

MAY NEWSLETTER

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QUICK UPDATE

- ❑ Accepting internship applications for Chicago and Columbus
- ❑ Downtown Chicago located at 216. S Jefferson St., 101 Chicago, Il 60661
- ❑ Downtown Columbus by appointment only located at 875 N High St. 300 Columbus, Ohio 43215

BUCKLEY AND MICHAELS EXPUNGEMENT

Dedicated to providing exceptional legal services and excited to have you as part of our esteemed legal community.

What is holding you back from expunging your record?

Contact 872-870-9030 or 614-407-8845 for assistance

Q: What do I need to know to choose between expungement and sealing?

A: You cannot expunge (erase) any record that resulted in a conviction, unless the conviction was reversed, vacated, pardoned by the Governor, or approved for expungement by the Prisoner Review Board.

If you have been convicted and none of the exceptions apply, you may still be able to seal (hide) your conviction, depending on the charge and how much time has passed.

Q: What if I have some offenses that can be expunged or sealed and some that cannot?

A: Even if certain cases are not eligible for expungement or sealing, you can still expunge or seal those arrests and cases that are eligible.

Disclaimer: Any information provided is for general purposes only and should not be considered as professional advice. For specific concerns, it's recommended to consult with relevant experts or professionals.

“Take control of your life”

COMMUNITY

Buckley and Michaels, partnered with CBA Lawyers in the Classroom and American Constitution Society to teach 10th grade students at Epic Academy in Chicago for their Spring Career Intensives program. We taught “Free speech vs. Hate speech, which allowed the students to navigate what is protected under the First Amendment.



CRIMINAL EXPUNGEMENT / SEALING

Expunging or Sealing a criminal record can offer significant benefits to individuals and society. Here are some key reasons why cases should be expunged/sealed:

1. **Second Chances**: Expungement provides individuals with a fresh start, allowing them to move past their mistakes and lead productive lives without the burden of a criminal record.
2. **Employment Opportunities**: Many employers conduct background checks, and a criminal record can be a significant barrier to securing a job. Expungement can improve an individual's chances of gaining employment.
3. **Housing Access**: Similar to employment, landlords often perform background checks on potential tenants. Expungement can help individuals secure housing, leading to more stable living conditions.
4. **Education Opportunities**: Some educational institutions may be hesitant to admit individuals with a criminal record. Expungement can open doors to higher education and vocational training programs.
5. **Reduction in Recidivism**: By improving access to employment, housing, and education, expungement can reduce the likelihood of reoffending, contributing to lower recidivism rates.
6. **Social Stigma Reduction**: A criminal record carries a significant social stigma. Expungement can help individuals reintegrate into society more smoothly and improve their social relationships.
7. **Mental Health Benefits**: The burden of a criminal record can take a toll on an individual's mental health. Expungement can alleviate stress and anxiety associated with past offenses.
8. **Legal Rights Restoration**: In some jurisdictions, certain rights, such as the right to vote or own a firearm, may be restored following expungement.
9. **Fairness and Rehabilitation**: For individuals who have demonstrated rehabilitation and good behavior, expungement acknowledges their efforts and promotes fairness within the justice system.
10. **Economic Benefits**: By enabling individuals to gain employment and stable housing, expungement can lead to broader economic benefits, including increased tax revenue and reduced reliance on public assistance programs.
11. **Encouragement of Rehabilitation Programs**: Knowing that expungement is possible may incentivize individuals to participate in rehabilitation programs and adhere to legal and social norms.

Expunging records can thus play a crucial role in promoting justice, rehabilitation, and societal reintegration.



Picture left to right: Danielle Michaels,
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Community