Juvenile Record Clearance
2017 Legislative Reforms

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Speakers

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Clean Slate
CLEARINGHOUSE
A project funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Justice

Clearinghouse

- Online clearinghouse of each state’s adult and juvenile record clearance policies, resources, guides, and legal service providers

Audience

- Legal service providers, people with criminal records, policymakers, and reentry and workforce service providers

Goals

- Provide accessible, up to date information for record clearance policies across the country
- Increase capacity of legal service providers and create a community of practice around record clearance

cleanslateclearinghouse.org

The Council of State Governments Justice Center
Juvenile Record Clearance:

2017 Legislative Reforms

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Overview: Juvenile Record Clearance Laws

- Eligible records
- Eligible offenses
- Exclusions
- Automatic or petition required
Overview: Juvenile Record Clearance Laws

- Procedure
- Discretionary or mandatory
- Waiting period
- Fee
2017 Legislative Reforms

- Expand access for human trafficking-related offenses
- Decrease waiting time
- Increase eligible offenses
- Increase of automatic record clearance
- Simplify record clearance process
State-Specific Legislative Reforms
Louisiana: How They Achieved Reforms

• ABA - Model Act Governing the Confidentiality and Expungement of Juvenile Delinquency Records
• State bar support
• Law Institute collaboration
• Lobbyist assistance
Louisiana: Changes to the Law

- Increased eligible offenses
- Decreased waiting time
- Simplified process
- Tightened confidentiality rules
Coalition building

- Worked with non-profit organizations
- Key allies/Unlikely allies
- Bipartisan support
Delaware: How They Achieved Reforms

Strategy
- Personal stories
- Packaged as part of juvenile justice reform bills

Persistence
- Multiple drafts over several years
- Educating legislators
Delaware: Changes to the Law

- Expanded eligible offenses
- Streamlined process
- Shortened time frames
Illinois: Changes to the Law

- Expanded automatic expungement
- Hearing only required if prosecutor objects
- Decreased waiting period
- Strengthened confidentiality laws
California: Changes to the Law

• Increased eligible offenses
• Increased matters eligible for automatic sealing
States with 2017 Legislative Reforms
Why Expand Juvenile Record Clearance?
2018 Reforms

Which states are poised to change their juvenile record clearance laws or court rules in 2018?
Presenters

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