

1 AN ACT concerning courts.

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

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

6 (705 ILCS 405/5-915)

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

9 (1) Whenever any person has attained the age of 17 or  
10 whenever all juvenile court proceedings relating to that person  
11 have been terminated, whichever is later, the person may  
12 petition the court to expunge law enforcement records relating  
13 to incidents occurring before his or her 17th birthday or his  
14 or her juvenile court records, or both, but only in the  
15 following circumstances:

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

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

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

1 (d) the minor was adjudicated for an offense which  
2 would be a Class B misdemeanor, Class C misdemeanor, or a  
3 petty or business offense if committed by an adult.

4 (2) Any person may petition the court to expunge all law  
5 enforcement records relating to any incidents occurring before  
6 his or her 17th birthday which did not result in proceedings in  
7 criminal court and all juvenile court records with respect to  
8 any adjudications except those based upon first degree murder  
9 and sex offenses which would be felonies if committed by an  
10 adult, if the person for whom expungement is sought has had no  
11 convictions for any crime since his or her 17th birthday and:

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

13 (b) 5 years have elapsed since all juvenile court  
14 proceedings relating to him or her have been terminated or  
15 his or her commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice  
16 pursuant to this Act has been terminated;

17 whichever is later of (a) or (b).

18 (2.5) If a minor is arrested and no petition for  
19 delinquency is filed with the clerk of the circuit court as  
20 provided in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) at the time the  
21 minor is released from custody, the youth officer, if  
22 applicable, or other designated person from the arresting  
23 agency, shall notify verbally and in writing to the minor or  
24 the minor's parents or guardians that if the State's Attorney  
25 does not file a petition for delinquency, the minor has a right  
26 to petition to have his or her arrest record expunged when the

1 minor attains the age of 17 or when all juvenile court  
2 proceedings relating to that minor have been terminated and  
3 that unless a petition to expunge is filed, the minor shall  
4 have an arrest record and shall provide the minor and the  
5 minor's parents or guardians with an expungement information  
6 packet, including a petition to expunge juvenile records  
7 obtained from the clerk of the circuit court.

8 (2.6) If a minor is charged with an offense and is found  
9 not delinquent of that offense; or if a minor is placed under  
10 supervision under Section 5-615, and the order of supervision  
11 is successfully terminated; or if a minor is adjudicated for an  
12 offense that would be a Class B misdemeanor, a Class C  
13 misdemeanor, or a business or petty offense if committed by an  
14 adult; or if a minor has incidents occurring before his or her  
15 17th birthday that have not resulted in proceedings in criminal  
16 court, or resulted in proceedings in juvenile court, and the  
17 adjudications were not based upon first degree murder or sex  
18 offenses that would be felonies if committed by an adult; then  
19 at the time of sentencing or dismissal of the case, the judge  
20 shall inform the delinquent minor of his or her right to  
21 petition for expungement as provided by law, and the clerk of  
22 the circuit court shall provide an expungement information  
23 packet to the delinquent minor, written in plain language,  
24 including a petition for expungement, a sample of a completed  
25 petition, expungement instructions that shall include  
26 information informing the minor that (i) once the case is

1 expunged, it shall be treated as if it never occurred, (ii) he  
2 or she may apply to have petition fees waived, (iii) once he or  
3 she obtains an expungement, he or she may not be required to  
4 disclose that he or she had a juvenile record, and (iv) he or  
5 she may file the petition on his or her own or with the  
6 assistance of an attorney. The failure of the judge to inform  
7 the delinquent minor of his or her right to petition for  
8 expungement as provided by law does not create a substantive  
9 right, nor is that failure grounds for: (i) a reversal of an  
10 adjudication of delinquency, (ii) a new trial; or (iii) an  
11 appeal.

12 (2.7) For counties with a population over 3,000,000, the  
13 clerk of the circuit court shall send a "Notification of a  
14 Possible Right to Expungement" post card to the minor at the  
15 address last received by the clerk of the circuit court on the  
16 date that the minor attains the age of 17 based on the  
17 birthdate provided to the court by the minor or his or her  
18 guardian in cases under paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of  
19 subsection (1); and when the minor attains the age of 21 based  
20 on the birthdate provided to the court by the minor or his or  
21 her guardian in cases under subsection (2).

22 (2.8) The petition for expungement for subsection (1) shall  
23 be substantially in the following form:

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

1 IN THE INTEREST OF ) NO.  
 2 )  
 3 )  
 4 .....)  
 5 (Name of Petitioner)

PETITION TO EXPUNGE JUVENILE RECORDS

(705 ILCS 405/5-915 (SUBSECTION 1))

(Please prepare a separate petition for each offense)

9 Now comes ....., petitioner, and respectfully requests  
 10 that this Honorable Court enter an order expunging all juvenile  
 11 law enforcement and court records of petitioner and in support  
 12 thereof states that: Petitioner has attained the age of 17,  
 13 his/her birth date being ....., or all Juvenile Court  
 14 proceedings terminated as of ....., whichever occurred later.  
 15 Petitioner was arrested on ..... by the ..... Police  
 16 Department for the offense of ....., and:

(Check One:)

18 ( ) a. no petition was filed with the Clerk of the Circuit  
 19 Court.

