

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS TO PROPOSED TRIAL COURT RULE XIV UNIFORM RULES ON ACCESS TO COURT RECORDS**

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The Committee received a number of letters from organizations and members of the public that were similar in nature and voiced similar concerns with Proposed Rule XIV. For ease of posting the public comments, these letters have been combined into a single document. Personal information such as cell phone numbers, mailing addresses, and e-mails have been redacted.

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**Please continue CORI Reform**

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**From :** Alan Epstein [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 04:04 PM

**Subject :** Please continue CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

Online criminal records can carry a heavy stigma that lasts much longer than the intended time period, especially for people who are not convicted of a crime. This does not increase citizen safety and stigmatizes people so they cannot play meaningful roles in society.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or

fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Please do not send us back to the dark ages.

Thank you.

Alan Epstein

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Alexis Rose [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 09:49 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
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Alexis Rose

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Alphonse Kamanzi [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 05:44 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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Alphonse Kamanzi

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From** : Amy Banelis [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 07:47 PM

**Subject** : Preserve CORI Reform**To** : rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To** : any banelis [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Amy Banelis

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Amy Scott [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 02:44 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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Amy Scott

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Ander Pierce [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 02:03 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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Ander Pierce

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Anne Auerbach [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 11:12 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Anne Auerbach

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Barb McIntosh [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 06:02 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

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Barb McIntosh

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Zimbra****rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us**

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**CORI Reform**

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**From :** Betsy [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 09:54 AM

**Subject :** CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

As a health spiritual care provider and prison volunteer, I have seen many people transform their lives from crime to positive purpose. CORI reform allows them to continue forward and not be held back. Doing time should be enough, CORI's should be sealed and not online. Give people another chance and put energy, staff and money into re-entry.

Thankyou for consideration, Betsy L Simmons

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Betty Lindsay [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 08:23 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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Betty Lindsay

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



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rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** carla brown [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 09:02 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

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carla brown

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Carmen Guhn-Knight [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 04:35 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

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Carmen Guhn-Knight

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Carol Tierney [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 06:57 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

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Carol Tierney

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Carrie Burke [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 12:08 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Carrie Burke

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Chris Dearborn [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 12:06 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
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- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Chris Dearborn

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Public Access to court Records**

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**From :** Chris McArdle [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 06:59 PM

**Subject :** Public Access to court Records**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** Chris McArdle [REDACTED]

Dear Justice Lauriat,

I write as a member of Brookline Prisoner Advocates, a group working to help make prison a rehabilitative process rather than one that dooms the rest of a person's life, together with that of their family.

The thought that there should be internet access to docket entries and court cases fills me with dismay. A charge, even one given in error or subsequently dropped, will live on by internet forever. The same applies to housing court issues.

I have been working hard on criminal justice reform issues the last two years. This would be a most devastating issue and affect more people than any other I have followed in that time.

I do hope you will continue to protect an individual's privacy and allow them to serve time, make restitution and then move forward with their lives rather than handicap them forever.

Christine McArdle

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Claire Barker [REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 08:47 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

Through my church, I am a member of UUMass Action and Jobs not Jails, and have supported prisoners both in College Behind Bars and after their release. The CORI reforms a few years ago have been very important in supporting men and women seeking to return to productive, contributing lives. The actions under consideration for internet access are a step backwards, and I urge you to reject them.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at

present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Claire Barker

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Please Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From** : Clinton Richmond [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 01:04 PM

**Subject** : Please Preserve CORI Reform**To** : rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To** : [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

Do not put housing court and criminal court records online.

