

# Kalamazoo Public Safety

## *News Release*

Date: April 17, 2019  
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### AMNESTY DAY

Kalamazoo, MI

On **Friday, May 17, 2019, from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**, the City of Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety, Kalamazoo County 8<sup>th</sup> District Court, Kalamazoo County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department, Kalamazoo County Friend of the Court, Michigan Works, and First Congregation Church will host the **2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL AMNESTY DAY**.

**PURPOSE:** Give citizens of the metro area of Kalamazoo an opportunity to address outstanding, low-level, nonviolent misdemeanor warrants and charges, with the goal of preventing incarceration.

**If you already have a scheduled arraignment or other Court date, Amnesty Day is not for you. This day is for individuals that ONLY have outstanding low-level nonviolent misdemeanor warrants.**

The Friend of the Court however will not address outstanding warrants during this event; however, they will be onsite to provide information about ways an individual may remedy their case and avoid incarceration.

#### First Step

- Arrive at First Congregational Church (located at 345 W. Michigan Avenue) between **1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.**, for the pre-screening process. Please use the main entrance on Michigan Avenue (do not park in the Church's parking lot).

#### Second Step

- After screening, they will be directed to a Courtroom at the 8th District Court (located next door, at 227 W. Michigan Avenue). While there, participants' warrants and criminal cases will be addressed by Court staff and prosecutors. Criminal defense attorneys will be available to offer counsel to participants throughout the entire process.

#### Third Step

- Once participants have addressed their pending warrants and/or charges, they will be directed to Bronson Park, where various social service agencies and other organizations will be available to assist in addressing some of the participants' quality of life issues. Additionally, Michigan Works has volunteered to organize various employers looking to interview interested participants.

**NOTE: The Court and prosecutors cannot promise that every case will be completed that day, but in those instances where participants cannot be accommodated, a future court date will be provided.**