



SECOND CHANCES:

Expungement in Maryland

EXPUNGEMENT FACILITATES EMPLOYMENT

A criminal record has a significant impact on employment and housing options. Not having a job and stable housing increases the likelihood of recidivism.

The average working person is employed for 78% of the time, versus just 58% of the time for formerly incarcerated people.

More than 85% of employers perform background checks on all of their job applicants and deny employment to many returning citizens on the basis of a record.

In Maryland, it is estimated that 1.5 million residents, nearly 25% of the state's population, have a visible criminal record.

WHAT IS EXPUNGEMENT?

An expunged criminal case is permanently removed from court and police records and no longer visible to the public. Expungement only applies to criminal proceedings, including serious incarcerable traffic offenses.

SECOND CHANCES REBUILD

Expungement reduces returning citizens likelihood of committing future crimes, and increases their chances for successful reintegration into society.

Without an expunged record, individuals with criminal histories can face barriers to voting, serving on a jury, holding public office, securing employment, obtaining housing, receiving public assistance, getting a driver's license, qualifying for financial aid and college admission, and qualifying for military service.

US Commission on Civil Rights: Collateral Consequences

SECOND CHANCES HEAL

Expungement allows returning citizens to have new interactions with the criminal legal system encouraging respect and trust while also removing the stigmatized branding of "criminal."

Erasing the Mark of the Past

SECOND CHANCES PROTECT

Expungement allows returning citizens to combat barriers to successful reintegration and reduces likelihood of committing future crimes.

Erasing the Mark of the Past



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