

The Peale, Baltimore

Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the *Out of the Blocks* website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>

Out of the Blocks is supported by PRX and produced with grant funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cohen Opportunity Fund, The Hoffberger Foundation, Patricia and Mark Joseph, The Shelter Foundation, The Kenneth S Battye Charitable Trust, The Sana and Andy Brooks Family Fund, The Muse Web Foundation, and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios



Dawan ([00:01](#)):

This is Dawan AKA Smoking. We've done it all. That man Miami Street. Right now, my record messed up and I'm trying to get that expunged and never, never a better life.

Speaker 2 ([00:11](#)):

Tell me a little bit more about the record that you're looking to get expunged. What are you trying to put behind you?

Dawan ([00:16](#)):

Burglary charge and a soft charge. My record, it is to have you know, I'm trying to get my own personal stuff with my social security and my ID so I could try to get a job and still keep my check. What I mean is

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I get disability. I get SSI. They saying that there's something wrong with my head. I don't know of that, but my circumstance is I'm thinking smart and I'm smart. I know it, but I don't put it out there like that.