

If you were arrested or subject to a court proceeding or had contact with the juvenile justice system when you were under 18, there may be records kept by courts, police, schools, or other public agencies about what you did. If the court makes those records private (sealed), it could be easier for you to:

- ◆ Find a job
- ◆ Get a driver's license
- ◆ Get a loan
- ◆ Rent an apartment
- ◆ Go to college

### Is Your Case Already Sealed?

Courts are required to seal records in certain cases when the court finds that probation (formal or informal) is satisfactorily completed or if your case was otherwise dismissed after the charges were filed. If the court sealed all of your records at the end of your case, you should have received a copy of the sealing order, and you do not need to ask the court to seal those records.

For more information see **Sealing of Records for Satisfactory Completion of Probation** (Form **JV-569-INFO**), available here: <https://courts.ca.gov/forms>

### Can Employers See My Records if they are not sealed?

Juvenile records are not allowed to be disclosed to most employers, and employers are not allowed to ask about or consider your juvenile history in most cases.

There are exceptions to this rule if you are applying to be a peace officer or to work in health settings. Also, federal employers may still have access to your juvenile history. Seek legal advice if you have any questions.

## The San Diego County Probation Department is here to help you!

For more information or to apply to have your juvenile record sealed call, email or write to:

### Juvenile Probation Center

Attn: Sealing Officer  
2901 Meadow Lark Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123

**Direct Line:** (858) 694-4315  
**Reception:** (858) 694-4600  
**Fax:** (858) 694-4751  
**Email:** [Probation.Seal@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Probation.Seal@sdcounty.ca.gov)



SAN DIEGO COUNTY  
**PROBATION**  
DEPARTMENT



## Juvenile Record



## Sealing Information

## Qualifications

If the court has not already sealed your records, you can ask the court to make that order if:

- ◆ You are at least 18 or it has been at least 5 years since your case was closed; and
- ◆ You have been rehabilitated to the satisfaction of the court

### **What if I owe restitution or fines?**

The court may seal your records even if you have not paid your full restitution order to the victim.

The court will not consider outstanding fines and court-ordered fees when deciding whether to seal your records, but you are still required to pay the restitution, fines, and fees, and your records can be looked at to enforce those orders.

### **Who does not qualify to have their records sealed?**

1) You do not qualify to have your records sealed if you are convicted as an adult of an offense involving moral turpitude, such as:

- ◆ A sex or serious drug crime
- ◆ Murder or other violent crime; or
- ◆ Forgery, welfare fraud, or other crime of dishonesty

2) You do not qualify to have your records sealed if, when you were 14 or older, the court found you committed a sex offense listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b) for which you must register under Penal Code section 290.008 because you were paroled from the Division of Juvenile Justice.

**Note:** You may qualify to have your records sealed if you were found to have committed other types of sex offenses not listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 290.008.

## Who Can See My Sealed Records?

- ◆ The Department of Motor Vehicles can see vehicle and traffic records and can share them with insurance companies.
- ◆ The court may see your records if you are a witness or involved in a defamation case.
- ◆ If you apply for benefits as a non-minor dependent, the court may see your records.
- ◆ A prosecuting attorney may see your records that were sealed for an offense listed under Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b) in a later proceeding for the reasons listed in section 781(d).
- ◆ If your sealed record was a section 707(b) offense when you were 14 or older, the prosecutor, probation, and court may unseal your records if you are charged with a later felony.
- ◆ If a judge or prosecutor needs to determine if a victim of certain offenses was helpful in an investigation or prosecution of the offense when the victim is seeking certification in connection with an immigration matter they may access your records to make this determination.
- ◆ If a prosecutor thinks something in your record would be helpful to the defense of someone who is charged with a crime in another case, the prosecutor can ask the court to provide that information.
- ◆ If you want to see your records or allow someone else to see them, you can ask the court to unseal them.

### What about Sex Offender Registration? (Penal Code, §290)

If the court seals a record that required you to register as a sex offender, the order will say you do **not** have to continue to register.

## How Do I Request My Records Be Sealed?

- ◆ The Probation Department is here to help! If your record was not automatically sealed by the Court you may begin the sealing process by contacting the Sealing Officer at (858) 694-4315.
- ◆ There is no fee to process your sealing request.
- ◆ The Sealing Officer will interview you and provide you the required sealing documents.
- ◆ An in-person interview is preferred. A telephone or virtual appointment may also be accommodated.
- ◆ During the interview, the Sealing Officer will explain the sealing process, review the completed documents, and all necessary forms will be signed.
- ◆ The officer will request proof of rehabilitation.
- ◆ Acceptable proof of rehabilitation includes but is not limited to: high school diploma or equivalency, proof of enrollment in college or vocational school, college degree, and/or proof of employment.
- ◆ A judge will determine if your sealing request will be granted or denied.
- ◆ The sealing process can take up to nine months.
- ◆ If you qualify to have your juvenile records sealed, the court will make an order to seal the eligible records listed on your petition.
- ◆ If the court grants your request, it will order each agency, entity, or person to seal your records. If sealed records are for a Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b) offense committed when you were 14 or older they will not order those destroyed.
- ◆ If the court denies your sealing request, you may resubmit your request at a later time.
- ◆ The court will provide you with a copy of it's order. Keep it in a safe place.