Clinton Richmond  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Cornelia van der Ziel [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 06:43 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts' case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Cornelia van der Ziel

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Danielle O'Brien [REDACTED]

Fri, May 06, 2016 12:12 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

Honorable Judge Lauriat,

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I am writing this letter as someone who works for ATR, a program that supports people with incarceration and substance abuse history to overcome barriers and succeed through the early recovery process. My clients have made a decision to change and receive treatment, but the process is not an easy one. I am also in recovery and have a CORI and I have changed my life. My clients are from various racial backgrounds, ages and ethnicities. Many have been inadvertently swept up in an opiate epidemic due to overwhelming access to Oxycontin years ago, which segwayed a generation of young adults from drinking and pill experimentation with no record or issues with law enforcement into full blown heroin addiction and incarceration. That is also my story, as well as many of my peers in Boston, which, as a community, is being devastated by the overdose epidemic. Unfortunately, time and again, I see my clients sincerely attempting to change, as I did, but their past (CORI, lack of vocational skills, support, education or basic computer skills) causes them to give up. I had a Bachelors degree, a supportive parent, a place to live while I got on my feet and a resume/work experience and shaking the stigma and acclimating back into the community was still difficult.

Many of the clients I meet are literally a couple of supports away from becoming taxpaying, productive members of society, helping the next person, paying child support, volunteering in the community and reunifying with family. I have witnessed this transformation numerous times and know that change is possible, but not if the individual's future is being determined by their past.

I believe that online access to records will create yet another barrier to change in a society where a drug problem has created numerous non-violent offenders, convicted on felony charges, that are directly related to substance abuse. As a

society, I believe that encouraging and fostering healthy change, treatment and employment is key and public criminal records could destroy that.

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system. I would also like to note this would hurt people of any color in lower class or urban communities or people with substance abuse issues who, left untreated, end up in the criminal justice system, but who, when treated, rarely engage in criminal activity and can be productive members of society.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Thank you again. I hope you will give this all due consideration.  
Sincerely,

Danielle O'Brien

Danielle O'Brien

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Danielle Owen [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 06:56 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
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- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Danielle Owen

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Public Access to Court Records**

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**From :** David Klafter [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 10:13 PM

**Subject :** Public Access to Court Records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Dear Justice Lauriat,

As someone very involved with criminal justice reform, and who was very encouraged by CORI reform, I am writing to express my dismay at the idea of all court records being open to public online access.

This would undo all the positive effects of Cori reform, make even small early transgressions follow a person for life, and make much more difficult the transition to normal life for all ex-offenders.

Further, given the very disproportionate arrest and incarceration rates for people of color, this policy would have a discriminatory effect. It would work against all recent attempts to remove the stain of racism from our criminal justice system, which has been one of its features since the earliest days of the republic.

Privacy is one of our basic rights, and one that is increasingly threatened in the digital age. I hope you will continue to protect this right, and not act to make even a minor offense have life-long negative consequences.

David Klafter  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Deborah Porter [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 08:56 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
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- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Deborah Porter

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** [REDACTED]

Fri, Apr 29, 2016 09:29 AM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of myself, individually, and as a member of the Criminal Justice Reform group at Congregation Dorshei Tzedek in Newton. I live in Wayland where I have a legal practice.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it

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Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Denise Yurkofsky

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Devon Davidson [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 03:24 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Devon Davidson

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** [REDACTED]

Fri, Apr 29, 2016 06:17 PM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I write to oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released

online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;

Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access.

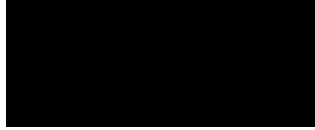
We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system (like virtually all systems) often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws.

For all these reasons, all these records should not be online.

Sincerely,

Donna Savicki



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Cori law**

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**From :** [REDACTED]

Sat, Apr 30, 2016 11:11 AM

**Subject :** Cori law**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.



Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.



Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;



Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.



Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level



of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

*Sincerely*

*Dr. Araya Fast*

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Earnest Steadman [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 12:10 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
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We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Earnest Steadman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Eileen Kurkoski [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 01:27 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

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Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Eileen Kurkoski

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From** : elizabeth mullaney [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 09:15 PM

**Subject** : Preserve CORI Reform**To** : rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To** : [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

elizabeth mullaney

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Elizabeth Rucker [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 09:56 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a



mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Elizabeth Rucker

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Emily Berg [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 04:53 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Emily Berg

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** susan crossley [REDACTED]

Sun, May 01, 2016 08:58 PM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of EMIT (End Mass Incarceration Together) We are an organization of Unitarian Universalists with a common goal of bringing about prison reform, so desperately needed.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way. Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever; Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong

and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Susan Crossley

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Francis Curren [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 12:10 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Francis Curren

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**CORI records should not be publicly available**

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**From :** Fred Nothnagel [REDACTED]

Sun, May 01, 2016 10:54 AM

**Subject :** CORI records should not be publicly available**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** Fred Nothnagel [REDACTED]

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair, Public Access to Court Records Committee:

I write to oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public. Such records carry a heavy stigma and will result in much harm, particularly in communities of color, due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them. They live in cyberspace forever. Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs. If employers check applicants' CORI records, former offenders will likely not be interviewed.

Internet release of CORI information presents legal problems as well.

- It undermines our sealing laws that intend sealing to be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit immediate sealing of non-convictions
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

In addition, online access to housing court by the public creates homelessness, since tenants are often blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases.

Having housing court and criminal court records online also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection

Thus, all these records should not be online.

Sincerely,



Frederick P. Nothnagel



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Gilly Burlingham [REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 07:46 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Gilly Burlingham

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Guy Rossman [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 10:02 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Guy Rossman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** H. Graham Allen [REDACTED] Mon, May 02, 2016 05:23 PM**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

H. Graham Allen

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Jamal Diggs [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 02:24 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.



Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Jamal Diggs

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Please do not allow public online access to criminal records**

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**From :** Jane A Current [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 02:11 PM

**Subject :** Please do not allow public online access to criminal records**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am on my religious congregation's action team to end unjust mass incarceration. Also, as the mother of an older teen son with learning disabilities and behavioral health concerns who has engaged in risky behavior, from personal experience I have seen how young adults' futures can suffer from the (mistaken) perception that they have been court-involved or committed a crime.

My group opposes any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they can take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- § Internet access to records will especially hurt people in communities of color and deepen poverty owing to the racial disparities in the criminal justice system.
- § Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it can live forever.
- § Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

Similarly, I oppose continued online access to housing court information by the public

because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database, even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases.

Finally, having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system can have errors. Providing online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors, and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[REDACTED]

Respectfully,  
Jane Current

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Jane A. Current

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Jean Trounstone [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 04:35 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Jean Trounstone

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Jennifer DeBarros [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 09:35 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Jennifer DeBarros

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** jennifer fauteux [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 07:25 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a



mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

jennifer fauteux

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Jim Hansen [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 02:56 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Jim Hansen

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Joel Wool [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 11:02 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Joel Wool

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** John Bowman [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 06:06 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

John Bowman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Judy Goldberger [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 05:58 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

! oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.



Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Judy Goldberger

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** June McKnight [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 06:29 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

June McKnight

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Katrina Coleman [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 10:47 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Katrina Coleman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Oppose online access to criminal records from trial court by the public**

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**From :** Lauren K Gibbs [REDACTED]

Fri, Apr 29, 2016 10:19 AM

**Subject :** Oppose online access to criminal records from trial court  
by the public**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing to oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

§ Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

§ Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;

§ Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

§ Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of

access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing. The same is true for Cambridge.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Lauren K Gibbs  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Leslie Walker [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 09:15 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a



mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Leslie Walker

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Liam Lane [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 08:51 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Liam Lane

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Liliana Ibara [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 11:26 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Liliana Ibara

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Linda Kosinski [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 01:38 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Linda Kosinski

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet access to court records**

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**From :** Lois Markham [REDACTED]

Fri, Apr 29, 2016 12:30 PM

**Subject :** Internet access to court records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am chair of the Social Action Committee of North Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Danvers, MA.

I am writing to state my opposition to any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own.

Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever.

Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.



[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Lois Markham

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Online access to criminal records**

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**From :** Madeleine Cousineau [REDACTED]

Fri, Apr 29, 2016 11:56 AM

**Subject :** Online access to criminal records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair Public Access to Court Records Committee Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor Three Pemberton Square Boston, MA 02108  
Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing because of a concern about measures that would undermine the recent CORI reform.

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Sincerely,

Madeleine Cousineau

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Letter in opposition to online publication of CORI records**

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**From :** Marjorie Salvodon [REDACTED]

Tue, May 10, 2016 11:40 AM

**Subject :** Letter in opposition to online publication of CORI records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are discriminated against by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

mar Marjorie Salvodon

"Mais les yeux sont aveugles. Il faut voir avec le coeur."  
Le Petit prince

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** marlene pollock [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 12:39 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

marlene pollock

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**SLIPPERY SLOPE: Internet and CORI law**

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**From :** MaryAnn Adams [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 08:50 AM

**Subject :** SLIPPERY SLOPE: Internet and CORI law**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair**

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records


Dear Justice Lauriat:

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy

stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts

people in harm's way. People are not criminals for life. People can and are reformed. Humanity is not well served by this proposed ruling.

 Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial

disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.  Internet release of criminal record information on the

trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released

online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;  Internet release of information undermines with our sealing

laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without



waiting.



Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level

of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many

tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing

wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records

contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case

management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking

companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection

laws. Thank you for reviewing this as a humanitarian, do not damage individual rights for life with this proposed ruling.

Sincerely,

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In peace

Mary Ann Adams

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Honorable Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am the Coordinator of the Mass Incarceration Working Group of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington. Our mission is to help build a movement to help end mass incarceration in Massachusetts and we work in coalition with many other groups and individuals. In March 2015 we hosted a workshop on recently filed legislation that was attended by 200 people, and we have developed a statewide email list of 600 people. This year we have focused on educating ourselves and others about restorative justice.

We are aware of proposals to expand online access to criminal records and are concerned about these proposals because these records carry a heavy stigma. While we understand the ease and convenience of making records available online, we all know that information on the Internet can take on a life of its own and is impossible to fully correct if it is in error.

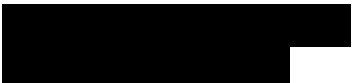
Internet release of information would undermine sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 or 10 years and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting. Online access to docket sheets would be contrary to CORI laws that limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We are also concerned that online data would exacerbate the harm done by criminal background checking companies that too often produce reports that are out of date, contain errors, and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Internet release of criminal record information would make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs, and it risks deepening poverty in communities of color due to racial disparities in the criminal justice system.

We also oppose continued public online access to Housing Court data because landlords use them to screen tenants. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units, which is the root cause of overcrowding and homelessness. In an excessively competitive housing market, tenants may be blacklisted by landlords for having a case in the Housing Court database, even if the tenants did nothing wrong.

We hope you will carefully balance desires for transparency and efficiency with the need to protect vulnerable people.

Sincerely,

Lori Kenschaft  
Coordinator, Mass Incarceration Working Group  
First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington  


## **Massachusetts Communities Action Network (MCAN)**

**150 Mt. Vernon Street, Suite 200 E Boston, MA 02125**

**(617) 822-1499 (office) [www.mcan-pico.org](http://www.mcan-pico.org)**

April 29, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of Massachusetts Communities Action Network (MCAN). Our group was one of the leaders of the Commonwealth CORI Coalition that played a big role in passage of the CORI Reform Law of 2010. We are a statewide, faith based community improvement organization.

