

AN ACT concerning courts.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Juvenile Court Act of 1987 is amended by changing Section 5-915 as follows:

(705 ILCS 405/5-915)

Sec. 5-915. Expungement of juvenile law enforcement and court records.

(0.05) For purposes of this Section and Section 5-622:

"Expunge" means to physically destroy the records and to obliterate the minor's name from any official index or public record, or both. Nothing in this Act shall require the physical destruction of the internal office records, files, or databases maintained by a State's Attorney's Office or other prosecutor.

"Law enforcement record" includes but is not limited to records of arrest, station adjustments, fingerprints, probation adjustments, the issuance of a notice to appear, or any other records maintained by a law enforcement agency relating to a minor suspected of committing an offense.

(1) Whenever a person has been arrested, charged, or adjudicated delinquent for an incident occurring before his or her 18th birthday that if committed by an adult would be an

offense, the person may petition the court at any time for expungement of law enforcement records and juvenile court records relating to the incident and upon termination of any person has attained the age of 18 or whenever all juvenile court proceedings relating to that incident, the court shall order the expungement of all records in the possession of the Department of State Police, the clerk of the circuit court, and law enforcement agencies relating to the incident, that person have been terminated, whichever is later, the person may petition the court to expunge law enforcement records relating to incidents occurring before his or her 18th birthday or his or her juvenile court records, or both, but only in any of the following circumstances:

(a) the minor was arrested and no petition for delinquency was filed with the clerk of the circuit court;

~~or~~

(a-5) the minor was charged with an offense and the petition or petitions were dismissed without a finding of delinquency;

(b) the minor was charged with an offense and was found not delinquent of that offense; ~~or~~

(c) the minor was placed under supervision pursuant to Section 5-615, and the order of supervision has since been successfully terminated; or

(d) the minor was adjudicated for an offense which would be a Class B misdemeanor, Class C misdemeanor, or a

petty or business offense if committed by an adult.

(1.5) Commencing 180 days after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly, the Department of State Police shall automatically expunge, on or before January 1 of each year, a person's law enforcement records which are not subject to subsection (1) relating to incidents occurring before his or her 18th birthday in the Department's possession or control and which contains the final disposition which pertain to the person when arrested as a minor if:

(a) the minor was arrested for an eligible offense and no petition for delinquency was filed with the clerk of the circuit court; and

(b) the person attained the age of 18 years during the last calendar year; and

(c) since the date of the minor's most recent arrest, at least 6 months have elapsed without an additional arrest, filing of a petition for delinquency whether related or not to a previous arrest, or filing of charges not initiated by arrest.

The Department of State Police shall allow a person to use the Access and Review process, established in the Department of State Police, for verifying that his or her law enforcement records relating to incidents occurring before his or her 18th birthday eligible under this subsection have been expunged as provided in this subsection.

The Department of State Police shall provide by rule the

process for access, review, and automatic expungement.

(1.6) Commencing on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly, a person whose law enforcement records are not subject to subsection (1) or (1.5) of this Section and who has attained the age of 18 years may use the Access and Review process, established in the Department of State Police, for verifying his or her law enforcement records relating to incidents occurring before his or her 18th birthday in the Department's possession or control which pertain to the person when arrested as a minor, if the incident occurred no earlier than 30 years before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly. If the person identifies a law enforcement record of an eligible offense that meets the requirements of this subsection, paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (1.5) of this Section, and all juvenile court proceedings related to the person have been terminated, the person may file a Request for Expungement of Juvenile Law Enforcement Records, in the form and manner prescribed by the Department of State Police, with the Department and the Department shall consider expungement of the record as otherwise provided for automatic expungement under subsection (1.5) of this Section. The person shall provide notice and a copy of the Request for Expungement of Juvenile Law Enforcement Records to the arresting agency, prosecutor charged with the prosecution of the minor, or the State's Attorney of the county that prosecuted the minor. The

Department of State Police shall provide by rule the process for access, review, and Request for Expungement of Juvenile Law Enforcement Records.

