

**CERTIFICATES OF RELIEF
FROM DISABILITY**



**Department of
Probation**

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- What is a Certificate of Relief from Disability?
- Who is eligible for a COR?
- How to obtain a COR
- Helpful Hints.

WHAT IS A CERTIFICATE OF RELIEF FROM DISABILITY?



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Certificate of Relief from Disability: An Order, issued by a judge, that can restore some of the rights you lost because of your conviction. It can make it easier for you to get a job and certain licenses.

It is not a pardon and does not mean your record has been expunged.

Nor does it guarantee that an employer will give you the job.

- You will still need to disclose your convictions if asked.
- If your employer determines that there is a direct relationship between one or more of your previous criminal convictions and the specific employment sought, the employer may use that as a reason not to hire you.

It does not restore your right to own a gun or to hold public office, if your conviction deprived you of those rights.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A COR?



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Anyone who has not been convicted of two or more felonies.



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- Out-of-state or federal convictions count toward the number of felonies
- Cases in which you were adjudicated a juvenile delinquent or received Youthful Offender (YO) status do not count
- If you were convicted of multiple felony counts in the same courtroom on the same day under a single indictment, it counts as only one felony for COR purposes

HOW DO I OBTAIN A COR?



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- Know Your Record
- Apply for the COR
- Meet with a Probation Officer

STEP 1: KNOW YOUR RECORD

Make sure you know how many convictions you have on your record.

- Review your rap sheet
- Make sure it is accurate/confer with your PO
- Remember: Out-of-state and federal convictions count, YO adjudications don't
- Determine whether you have more than one felony conviction

STEP 2: APPLY FOR THE COR

- Apply in person with the court clerk in the court in which you were convicted
- If you are applying for a COR related to a federal or out-of-state conviction or a conviction for which you served state prison time, apply through Parole
- You will need to apply for a separate COR for each conviction

STEP 3: MEET WITH A PROBATION OFFICER

- This meeting is confidential
- The probation officer will use it to prepare a report and recommendation about whether or not they believe you are eligible for a COR

HELPFUL HINTS



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WHEN YOU MEET WITH THE PROBATION OFFICER, BE READY TO DISCUSS:

- Your convictions
- Why you want a COR
- Your work history
- Your educational history
- Your physical and mental health
- Your family history (your parents, your children)
- Your marital status
- Prior military service
- Your current living situation
- Your current source(s) of income

WHEN YOU MEET WITH THE PROBATION OFFICER, BRING THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

- Identification
- Proof of income (current or past)
- Proof of employment
- Proof of education or training
- Recommendation letters

WHAT THE JUDGE WILL LOOK FOR:

- Evidence of rehabilitation
- The relationship between your request, your rap sheet and the job you want.