CORI is such a burden to ex-prisoners getting jobs and this proposal will make it easier for employers access even sealed CORI records which undermines the whole point of the CORI legislation that specifically shortened the time that ex-prisoners could apply to get CORI records sealed from employers.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing

laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

I can be reached at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Lewis Finfer  
Director

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Mehreen Butt [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 09:16 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Mehreen Butt

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Melissa Jacobs [REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 05:44 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Melissa Jacobs

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]





Metro Boston Recovery Learning Community  
Solomon Carter Fuller Building  
85 E. Newton Street, Ground Floor  
Boston, MA 02118

May 4, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of the Metro Boston Recovery Learning Community, an organization entirely staffed by people in recovery from mental health and addictions. We are funded by the Department of Mental Health and are a program of Boston Medical Center. We operate five recovery centers in the Boston Area and a peer support line open 7 days a week from 4pm-8pm. Our website is [www.mbrlc.org](http://www.mbrlc.org) and our email is [info@mbrlc.org](mailto:info@mbrlc.org)

We have helped hundreds of people with mental illness return to work. We have also hired many people with mental illness to work for us. We have had applications with CORI issues but in many cases have been able to hire them anyway if the charges were in the past and not serious.

We are concerned that if CORI data is posted online and people get their records sealed the public would have access to that information which would make it harder for people to obtain employment.



Sincerely,

Howard D. Trachtman, BS, CPS, CPRP

Metro Boston Recovery Learning Community and Southeast Recovery  
Learning Community Leadership Team and Director of  
Constituent Affairs  
c/o Solomon Carter Fuller DMH  
GROUND FLOOR  
85 East Newton Street  
Boston, MA 02118-2340

April 29, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of the Multicultural Competencies Task Force at the North Parish of North Andover, Unitarian Universalist. Our group is committed to increasing multicultural competency, awareness and understanding based on our principle of valuing the inherent worth and dignity of every person. In particular, we hope to break down some of the institutional practices that discriminate against people of color.

Especially given that our criminal justice system disproportionately punishes African Americans and Latinos, we oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many

tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units, and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Sincerely,

Deb Olander  
Co-Chair, Multicultural Competencies Task Force  
North Parish of North Andover Unitarian Universalist

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Nancy Wrenn [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 05:00 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Nancy Wrenn

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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# NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

Massachusetts Education Fund

May 1, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of [list name of your program). [Give a brief summary of the work your organization does].

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public



because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erin O'Leary".

Erin O'Leary  
Legislative coordinator  
Neighbor to Neighbor

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** NK Acevedo [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 10:30 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

NK Acevedo

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Please don't put criminal records on line in MA**

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**From :** Patty Shepard [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 11:05 AM

**Subject :** Please don't put criminal records on line in MA**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.



Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.



Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed

formerly incarcerated people to get jobs ;



Internet release of information undermines

laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.



Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws

which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date,

contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection

laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Patricia Shepard*



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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Patricia Wild [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 04:42 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Patricia Wild

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Peggy Newman [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 08:18 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

Our recidivism rate is high enough without easy access to criminal records making employment, housing and acceptance in our communities even more difficult.

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable

housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Peggy Newman

[REDACTED]

Peggy Newman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Peter Costanza [REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 04:16 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

I oppose online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it becomes indelible.
- Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requester level of access, the type of disposition, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

\* I oppose continued online access to housing court records by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won their cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

\* Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws.

Peter Costanza

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us


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**Online CORI Records**

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**From :** Priyanka Gogia [REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 03:20 PM

**Subject :** Online CORI Records 2 attachments**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of my workplace, Project Place. Here at Project Place, we serve homeless and low-income men and women who want to get back into the workplace. Many of these men and women have CORI's. We see firsthand what the effects of a criminal record are on obtaining employment. Nowadays, it is difficult enough to obtain a good job, let alone if you have a CORI. CORI sealing has been an invaluable resource to many of these clients, as many of the crimes they committed were related to substance abuse and/or when they were much younger. Our clients want to succeed, and have come a long way to do so. Access to criminal records online would erase the purpose of sealing a CORI, make it easier for employers to make harsh judgments against

individuals with CORI's, and add another barrier to the already difficult and complicated process of re-entry into society from incarceration.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

§ Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

§ Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;

§ Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

§ Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in

Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] Please let  
me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Priyanka Gogia*  
*Instructor/Case Manager*  
Project Place  
1145 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02118



May 4<sup>th</sup> 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of [list name of your program]. [Give a brief summary of the work your organization does].