(1.7) Nothing in subsections (1.5) and (1.6) of this Section precludes a person from filing a petition under subsection (1) for expungement of records subject to automatic expungement under that subsection (1) or subsection (1.5) or (1.6) of this Section.

(1.8) For the purposes of subsections (1.5) and (1.6) of this Section, "eligible offense" means records relating to an arrest or incident occurring before the person's 18th birthday that if committed by an adult is not an offense classified as a Class 2 felony or higher offense, an offense under Article 11 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012, or an offense under Section 12-13, 12-14, 12-14.1, 12-15, or 12-16 of the Criminal Code of 1961.

(2) Any person may petition the court to expunge all law enforcement records relating to any incidents occurring before his or her 18th birthday which did not result in proceedings in criminal court and all juvenile court records with respect to any adjudications except those based upon first degree murder and sex offenses which would be felonies if committed by an adult, if the person for whom expungement is sought has had no convictions for any crime since his or her 18th birthday and:

(a) has attained the age of 21 years; or

(b) 5 years have elapsed since all juvenile court

proceedings relating to him or her have been terminated or his or her commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice pursuant to this Act has been terminated;

whichever is later of (a) or (b). Nothing in this Section 5-915 precludes a minor from obtaining expungement under Section 5-622.

(2.5) If a minor is arrested and no petition for delinquency is filed with the clerk of the circuit court as provided in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) at the time the minor is released from custody, the youth officer, if applicable, or other designated person from the arresting agency, shall notify verbally and in writing to the minor or the minor's parents or guardians that ~~if the State's Attorney does not file a petition for delinquency,~~ the minor has a right to petition to have his or her arrest record expunged ~~when the minor attains the age of 18 or~~ when all juvenile court proceedings relating to that minor have been terminated and that unless a petition to expunge is filed, the minor shall have an arrest record and shall provide the minor and the minor's parents or guardians with an expungement information packet, including a petition to expunge juvenile records obtained from the clerk of the circuit court.

(2.6) If a minor is charged with an offense and is found not delinquent of that offense; or if a minor is placed under supervision under Section 5-615, and the order of supervision is successfully terminated; or if a minor is adjudicated for an

offense that would be a Class B misdemeanor, a Class C misdemeanor, or a business or petty offense if committed by an adult; or if a minor has incidents occurring before his or her 18th birthday that have not resulted in proceedings in criminal court, or resulted in proceedings in juvenile court, and the adjudications were not based upon first degree murder or sex offenses that would be felonies if committed by an adult; then at the time of sentencing or dismissal of the case, the judge shall inform the delinquent minor of his or her right to petition for expungement as provided by law, and the clerk of the circuit court shall provide an expungement information packet to the delinquent minor, written in plain language, including a petition for expungement, a sample of a completed petition, expungement instructions that shall include information informing the minor that (i) once the case is expunged, it shall be treated as if it never occurred, (ii) he or she may apply to have petition fees waived, (iii) once he or she obtains an expungement, he or she may not be required to disclose that he or she had a juvenile record, and (iv) he or she may file the petition on his or her own or with the assistance of an attorney. The failure of the judge to inform the delinquent minor of his or her right to petition for expungement as provided by law does not create a substantive right, nor is that failure grounds for: (i) a reversal of an adjudication of delinquency, (ii) a new trial; or (iii) an appeal.

(2.7) For counties with a population over 3,000,000, the clerk of the circuit court shall send a "Notification of a Possible Right to Expungement" post card to the minor at the address last received by the clerk of the circuit court on the date that the minor attains the age of 18 based on the birthdate provided to the court by the minor or his or her guardian in cases under paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of subsection (1); and when the minor attains the age of 21 based on the birthdate provided to the court by the minor or his or her guardian in cases under subsection (2).

