a study number and will be linked to a separate code key with your name, contact information, and other identifying information that will be destroyed after data collection.

**How information about you will be stored:**

Interview transcripts and associated interview materials (audio/video recordings) will be stored and secured on a secure and password-protected university system. No data will be stored on portable devices.

**People and agencies that will have access to your information:**

The research team and authorized UCLA personnel may have access to study data and records to monitor the study. Publications and/or presentations that result from this study will not identify you by name, unless you chose to be identified.

Employees of the University may have access to identifiable information as part of routine processing of your information, such as lab work or processing payment. However, University employees are bound by strict rules of confidentiality.

## **USE OF DATA FOR FUTURE RESEARCH**

Your data may be kept for use in future research. These materials will be de-identified, unless you chose to be identified.

## **WILL I BE PAID FOR MY PARTICIPATION?**

You will not be paid for your participation in this research study.

## **WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS STUDY?**

**The research team:**

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about the research, you can talk to the one of the researchers. Please contact: Naomi Sugie at [nsugie@soc.ucla.edu](mailto:nsugie@soc.ucla.edu) or Dallas Augustine at [dallas.augustine@sjsu.edu](mailto:dallas.augustine@sjsu.edu).

## **UCLA Office of the Human Research Protection Program (OHRPP):**

If you have questions about your rights as a research subject, or you have concerns or suggestions and you want to talk to someone other than the researchers, you may

contact the UCLA OHRPP by phone: (310) 206-2040; by email: [participants@research.ucla.edu](mailto:participants@research.ucla.edu) or by mail: Box 951406, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1406.

**WHAT ARE MY RIGHTS IF I TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY?**

- You can choose whether or not you want to be in this study, and you may withdraw your consent and discontinue participation at any time.
- Whatever decision you make, there will be no penalty to you, and no loss of benefits to which you were otherwise entitled.
- You may refuse to answer any questions that you do not want to answer and still remain in the study.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?**

Yes  
 No

**DO YOU AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY?**

Yes  
 No

**ARE YOU WILLING TO BE AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO RECORDED (FOR TRANSCRIPTION PURPOSES ONLY)?**

Yes  
 No

**ARE YOU WILLING TO BE IDENTIFIED IN ANY RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC MATERIALS?**

Yes  
 No

*You will be given a copy of this information to keep for your records.*