

CRIMINAL HISTORY



Petition Based Sealing

Clean Slate - Automations



EXPUNGEMENTS

Criminal History Expungement Laws

- Expungement is the only mechanism to permanently and completely remove criminal history record information
- If a court orders your record to be Expunged, it must be "Physically Destroyed"
- > In most cases, it is as if the incident never happened.
- Exceptions: The prosecuting attorney and the Pennsylvania State Police Central Repository must retain copies.

What can be Expunged?

Summary Conviction

Conviction
must be 10+
years with all
financial
obligations
paid

Non-Convictions Automatically sealed after 60 days

Criminal History Expungement Laws

Case dispositions have not been received or recorded within 18 months of arrest, and the court certifies that a disposition is not available, or an action is not pending

▶ DUI's - A Petition is filed, and the Court directs that non-conviction data be expunged

Expungement eligible offenses

- Summary Offenses No other convictions for 5 Years.
- All Cases resolved through an ARD program -***Sexual offenses involving minors excluded.***
- Underage purchase, consumption, or possession of alcohol - Must be 21 years or older
- If you are 70 years old or older No convictions for 10 years

ACT 5

"ACT 5" Petition Based Criminal History Sealing

▶ In effect as of December 26, 2018

► Convictions with grades of M2, M3, M – if all financial obligations are paid

► Time Since Conviction: 10-year period after conviction without another Misdemeanor or Felony conviction

Excluded Convictions (Misdemeanors that cannot be sealed)

- > Misdemeanor "crimes of violence"
- Misdemeanor (crimes against the family)
- M1 Involving Firearms
- M1 Sexual offenses requiring registration/tiered sexual offense
- M1 Corruption of minors (When of a Sexual Nature)
- > Attempt, conspiracy, solicitation to commit any of the above

Disqualifying Convictions

- **Ever convicted of:**
 - Murder
 - F1 (Felony of the 1st Degree)
 - Offense punishable by more than 20 years
- **▶** Within last 20 years, convicted of:
 - Felony involving any of:
 - Crimes of Violence
 - Crimes against the Family (Domestic Violence)
 - > Firearms
 - Sexual offense/tier system
 - Four or more M2s or higher

Disqualifying Convictions

- ► Within last 15 years, convicted of:
 - 2 or more M1s or higher
 - Indecent exposure
 - Sexual intercourse w/ animal
 - Failure to comply w/ registration requirements
 - Weapons/implements or escape
 - Abuse of corpse
 - Prohibiting paramilitary training

CLEAN SLATE "Automated"

CLEAN SLATE - Automated effective June 28, 2019

- ► Goal is to be caught up by June 27, 2020
- Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts will be processing more than 2 million records per month over the next year.
- ► Forty million that's the number of criminal charges in Pennsylvania that are eligible for automatic record sealing starting June 28, 2019 under the state's Clean Slate law.

CLEAN SLATE - Automated

Convictions with grades of M2, M3, M (If all financial obligations are paid)

► 10-year period after conviction without another Misdemeanor or Felony conviction.

CLEAN SLATE - Excluded Offenses

- Misdemeanor crimes of violence
- Misdemeanor crimes against the family (Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Terroristic Threats)
- Offenses dealing with Firearms
- Sexual offense requiring registration/tiered sexual offense
- Cruelty to animals & corruption of minors
- Attempt, conspiracy, solicitation to commit any of the above
- Any conviction which arose from the same case as: Conviction of M1 or higher or any conviction for the offenses above.

CLEAN SLATE - Disqualifying Offenses

These convictions disqualify a person from automated sealing of otherwise eligible misdemeanor.

- Any Felony
- > 2 or more M1s
- > 4 or more Misdemeanors of any kind
- Indecent exposure, sexual intercourse w/ animal, failure to comply w/ registration requirements, weapons/implements to escape, abuse of a corpse, prohibiting paramilitary training

Selected offenses NOT ELIGIBLE for Clean Slate, but ARE ELIGIBLE for Act 5

- Simple assaults graded as second and third degree Misdemeanors
- Reckless endangerment
- Harassment
- Criminal coercion
- Sale or transfer of firearms graded as second degree misdemeanors
- Corruption of minors graded as Summary offenses
- ► Carrying loaded weapons other than firearms
- Sale or transfer of firearms

Other Types of Criminal History shielding

Juvenile Criminal History

Pardons Board