

TEACHINGS ON HOW TO EXPUNGE YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD.

Did you make a stupid mistake in the past that led you to have a criminal record?

Does your criminal record prevent you to obtain work or get a promotion at work?

The expungement of a criminal record is a process whereby a person can have his/her criminal record expunged from the national criminal register.

KINDLY NOTE for an individual to have their criminal record expunged that the following basic requirements must be met to qualify for Expungement of your Record:

The Record **MUST** be older than 10 Years or older **AND** no direct imprisonment was imposed **AND** the Fine imposed should not have exceeded R20 000 (Twenty Thousand Rand) and **NO** other offenses were committed in the last ten (10) years.

It must also be noted that if an offense is of a sexual nature and a child was involved, the perpetrator's name will be included in the National Register for Sexual Offenders (NRSO). If the victim was a disabled person, this will automatically disqualify a person from having their criminal record expunged.

Over a period of ten (10) years, a person should not have been sent to prison for another offense. If an offense is of a sexual nature and a child was involved, the perpetrator's name will be included in the National Register for Sexual Offenders (NRSO). If the victim was a disabled person, this will automatically disqualify a person from having their criminal record expunged.

Applications for expungement of diversions in terms of the Child Justice Act, 2008 (Act No 75 of 2008), can also be done.

The Benefits of Your Criminal Record Expunged

1. Removes the conviction(s) against your name from your criminal record.
2. Your conviction(s) will not show on background checks.
3. You can answer "NO" on job applications on the question if you have been convicted of an offense.
4. You can greatly increase your employment opportunities.
5. You can truthfully forget the past and move forward for a positive future.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE

Within approximately 4 months from the application was lodged at the Department of Justice.

If expungement is granted, we will send you an officially signed order by the Department of Justice declaring that your record(s) has been expunged.

- 744 [Eng](#) / [Afr](#) - Form A: Application for expungement of a criminal record (Section 271B(1) of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No. 51 of 1977))

View the related [Regulations](#).

Important: this service is given free of charge by the department of justice and constitutional development.

Matters are dealt with in order of receipt and no preference will be given by matters given by agencies or representatives applying on behalf of applicants.

Enquiries: Enquiries can be emailed to expungements@justice.gov.za or you can call our **Call Centre (080 002 0007)**.