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**DARCEL D. CLARK**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, BRONX COUNTY

198 EAST 161ST STREET  
BRONX, N.Y. 10451  
(718) 590-2234

**For Immediate Release**  
**September 12, 2016**

**“ANOTHER CHANCE” EVENT WILL BE HELD IN BRONX  
SPONSORED BY BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE,  
OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION AND LEGAL AID SOCIETY  
Will Help New Yorkers Resolve Open Warrants for Quality of Life Offenses**

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark announced today that her office will host the first summons warrant forgiveness program to be held in the Bronx, to help residents from all five boroughs clear their records and move on with their lives.

The “Another Chance” event, in partnership with the Office of Court Administration and the Legal Aid Society, will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mount Hope Community Center, 55 East 175<sup>th</sup> Street, in the Mount Hope section of the Bronx. A resource fair also will be held for participants.

District Attorney Clark said, “This is ‘Another Chance’ to clear your record and remove an obstacle in your life. If you have had a minor brush with the law such as drinking alcohol in public, trespassing, littering or unlawful possession of marijuana or any other quality-of-life offense and did not address it, you have a warrant. If you do not resolve these warrants, they can adversely affect many aspects of your life: they will show up when you apply for citizenship, for a job, or for an apartment in public housing. Even more significantly, you are subject to arrest and jail.”

Supervising Judge for Citywide Arraignments George Grasso said, “I commend Bronx County District Attorney Darcel Clark for launching this event – so aptly dubbed ‘Another Chance’ – which offers individuals with open arrest warrants for unanswered summonses an opportunity to clear their warrants, dispose of their cases and move on with their lives. I strongly encourage New Yorkers in the five boroughs who have outstanding warrants for minor infractions to avail themselves of this program.”

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Peter Jones, Attorney-in-Charge of Legal Aid Society’s Bronx Criminal Defense Practice, said, “It is a great opportunity for people in the community to address really low level offenses in a non-confrontational atmosphere where defenders from the Bronx Legal Aid Society will represent them. Efforts like this help build up communities by helping people remove needless hurdles to jobs, housing and assistance. Additionally, the resource fair connected with this event puts folks in touch with services and information that can really have a positive impact on families. We also cannot ignore the benefit this event has on reducing the huge number of needless warrants that traditionally are handled in the court system and have added to the already existing delays.”

Fritz Jean, CEO of the Mount Hope Housing Company, said, “I am happy to host this great program, because it is a first step to making lives better for people with infractions, and it makes it easier for police to do their job of putting the individuals who should be in the criminal justice system in the system.”

District Attorney Clark said similar events in other boroughs have helped thousands of people resolve their old summonses. There are more than a million open summons warrants citywide. A mobile courtroom will be created in the Mount Hope Community Center with two judges—Honorable Alvin Yearwood, Acting Bronx Supreme Court Justice, and Honorable Julio Rodriguez, Criminal Court Judge—and Legal Aid Society lawyers, and about 20 Assistant District Attorneys.

After the warrant has been vacated and erased from your record, there will be some 18 vendors providing information and resources on jobs, health care, and social services.

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