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the

charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

I can be reached at [phone/ email).

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Schur and the Project Place staff and community

**Jocelyn Schur**  
Career Coordinator  
Project Place  
1145 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02118

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[www.projectplace.org](http://www.projectplace.org)



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** Adella Ryan [REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 04:34 PM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records

📎 1 attachment

**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>May 4<sup>th</sup> 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of Project Place. Project Place is a non-profit agency in the South End. Our job training programming helps to foster skill development and build confidence in order to help individuals obtain employment. All programs at Project Place include the following supportive, personalized, wrap around services: Case management, Computer Training, Life & Career Skills Training, Career Coaching, Educational Assessment & Tutoring, Daily Lunches and Follow-up Services for up to 2 years.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

§ Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

§ Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;

§ Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

§ Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the Mass Courts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

*Adella Ryan*

Computer Instructor/Case Manager

Project Place

1145 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02118

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Rachel Corey [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 10:35 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Rachel Corey

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Rachel Webb [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 02:49 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Sincerely,  
Rachel Webb

Rachel Webb

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Lois Ahrens [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 08:50 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

The Real Cost of Prisons Project, opposes any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Lois Ahrens

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Rev. Kate Stevens [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 05:27 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Rev. Kate Stevens

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** Charlotte Simpson [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 11:31 AM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Dear Justice Lauriat:

On behalf of Restorative Justice: RSVP, a pre and post release program for violent offenders, to oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public.

Returning citizens have done their time and should not continue to be punished. Access to this information is contrary to CORI laws. It hurts job seekers as well as people trying to get housing.

Thank you.

Charlotte Simpson  
RSVP Advocate  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Richard DIGGS [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 03:46 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Richard DIGGS

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Ronald Hansen [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 10:11 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Ronald Hansen

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Ros Winsor [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 12:30 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.



Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Ros Winsor

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Rosemary Walton [REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 09:42 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Rosemary Walton

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** Lederman, Ruth I. [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 11:05 AM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records**To :** 'rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us' <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat,  
Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

May 2, 2016

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of myself to express my opposition to any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

§ Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

§ Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;

§ Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

§ Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the Mass Courts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Thank you. [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Ruth Lederman

Ruth Lederman, MPH  
Survey and Data Management Core  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
450 Brookline Ave LW-601  
Boston, MA 02215  
617-632-2189

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Sam Feldman [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 06:48 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

My name is Sam Feldman, and I am a resident of [REDACTED] and a supporter of criminal justice reform. I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Sincerely,  
Sam Feldman

[REDACTED]

Sam Feldman

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Samuel Schwartz [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 11:24 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Samuel Schwartz

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** sandy goodman [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 09:55 AM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair, Public Access to Court Records  
Committee

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing to express my concern about allowing online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

I work in the field of adult basic education and workforce development, and the use of CORI by prospective employers to preemptively screen out qualified, rehabilitated job applicants makes it almost impossible for formerly incarcerated members of our community to rebuild their lives.

- § Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- § Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- § Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- § Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

I can be reached at 617-522-6535 or s\_goodman@hotmail.com

Sincerely,

Sandy Goodman

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Sarah Carter [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 11:51 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

I was informed of the danger to Cori laws by the proposed changes through a social justice group at my church- United Parish Church.

I oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
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- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

I oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes

it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors.

Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Sarah Carter

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** SARANIA LAZAR lazar [REDACTED]

Tue, May 03, 2016 05:46 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

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Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

SARANIA LAZAR lazar

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Shane Williams [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 08:10 AM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Shane Williams

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



May 4, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing as a supporter of the Jobs not Jails Coalition, in my role as Social Action Co-Chair at Temple Hillel B'nai Torah. We have an ongoing priority to work for criminal justice reform in Massachusetts to reduce mass incarceration and to change policies that make it difficult for those convicted to have productive lives when they finish their sentences.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- § Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- § Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- § Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- § Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

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Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data

will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

[Redacted]

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherry Flashman". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Sherry Flashman

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Shiela Estelle Record-Stanley  
[REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 07:25 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
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We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Shiela Estelle Record-Stanley

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From :** Stacey Cordeiro [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 04:22 PM

**Subject :** Preserve CORI Reform**To :** rules comments  
<rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Stacey Cordeiro

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Preserve CORI Reform**

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**From** : Susan McCourt [REDACTED]

Thu, May 05, 2016 10:02 PM

**Subject** : Preserve CORI Reform**To** : rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>**Reply To** : susan m mccourt [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a

mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Susan McCourt

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**less barriers, real reform**

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**From :** Susan Tordella [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 02:18 PM

**Subject :** less barriers, real reform**To :** rules comments

&lt;rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us&gt;

**Reply To :** [REDACTED]

Peter Lauriat,

We must make it EASIER not harder for people post-incarceration. A CORI record does NOT need to be broadcast all over the internet. Give people a chance. DO NOT approve this inane proposal. It costs EVERYONE in the long run when people are not allowed to become law-abiding citizens.

We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
- Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;
- Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.
- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by

landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

Susan Tordella

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**Internet Access to Court Records**

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**From :** suzette abbott [REDACTED]

Mon, May 02, 2016 12:59 PM

**Subject :** Internet Access to Court Records**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108  
Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:


As a volunteer at the Prison Book Program I am writing to oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.




Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.



Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever;

 Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting.

 Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.

I can be reached at [phone/ email).

Sincerely, Suzette Abbott

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Zimbra

rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us

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**From :** Whitney-Sarles, Sandra [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Wed, May 04, 2016 03:58 PM

**Subject :** <No Subject>**To :** rules comments <rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us>

Sandra Whitney Sarles, Director  
The Southeast Recovery Learning Community  
May 3, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of The Southeast Recovery Learning Community. We are a mental health support organization that is totally run by peers, persons diagnosed with mental health issues, that supports the recovery of other peers through a variety of groups and activities.

We have six sites in Southeastern Massachusetts which serve a diverse population including those who are dually diagnosed with mental health and addiction issues. We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way. Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system. Internet release of criminal record information on the trial court website will make it harder for many unemployed people to get jobs because once information is released online, it has a life of its own and lives on forever; Internet release of information undermines with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after 5 and 10 years, and permit sealing of non-convictions without waiting. Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.

We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing

Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing. Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the Mass Courts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sincerely, Sandra Whitney Sarles

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Kris Willcox Consulting*



We believe our faith calls us to change the world!

April 29, 2016

Hon. Peter M. Lauriat, Chair

Public Access to Court Records Committee

Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor

Three Pemberton Square

Boston, MA 02108

Re: Internet Access to Court Records

Dear Justice Lauriat:

I am writing on behalf of Unitarian Universalist Mass Action Network. UU Mass Action is the State Faith Action Network for the 20,000 Unitarian Universalists who live in Massachusetts. We live our values by taking action in social justice issues.


We oppose any online access to criminal records from the trial court by the general public because these records carry a heavy stigma. Once records are online, there is no way to retrieve them and they take on a life of their own. This repeatedly puts people in harm's way.

- Internet access to records will hurt countless people in communities of color and deepen poverty due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.
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- Access to docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on the requestor's level of access, the type of disposition nature, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor.
- We oppose continued online access to housing court by the public because at present, landlords use them to screen tenants. Many tenants are blacklisted by landlords simply for having a case in the Housing Court database even when the tenants did nothing wrong and won the cases. Boston lacks sufficient affordable housing units and online access to housing court records contributes to homelessness and makes it even harder for families to obtain housing.