20 ( ) b. was charged with ..... and was found not delinquent of  
 21 the offense.

22 ( ) c. a petition was filed and the petition was dismissed  
 23 without a finding of delinquency on .....

24 ( ) d. on ..... placed under supervision pursuant to Section  
 25 5-615 of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 and such order of

1 supervision successfully terminated on .....

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

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

9 Charge(s): .....

10 Arresting Agency or Agencies: .....

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

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

17 .....

18 Petitioner (Signature)

19 .....

20 Petitioner's Street Address

21 .....

22 City, State, Zip Code

1 .....  
2

Petitioner's Telephone Number

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

7 .....  
8

Petitioner (Signature)

9 The Petition for Expungement for subsection (2) shall be  
10 substantially in the following form:

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

12 ..... JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

13 IN THE INTEREST OF ) NO.

14 )

15 )

16 .....)

17 (Name of Petitioner)

18 PETITION TO EXPUNGE JUVENILE RECORDS

19 (705 ILCS 405/5-915 (SUBSECTION 2))

20 (Please prepare a separate petition for each offense)

21 Now comes ....., petitioner, and respectfully requests

1 that this Honorable Court enter an order expunging all Juvenile  
2 Law Enforcement and Court records of petitioner and in support  
3 thereof states that:

4 The incident for which the Petitioner seeks expungement  
5 occurred before the Petitioner's 17th birthday and did not  
6 result in proceedings in criminal court and the Petitioner has  
7 not had any convictions for any crime since his/her 17th  
8 birthday; and

9 The incident for which the Petitioner seeks expungement  
10 occurred before the Petitioner's 17th birthday and the  
11 adjudication was not based upon first-degree murder or sex  
12 offenses which would be felonies if committed by an adult, and  
13 the Petitioner has not had any convictions for any crime since  
14 his/her 17th birthday.

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

17 (Check whichever one occurred the latest:)

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

20 ( ) b. 5 years have elapsed since all juvenile court  
21 proceedings relating to the Petitioner have been terminated; or  
22 the Petitioner's commitment to the Department of Juvenile  
23 Justice pursuant to the expungement of juvenile law enforcement  
24 and court records provisions of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987  
25 has been terminated. Petitioner ...has ...has not been arrested  
26 on charges in this or any other county other than the charge



1 listed above. If petitioner has been arrested on additional  
2 charges, please list the charges below:

3 Charge(s): .....

4 Arresting Agency or Agencies: .....

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

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

11 .....  
12 Petitioner (Signature)

13 .....  
14 Petitioner's Street Address

15 .....  
16 City, State, Zip Code

17 .....  
18 Petitioner's Telephone Number

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

1 .....  
2

3 Petitioner (Signature)

4 (3) The chief judge of the circuit in which an arrest was  
5 made or a charge was brought or any judge of that circuit  
6 designated by the chief judge may, upon verified petition of a  
7 person who is the subject of an arrest or a juvenile court  
8 proceeding under subsection (1) or (2) of this Section, order  
9 the law enforcement records or official court file, or both, to  
10 be expunged from the official records of the arresting  
11 authority, the clerk of the circuit court and the Department of  
12 State Police. The person whose records are to be expunged shall  
13 petition the court using the appropriate form containing his or  
14 her current address and shall promptly notify the clerk of the  
15 circuit court of any change of address. Notice of the petition  
16 shall be served upon the State's Attorney or prosecutor charged  
17 with the duty of prosecuting the offense, the Department of  
18 State Police, and the arresting agency or agencies by the clerk  
19 of the circuit court. If an objection is filed within 45 ~~90~~  
20 days of the notice of the petition, the clerk of the circuit  
21 court shall set a date for hearing after the 45 ~~90~~ day  
22 objection period. At the hearing the court shall hear evidence  
23 on whether the expungement should or should not be granted.  
24 Unless the State's Attorney or prosecutor, the Department of  
25 State Police, or an arresting agency objects to the expungement  
26 within 45 ~~90~~ days of the notice, the court may enter an order  
granting expungement. The person whose records are to be

1 expunged shall pay the clerk of the circuit court a fee  
 2 equivalent to the cost associated with expungement of records  
 3 by the clerk and the Department of State Police. The clerk  
 4 shall forward a certified copy of the order to the Department  
 5 of State Police, the appropriate portion of the fee to the  
 6 Department of State Police for processing, and deliver a  
 7 certified copy of the order to the arresting agency.

8 (3.1) The Notice of Expungement shall be in substantially  
 9 the following form:

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

12 IN THE INTEREST OF ) NO.  
 13 )  
 14 )  
 15 .....)  
 16 (Name of Petitioner)

17 NOTICE

18 TO: State's Attorney

19 TO: Arresting Agency

20

21 .....

22 .....

23

24 .....

