



2025 Annual Report to the Legislature

1/13/2026

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As requested by Minnesota Statute 3.197: This report cost approximately \$1,179 to prepare including staff time.

Upon request, this material will be made available in an alternative format such as print, large print, Braille or audio recording.

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I. BACKGROUND

In 2023, the Adult-Use Cannabis Act was passed, eliminating certain cannabis-related offenses. The Act established the Cannabis Expungement Board (CEB) to review eligible felony and certain misdemeanor cannabis-related conviction/stay of adjudication records and determine whether the records should be expunged under the standards of the statute and a conviction vacated and dismissed, or if resentencing to a lesser offense is appropriate.

II. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

The CEB consists of five voting members, an executive director, and support staff. The board members are the chief justice of the supreme court or designee; the attorney general or designee; one public defender; appointed by the governor upon recommendation of the state public defender; the commissioner of corrections or designee; and one public member appointed by the governor with relevant experience as an advocate for victim's rights.

III. CASE REVIEW AND PROTOCOLS

There are approximately 110,000 individual files, per data pulled by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), that need to be reviewed by the CEB to determine eligibility.

The CEB has established protocols for case review and continues to work with the Minnesota Judicial Branch to create a determination process as well as a recipient notification process.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The CEB is working to ensure timely and accurate public information is available about the CEB's work and how potential recipients can request review for expungement consideration. A new website was launched that provides accessible information and an online intake form. Additionally, CEB staff attended expungement clinics and community events. A public educational forum was held for expungement practitioners.

V. BOARD MEETINGS

Per the statute, the CEB meets monthly to conduct the business of the board. Public meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. The schedule can be found on the CEB's website.

VI. ANNUAL REPORTING DATA

Through the end of 2025, the CEB has completed a preliminary review of 6,171 files. The Board voted to vacate, dismiss and expunge 574 files, and the Board voted to deny relief on two files. There are over 98,000 cases remaining to be reviewed. In addition, significant time has been invested in identifying relevant data that is needed to determine eligibility for case review and how to obtain that data.