(2.8) The petition for expungement for subsection (1) may include multiple offenses on the same petition and shall be substantially in the following form:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF, ILLINOIS
 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN THE INTEREST OF) NO.
)
)
)
 (Name of Petitioner)

PETITION TO EXPUNGE JUVENILE RECORDS
 (705 ILCS 405/5-915 (SUBSECTION 1))

Now comes, petitioner, and respectfully requests that this Honorable Court enter an order expunging all juvenile

law enforcement and court records of petitioner and in support thereof states that: Petitioner has attained the age of ~~18~~, his/her birth date being, or all Juvenile Court proceedings terminated as of, whichever occurred later. Petitioner was arrested on by the Police Department for the offense or offenses of, and:

(Check All That Apply:)

() a. no petition or petitions were filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

() b. was charged with and was found not delinquent of the offense or offenses.

() c. a petition or petitions were filed and the petition or petitions were dismissed without a finding of delinquency on

() d. on placed under supervision pursuant to Section 5-615 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 and such order of supervision successfully terminated on

() e. was adjudicated for the offense or offenses, which would have been a Class B misdemeanor, a Class C misdemeanor, or a petty offense or business offense if committed by an adult.

Petitioner has has not been arrested on charges in this or any county other than the charges listed above. If petitioner has been arrested on additional charges, please list the charges below:

Charge(s):

Arresting Agency or Agencies:

Disposition/Result: (choose from a. through e., above):

WHEREFORE, the petitioner respectfully requests this Honorable Court to (1) order all law enforcement agencies to expunge all records of petitioner to this incident or incidents, and (2) to order the Clerk of the Court to expunge all records concerning the petitioner regarding this incident or incidents.

.....

Petitioner (Signature)

.....

Petitioner's Street Address

.....

City, State, Zip Code

.....

Petitioner's Telephone Number

Pursuant to the penalties of perjury under the Code of Civil Procedure, 735 ILCS 5/1-109, I hereby certify that the statements in this petition are true and correct, or on information and belief I believe the same to be true.

.....

Petitioner (Signature)

adjudication was not based upon first-degree murder or sex offenses which would be felonies if committed by an adult, and the Petitioner has not had any convictions for any crime since his/her 18th birthday.

Petitioner was arrested on by the Police Department for the offense of, and:

(Check whichever one occurred the latest:)

() a. The Petitioner has attained the age of 21 years, his/her birthday being; or

() b. 5 years have elapsed since all juvenile court proceedings relating to the Petitioner have been terminated; or the Petitioner's commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice pursuant to the expungement of juvenile law enforcement and court records provisions of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 has been terminated. Petitioner ...has ...has not been arrested on charges in this or any other county other than the charge listed above. If petitioner has been arrested on additional charges, please list the charges below:

Charge(s):

Arresting Agency or Agencies:

Disposition/Result: (choose from a or b, above):

WHEREFORE, the petitioner respectfully requests this Honorable Court to (1) order all law enforcement agencies to expunge all records of petitioner related to this incident, and (2) to order the Clerk of the Court to expunge all records concerning the petitioner regarding this incident.

.....

Petitioner (Signature)

.....

Petitioner's Street Address

.....

City, State, Zip Code

.....

Petitioner's Telephone Number

Pursuant to the penalties of perjury under the Code of Civil Procedure, 735 ILCS 5/1-109, I hereby certify that the statements in this petition are true and correct, or on information and belief I believe the same to be true.

.....

Petitioner (Signature)

(3) The chief judge of the circuit in which an arrest was made or a charge was brought or any judge of that circuit designated by the chief judge may, upon verified petition of a person who is the subject of an arrest or a juvenile court proceeding under subsection (1) or (2) of this Section, order the law enforcement records or official court file, or both, to be expunged from the official records of the arresting authority, the clerk of the circuit court and the Department of

State Police. The person whose records are to be expunged shall petition the court using the appropriate form containing his or her current address and shall promptly notify the clerk of the circuit court of any change of address. Notice of the petition shall be served upon the State's Attorney or prosecutor charged with the duty of prosecuting the offense, the Department of State Police, and the arresting agency or agencies by the clerk of the circuit court. If an objection is filed within 45 days of the notice of the petition, the clerk of the circuit court shall set a date for hearing after the 45 day objection period. At the hearing the court shall hear evidence on whether the expungement should or should not be granted. Unless the State's Attorney or prosecutor, the Department of State Police, or an arresting agency objects to the expungement within 45 days of the notice, the court may enter an order granting expungement. The person whose records are to be expunged shall pay the clerk of the circuit court a fee equivalent to the cost associated with expungement of records by the clerk and the Department of State Police. The clerk shall forward a certified copy of the order to the Department of State Police, the appropriate portion of the fee to the Department of State Police for processing, and deliver a certified copy of the order to the arresting agency.