1 .....  
2

3 TO: Illinois State Police

4 .....  
5

6 .....  
7

8 ATTENTION: Expungement

9 You are hereby notified that on ....., at ....., in courtroom  
10 ..., located at ..., before the Honorable ..., Judge, or any  
11 judge sitting in his/her stead, I shall then and there present  
12 a Petition to Expunge Juvenile records in the above-entitled  
13 matter, at which time and place you may appear.

14 .....  
15 Petitioner's Signature

16 .....  
17 Petitioner's Street Address

18 .....  
19 City, State, Zip Code

20 .....  
21 Petitioner's Telephone Number

22 PROOF OF SERVICE

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

26 (Check One:)

delivering copies personally to each entity to whom they are

1 directed;  
 2 or  
 3 by mailing copies to each entity to whom they are directed by  
 4 depositing the same in the U.S. Mail, proper postage fully  
 5 prepaid, before the hour of 5:00 p.m., at the United States  
 6 Postal Depository located at .....  
 7 .....  
 8

9 Signature  
 10 Clerk of the Circuit Court or Deputy Clerk  
 11 Printed Name of Delinquent Minor/Petitioner: ....  
 12 Address: .....  
 13 Telephone Number: .....

14 (3.2) The Order of Expungement shall be in substantially  
 15 the following form:

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

18 IN THE INTEREST OF ) NO.  
 19 )  
 20 )  
 21 .....)  
 22 (Name of Petitioner)

23 DOB .....  
 24 Arresting Agency/Agencies .....

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ORDER OF EXPUNGEMENT

(705 ILCS 405/5-915 (SUBSECTION 3))

This matter having been heard on the petitioner's motion and the court being fully advised in the premises does find that the petitioner is indigent or has presented reasonable cause to waive all costs in this matter, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

( ) 1. Clerk of Court and Department of State Police costs are hereby waived in this matter.

( ) 2. The Illinois State Police Bureau of Identification and the following law enforcement agencies expunge all records 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

1 following form:

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

4 IN THE INTEREST OF ) NO.  
5 )  
6 )  
7 .....)  
8 (Name of Petitioner)

9 NOTICE OF OBJECTION

10 TO: (Attorney, Public Defender, Minor)  
11 .....

12 .....

13 TO: (Illinois State Police)

14 .....

15 .....

16 TO: (Clerk of the Court)

17 .....

18 .....

19 TO: (Judge)

20 .....

21 .....

22 TO: (Arresting Agency/Agencies)

23 .....

24 .....

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

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

9 The agency checked above respectfully requests that this case  
10 be continued and set for hearing on whether the expungement  
11 should or should not be granted.

12 DATED: .....

13 Name:

14 Attorney For:

15 Address:

16 City/State/Zip:

17 Telephone:

18 Attorney No.:

19 FOR USE BY CLERK OF THE COURT PERSONNEL ONLY

20 This matter has been set for hearing on the foregoing  
21 objection, on ..... in room ....., located at ....., before the  
22 Honorable ....., Judge, or any judge sitting in his/her stead.

23 (Only one hearing shall be set, regardless of the number of  
24 Notices of Objection received on the same case).

25 A copy of this completed Notice of Objection containing the  
26 court date, time, and location, has been sent via regular U.S.



1 Mail to the following entities. (If more than one Notice of  
2 Objection is received on the same case, each one must be  
3 completed with the court date, time and location and mailed to  
4 the following entities):

5 ( ) Attorney, Public Defender or Minor;

6 ( ) State's Attorney's Office;

7 ( ) Prosecutor (other than State's Attorney's Office) charged  
8 with the duty of prosecuting the offense sought to be expunged;

9 ( ) Department of Illinois State Police; and

10 ( ) Arresting agency or agencies.

11 Date: .....

12 Initials of Clerk completing this section: .....

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

18 (5) Records which have not been expunged are sealed, and  
19 may be obtained only under the provisions of Sections 5-901,  
20 5-905 and 5-915.

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

1           (7) (a) The State Appellate Defender shall establish,  
2 maintain, and carry out, by December 31, 2004, a juvenile  
3 expungement program to provide information and assistance to  
4 minors eligible to have their juvenile records expunged.

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

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

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

13           (iii) The juvenile offenses that may be expunged;

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

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

18           (c) The State Appellate Defender shall establish and  
19 maintain a statewide toll-free telephone number that a person  
20 may use to receive information or assistance concerning the  
21 expungement of juvenile records. The State Appellate Defender  
22 shall advertise the toll-free telephone number statewide. The  
23 State Appellate Defender shall develop an expungement  
24 information packet that may be sent to eligible persons seeking  
25 expungement of their juvenile records, which may include, but  
26 is not limited to, a pre-printed expungement petition with

1 instructions on how to complete the petition and a pamphlet  
2 containing information that would assist individuals through  
3 the juvenile expungement process.

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

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

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

1 records of arrest or conviction.

2 (b) A person whose juvenile records have been expunged is  
3 not entitled to remission of any fines, costs, or other money  
4 paid as a consequence of expungement. This amendatory Act of  
5 the 93rd General Assembly does not affect the right of the  
6 victim of a crime to prosecute or defend a civil action for  
7 damages.

8 (Source: P.A. 93-912, eff. 8-12-04; 94-696, eff. 6-1-06.)