

EVENT GUIDE

National Day of Civic Hacking

Boston 2019: Focusing on criminal justice

Welcome!

Welcome to the [National Day of Civic Hacking](#)! As a participant in [Code for Boston](#)'s banner event, you will work with fellow coders, designers, and residents to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing our community today.

This year we are partnering with [Citizens for Juvenile Justice](#) to help people impacted by the criminal justice system, specifically around [record clearance](#). Having a criminal record can make many aspects of daily life challenging for returning citizens. Massachusetts recently passed its own criminal justice reform law, but now we need your help to make this process easier and inform eligible people that they have this option. No matter what path you choose, the work you do today will help people build a better life tomorrow.

Agenda

- **9:30am** Doors open, light breakfast
- **10:00am** Opening remarks from Code for Boston
- **10:15am** Guest keynote
- **10:45am** Project introductions
- **11:00am** Hacking
- **12:30pm** Lunch is served
- **3:30pm** Presentations start
- **4:15pm** Doors close

Get set up

Slack

One of the easiest ways to collaborate is to join our Slack. Go to slack.codeforboston.org and enter your email - you will be sent the magic link to sign up.

Once you are in, join the **#national-day-2019 channel** for updates and conversation about the event. As teams form, you should feel free to create your own channels with the prefix **#ndoch2019-[team name here]**.

Code of Conduct

Code for Boston is committed to provide a safe, fun, and productive environment at our events, where all are welcome to participate in making Boston a better place to live and work.

Accordingly, all Code for Boston events are governed by our [Code of Conduct](#). To report a Code of Conduct violation, [please contact a member of the leadership team](#).

Twitter / Social Media

If you are one who Tweets, here's how to participate in the national conversation around National Day of Civic Hacking. Follow or tweet at these hashtags:

- [#NationalDayofCivicHacking](#)
- [#CfABrigade](#)

You can also follow us and our partners at:

- [@CodeForBoston](#)
- [@CodeForAmerica](#)
- [@CFJJMA](#)

Technology choices

For coding projects, Code for Boston is *mostly* technology- and programming language-agnostic as a community. We generally believe that development teams can pick the best tools for the job they're trying to do, and we've had projects done in Python, Ruby, Javascript and many more languages. Our only real rule is that the language choices be open source, and that projects utilize some open-source license (we recommend [the MIT license](#)).

For version control, we use Github, [which you can find here](#). If you need a repo for your project at some point, let us know and we'll set you up.

Other logistics

Food

A light breakfast, lunch, and *plenty* of coffee will be provided. We're unfortunately unable to provide for certain specific dietary needs (kosher, gluten-free), but are happy to make local recommendations.

Photography and livestream

All Code for Boston events are on the record by default. Participants should be aware that they may be quoted, photographed, videotaped and otherwise recorded. We will announce when taking pictures of the entire room. If you do not wish to be photographed, please attach a red dot to your name tag (provided at signup).

Let a core team member know if you're being photographed against your wishes, and always feel free to (politely!) interrupt a photograph in progress to let them know your preference. Exceptions must be agreed to by all parties present in a conversation in order for the conversation to be off the record.

We will be livestreaming content from the morning presentations and the afternoon demos, and this livestream will be promoted on social media channels.

Working in this space

Our friends at [iZotope](#) have graciously allowed us to hold this event in their office. Please be conscientious and respectful of your surroundings as you move through the space over the course of the day, and please stay within the areas set for the event.

If you need help...

Have a question about the event? Need to know where the bathrooms are? Want a GitHub repo? Have a Code of Conduct concern or a safety issue? Our team is here to help you.

On Slack

You can always use the **#ask-cfb** channel in our Slack for general questions. You can also tag **@coreteam** in any channel to alert our leadership about a question. For private concerns, send a DM to any of us individually (listed below).

By Email

hello@codeforboston will go to our entire leadership team

In person

Please feel free to reach out to any or all of use with concerns, questions, ideas - anything at all. We're here to make this event fun, productive, focused, and safe.