(3.1) The Notice of Expungement shall be in substantially the following form:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF, ILLINOIS

..... JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN THE INTEREST OF) NO.

)

)

.....)

(Name of Petitioner)

NOTICE

TO: State's Attorney

TO: Arresting Agency

.....

.....

.....

.....

TO: Illinois State Police

.....

.....

ATTENTION: Expungement

You are hereby notified that on, at, in courtroom ..., located at ..., before the Honorable ..., Judge, or any judge sitting in his/her stead, I shall then and there present

a Petition to Expunge Juvenile records in the above-entitled matter, at which time and place you may appear.

.....

Petitioner's Signature

.....

Petitioner's Street Address

.....

City, State, Zip Code

.....

Petitioner's Telephone Number

PROOF OF SERVICE

On the day of, 20..., I on oath state that I served this notice and true and correct copies of the above-checked documents by:

(Check One:)

delivering copies personally to each entity to whom they are directed;

or

by mailing copies to each entity to whom they are directed by depositing the same in the U.S. Mail, proper postage fully prepaid, before the hour of 5:00 p.m., at the United States Postal Depository located at

.....

Signature

Clerk of the Circuit Court or Deputy Clerk

of petitioner relating to an arrest dated for the offense of

Law Enforcement Agencies:

.....
.....

() 3. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Circuit Court expunge all records regarding the above-captioned case.

ENTER:

JUDGE

DATED:

Name:

Attorney for:

Address: City/State/Zip:

Attorney Number:

(3.3) The Notice of Objection shall be in substantially the following form:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF, ILLINOIS
..... JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN THE INTEREST OF) NO.

)

)

.....)

(Name of Petitioner)

NOTICE OF OBJECTION

TO: (Attorney, Public Defender, Minor)

.....
.....

TO: (Illinois State Police)

.....
.....

TO: (Clerk of the Court)

.....
.....

TO: (Judge)

.....
.....

TO: (Arresting Agency/Agencies)

.....
.....

ATTENTION: You are hereby notified that an objection has been filed by the following entity regarding the above-named minor's petition for expungement of juvenile records:

- () State's Attorney's Office;
- () Prosecutor (other than State's Attorney's Office) charged with the duty of prosecuting the offense sought to be expunged;
- () Department of Illinois State Police; or
- () Arresting Agency or Agencies.

The agency checked above respectfully requests that this case be continued and set for hearing on whether the expungement

should or should not be granted.

DATED:

Name:

Attorney For:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone:

Attorney No.:

FOR USE BY CLERK OF THE COURT PERSONNEL ONLY

This matter has been set for hearing on the foregoing objection, on in room, located at, before the Honorable, Judge, or any judge sitting in his/her stead. (Only one hearing shall be set, regardless of the number of Notices of Objection received on the same case).

A copy of this completed Notice of Objection containing the court date, time, and location, has been sent via regular U.S. Mail to the following entities. (If more than one Notice of Objection is received on the same case, each one must be completed with the court date, time and location and mailed to the following entities):

- () Attorney, Public Defender or Minor;
- () State's Attorney's Office;
- () Prosecutor (other than State's Attorney's Office) charged with the duty of prosecuting the offense sought to be expunged;
- () Department of Illinois State Police; and
- () Arresting agency or agencies.

Date:

Initials of Clerk completing this section:

(4) Upon entry of an order expunging records or files, the offense, which the records or files concern shall be treated as if it never occurred. Law enforcement officers and other public offices and agencies shall properly reply on inquiry that no record or file exists with respect to the person.

