

Expungement and Sealing

Your Criminal Offender Record Information or “CORI” can make life difficult by complicating your search for employment, housing, licensing, and more. In Massachusetts, you can seal or expunge these records to mitigate some consequences.

For more information, visit the Massachusetts Court System and Massachusetts Probation Services website at:

<https://www.mass.gov/expunge-your-criminal-record>



FACT

Most marijuana convictions will not prevent a person from working at a marijuana business in Massachusetts, unless it involved distribution to a minor.

Contact Equity@CCCMass.com with questions.



Expunging a CORI

There is an important distinction between sealing and expungement. Expunging a criminal record means permanently destroying any record of an offense so it is no longer available through the court or any local, county, or state agencies. This can be a powerful remedy; however, it is only available to certain petitioners. Luckily, if your criminal record is ineligible for expungement, it may qualify for sealing.

Sealing a CORI

Sealing gives the appearance that your conviction has been cleared so the information is not readily available to the public. If the offense was once a felony, but is later re-classified as a misdemeanor, it will be treated as a misdemeanor when determining sealing eligibility. If the offense is no longer a crime, you can immediately become eligible to apply for sealing. When applying for employment, you can respond “no record” to inquiries about sealed information, but it remains available to certain government agencies.

If you have been harmed by the War on Drugs, the Cannabis Control Commission’s Social Equity Program is available to help you find opportunities in the legal cannabis industry regardless of your CORI.



MassCannabisControl.com/Equity/SocialEquityProgram

Visit our website for frequently asked questions, application tutorials, course examples, and to subscribe to our mailing list. Commission staff are also available via **Equity@CCCMass.com** and **(774)415-0200**.