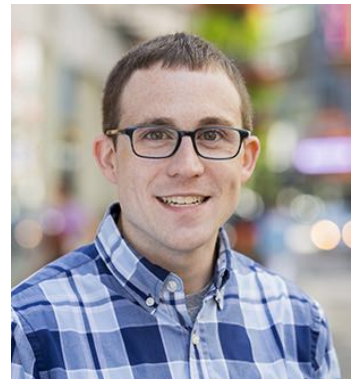
Harlan Weber

On Slack: @harlanw
Email: hweber@codeforamerica.org
On Twitter: @WheresHJ



Matt Zagaja

On Slack: @Matthew Zagaja
Email: mattz@codeforboston.org
On Twitter: @mzagaja



Alex Merritt

On Slack: @andermerritt
Email: alex@codeforboston.org



Cristen Jones On Slack: @cristen Email: contact@thecristen.net On Twitter: @thecristen	
Andrew Seeder On Slack: @andrew Email: andrew@codeforboston.org On Twitter: @oyveyistmir_	
Jonathan Marcus On Slack: @jonathan Email: jonathan@codeforboston.org On Twitter: @zzyyfff	
Thad Kerosky On Slack: @thadk Email: thad@codeforboston.org On Twitter: @thadk	

Project Tracks

Product development

- [National “Know Your Rights” site](#)

- [SMS Eligibility Self-checker](#)

User experience

- [Record Clearance Journey Mapping](#)
- [ExpungeMA Usability Review](#)

Data science

- [CourtWatch Dataviz](#)
- [CFJJ Schools-to-Prisons Project](#) (To be completed at event)
- [CFJJ Proposed Policy Impact](#)
- [Suffolk County DA Crime Dashboard](#)

Partners & Sponsors

We'd like to give many shout-outs and a ton of thanks to our partners, sponsors, and volunteers for this event.

Our primary partners at [Citizens for Juvenile Justice](#) have been amazing, and really taught us about the criminal justice system in Massachusetts. Their dedication to their work inspires us every week



Huge thanks to [iZotope](#) for letting us use their space, and to iZotope employee and longtime Code for Boston member Jamie Martini for all his help in facilitating.



And lastly, thanks to the [Suffolk County District Attorney](#) office, [CourtwatchMA](#), David Colarusso and the [Suffolk LIT Lab](#) for bringing great projects, and to the Code for Boston Clean Slate team who has done a ton of work to help pull together the content for this event.

About the National Day of Civic Hacking

[National Day of Civic Hacking](#) is a nationwide day of action where developers, government employees, designers, journalists, data scientists, non-profit employees, UX designers, and residents who care about their communities come together to host civic tech events leveraging their skills to help their community. This annual event provides citizens an opportunity to do what is most quintessentially American: roll up our sleeves, get involved, and work together to improve our society.

About Code for Boston

Part of the [Code for America Brigade network](#), [Code for Boston](#) was founded in 2012 as a volunteer group of developers, designers, data geeks, and citizen activists who use creative technology to solve civic and social problems in the Greater Boston area.

Part mission-driven non-profit, part technology meetup, part advocacy group, part social club, we provide a way for citizens to give back to their communities by building civic applications, opening public data sources, and generally helping to leverage technology for use in the public sphere.

We meet every Tuesday at 7pm, at CIC Cambridge. [Sign up for a hack night on Meetup](#) and come on by for pizza and more civic hacking!

Other Resources

National Expungement Week

There will be four N.E.W. events across Massachusetts over the next week. These will include legal advice, expungement clinics, policy debates, and more. You can learn about them at <https://www.offtherecord.us/>.

Boston, MA: 9/27 6-9pm

(MRCC) Massachusetts Recreational Consumer Council

Lead Contact: Joe Gilmore

Location: The Dewitt Center, Boston, MA

Worcester, MA: 9/25 6-8pm

(C3RN) Cannabis Community Care & Research Network

Lead Contact: Marion McNabb + Randal MacCaffrie

Location, Electric Haze, Worcester, MA

Quincy, MA : 9/26 6pm-10pm

Sons of Italy, 120 Quarry St, Quincy, MA

New Bedford, MA : 9/28 12-5pm

(ICPA) International cannabis physicians association

Lead contact: Nick Gomes

Levitate, New Bedford, MA

A 5th clinic will be held in Holyoke pending the location on 9/22