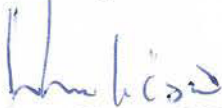
PO Box 224, Greenbush, MA 02040-0224 | 617-971-8731 | [www.uumassaction.org](http://www.uumassaction.org)  
Laura Wagner LICSW Executive Director, [lwagner@uumassaction.org](mailto:lwagner@uumassaction.org)



Having housing court and criminal court records online for anyone to view also is a mistake because the MassCourts case management system often has errors. Provision of online data will worsen bad practices of criminal background checking companies that already produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with consumer protection laws. Thus, all these records should not be online.



Sincerely,



Laura Wagner LICSW  
Executive Director



*Veterans Legal Services is  
proud to be a  
2014 Social Innovator*

May 4, 2016

**Via Email**

Judge Peter M. Lauriat, Chair  
Public Access to Court Records Committee  
Superior Court Administrative Office, 13th Floor  
Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108  
[rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us](mailto:rules.comments@jud.state.ma.us)

**Re: Criminal Cases and Internet Access to Docket Entries and Court Files**

Dear Chairman Lauriat:

I am writing as the Co-Executive Director of Veterans Legal Services. Our organization assists homeless and low income veterans with a variety of civil legal issues, focusing on helping veterans resolve legal barriers to stable housing, economic security, and healthy families. In our practice we frequently encounter veterans who have had some form of involvement with the criminal justice system and as a result have a criminal record. These veterans have typically worked hard to overcome substance abuse issues and mental health challenges and are seeking to rebuild their lives and transition from homelessness to stability.

While the availability of criminal cases online may provide a convenience for some, it would be detrimental for many of our clients who we assist with concurrent civil legal issues. For several veterans we serve, it would also be directly counter to the rehabilitative efforts of the Veterans Treatment Courts whose intensive probation programs can be life-changing for veterans whose criminal issues arise due to the lasting impact of their military service. The participation of these veterans in the Treatment Court, while technically a matter of public record, is nonetheless highly sensitive. Often the ability to resolve a criminal issue with a non-conviction is the motivation these veterans need to seek help for the first time with issues like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or Traumatic Brain Injury, both of which impact a large proportion of veterans and can often lead to legal issues.

Those who have served our country and the Commonwealth should have the full benefit of our laws concerning sealing and restricting access to criminal record information, particularly in cases resulting in a non-conviction. These protections will be lost if criminal case records are made available online and can be readily reposted by unreliable, unregulated online companies, against which many veterans would have no meaningful recourse if inaccurate information cost them a job or housing opportunity.

Veterans Legal Services opposes online access to criminal records from the Trial Court website for the following reasons:

- Internet release of criminal record data by the Trial Court will hurt many unemployed people already suffering because they have a past criminal record or dismissed case;
- Once information is released online, it can live on forever, regardless of its accuracy;
- Release of the information online conflicts with our sealing laws that intend that sealing be available after a 5 or 10 year wait, and permit sealing of non-convictions without any waiting periods;
- Access to any docket sheets online is contrary to our CORI laws which limit access to data based on a requestor's level of access, the disposition of the case (guilty, not guilty, dismissed, etc.) , incarceration, and whether the charge was felony or misdemeanor;
- Court records often have errors and there is no straightforward process for a pro se litigant to correct them;
- Access to online data will fuel the large industry of criminal background checking companies that already are under-regulated, and produce reports that are out of date, contain errors and/or fail to comply with FTC and other consumer protections;
- Many data mining companies do not tell data subjects that they produced a report on them and claim they are not subject to FTC or other consumer laws because they have a check off box for users that states the report will not be used for improper purposes or unlawful denials;
- Opening access too easily subjects former defendants to potential vindictiveness and retaliation;
- Other people, who similarly, were falsely accused, can be further harassed by easy access to docket sheets online from the Trial Court; and
- Internet access to records will deepen poverty in communities of color due to the racial disparities that exist in the criminal justice system.

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Anna Schleelein Richardson, Esq.  
*Co-Executive Director*