(5) Records which have not been expunged are sealed, and may be obtained only under the provisions of Sections 5-901, 5-905 and 5-915.

(6) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prohibit the maintenance of information relating to an offense after records or files concerning the offense have been expunged if the information is kept in a manner that does not enable identification of the offender. This information may only be used for statistical and bona fide research purposes.

(6.5) The Department of State Police or any employee of the Department shall be immune from civil or criminal liability for failure to expunge any records of arrest that are subject to expungement under subsection (1.5) or (1.6) of this Section because of inability to verify a record. Nothing in subsection (1.5) or (1.6) of this Section shall create Department of State Police liability or responsibility for the expungement of law enforcement records it does not possess.

(7)(a) The State Appellate Defender shall establish, maintain, and carry out, by December 31, 2004, a juvenile

expungement program to provide information and assistance to minors eligible to have their juvenile records expunged.

(b) The State Appellate Defender shall develop brochures, pamphlets, and other materials in printed form and through the agency's World Wide Web site. The pamphlets and other materials shall include at a minimum the following information:

(i) An explanation of the State's juvenile expungement process;

(ii) The circumstances under which juvenile expungement may occur;

(iii) The juvenile offenses that may be expunged;

(iv) The steps necessary to initiate and complete the juvenile expungement process; and

(v) Directions on how to contact the State Appellate Defender.

(c) The State Appellate Defender shall establish and maintain a statewide toll-free telephone number that a person may use to receive information or assistance concerning the expungement of juvenile records. The State Appellate Defender shall advertise the toll-free telephone number statewide. The State Appellate Defender shall develop an expungement information packet that may be sent to eligible persons seeking expungement of their juvenile records, which may include, but is not limited to, a pre-printed expungement petition with instructions on how to complete the petition and a pamphlet containing information that would assist individuals through

the juvenile expungement process.

(d) The State Appellate Defender shall compile a statewide list of volunteer attorneys willing to assist eligible individuals through the juvenile expungement process.

(e) This Section shall be implemented from funds appropriated by the General Assembly to the State Appellate Defender for this purpose. The State Appellate Defender shall employ the necessary staff and adopt the necessary rules for implementation of this Section.

(8) (a) Except with respect to law enforcement agencies, the Department of Corrections, State's Attorneys, or other prosecutors, an expunged juvenile record may not be considered by any private or public entity in employment matters, certification, licensing, revocation of certification or licensure, or registration. Applications for employment must contain specific language that states that the applicant is not obligated to disclose expunged juvenile records of conviction or arrest. Employers may not ask if an applicant has had a juvenile record expunged. Effective January 1, 2005, the Department of Labor shall develop a link on the Department's website to inform employers that employers may not ask if an applicant had a juvenile record expunged and that application for employment must contain specific language that states that the applicant is not obligated to disclose expunged juvenile records of arrest or conviction.

(b) A person whose juvenile records have been expunged is

not entitled to remission of any fines, costs, or other money paid as a consequence of expungement. This amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly does not affect the right of the victim of a crime to prosecute or defend a civil action for damages.

(c) The expungement of juvenile records under Section 5-622 shall be funded by the additional fine imposed under Section 5-9-1.17 of the Unified Code of Corrections and additional appropriations made by the General Assembly for such purpose.

(9) The changes made to this Section by Public Act 98-61 apply to law enforcement records of a minor who has been arrested or taken into custody on or after January 1, 2014 (the effective date of Public Act 98-61).

(10) The changes made in subsection (1.5) of this Section by this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly apply to law enforcement records of a minor who has been arrested or taken into custody on or after January 1, 2015. The changes made in subsection (1.6) of this Section by this amendatory Act of the 98th General Assembly apply to law enforcement records of a minor who has been arrested or taken into custody before January 1, 2015.

(Source: P.A. 98-61, eff. 1-1-14; 98-637, eff. 1-1-15; 98-756, eff. 7-16-14.)