

ILLINOIS

Illinois Compiled Statutes Chapter 20 §2630/5(h)

(h) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act to the contrary and cumulative with any rights to expungement of criminal records, whenever an adult or minor prosecuted as an adult charged with a violation of a municipal ordinance or a misdemeanor is acquitted or released without being convicted, or if the person is convicted but the conviction is reversed, or if the person has been placed on supervision for a misdemeanor and has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor or placed on supervision for a misdemeanor within 3 years after the acquittal or release or reversal of conviction, or the completion of the terms and conditions of the supervision, if the acquittal, release, finding of not guilty, or reversal of conviction occurred on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly, the Chief Judge of the circuit in which the charge was brought may have the official records of the arresting authority, the Department, and the clerk of the circuit court sealed 3 years after the dismissal of the charge, the finding of not guilty, the reversal of conviction, or the completion of the terms and conditions of the supervision, except those records are subject to inspection and use by the court for the purposes of subsequent sentencing for misdemeanor and felony violations and inspection and use by law enforcement agencies and State's Attorneys or other prosecutors in carrying out the duties of their offices. This subsection (h) does not apply to persons placed on supervision for: (1) a violation of Section 11-501 of the Illinois Vehicle Code or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (2) a misdemeanor violation of Article 11 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (3) a misdemeanor violation of Section 12-15, 12-30, or 26-5 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (4) a misdemeanor violation that is a crime of violence as defined in Section 2 of the Crime Victims Compensation Act or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (5) a Class A misdemeanor violation of the Humane Care for Animals Act; or (6) any offense or attempted offense that would subject a person to registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act.

(2) Upon acquittal, release without conviction, or being placed on supervision, the person charged with the offense shall be informed by the court of the right to have the records sealed and the procedures for the sealing of the records. Three years after the dismissal of the charge, the finding of not guilty, the reversal of conviction, or the completion of the terms and conditions of the supervision, the defendant shall provide the clerk of the court with a notice of request for sealing of records and payment of the applicable fee and a current address and shall promptly notify the clerk of the court of any change of address. The clerk shall promptly serve notice that the person's records are to be sealed on the State's Attorney or prosecutor charged with the duty of prosecuting the offense, the Department of State Police, the arresting agency and the chief legal officer of the unit of local government effecting the arrest. Unless the State's Attorney or prosecutor, the Department of State Police, the arresting agency or such chief legal officer objects to sealing of the records within 90 days of notice the court shall enter an order sealing the defendant's records 3 years after the dismissal of the charge, the finding of not guilty, the reversal of conviction, or the completion of the terms and conditions of the supervision. The clerk of the court shall promptly serve by mail or in person a copy of the order to the person, the arresting agency, the prosecutor, the Department of State Police and such other criminal justice

agencies as may be ordered by the judge. If an objection is filed, the court shall set a date for hearing. At the hearing the court shall hear evidence on whether the sealing of the records should or should not be granted.

(3) The clerk may charge a fee equivalent to the cost associated with the sealing of records by the clerk and the Department of State Police. The clerk shall forward the Department of State Police portion of the fee to the Department and it shall be deposited into the State Police Services Fund.

(4) Whenever sealing of records is required under this subsection (h), the notification of the sealing must be given by the circuit court where the arrest occurred to the Department in a form and manner prescribed by the Department.

(5) An adult or a minor prosecuted as an adult who was charged with a violation of a municipal ordinance or a misdemeanor who was acquitted, released without being convicted, convicted and the conviction was reversed, or placed on supervision for a misdemeanor before the date of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly and was not convicted of a felony or misdemeanor or placed on supervision for a misdemeanor for 3 years after the acquittal or release or reversal of conviction, or completion of the terms and conditions of the supervision may petition the Chief Judge of the circuit in which the charge was brought, any judge of that circuit in which the charge was brought, any judge of the circuit designated by the Chief Judge, or, in counties of less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the presiding trial judge at that defendant's trial, to seal the official records of the arresting authority, the Department, and the clerk of the court, except those records are subject to inspection and use by the court for the purposes of subsequent sentencing for misdemeanor and felony violations and inspection and use by law enforcement agencies, the Department of Corrections, and State's Attorneys and other prosecutors in carrying out the duties of their offices. This subsection (h) does not apply to persons placed on supervision for: (1) a violation of Section 11-501 of the Illinois Vehicle Code or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (2) a misdemeanor violation of Article 11 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (3) a misdemeanor violation of Section 12-15, 12-30, or 26-5 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (4) a misdemeanor violation that is a crime of violence as defined in Section 2 of the Crime Victims Compensation Act or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (5) a Class A misdemeanor violation of the Humane Care for Animals Act; or (6) any offense or attempted offense that would subject a person to registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act. The State's Attorney or prosecutor charged with the duty of prosecuting the offense, the Department of State Police, the arresting agency and the chief legal officer of the unit of local government effecting the arrest shall be served with a copy of the verified petition and shall have 90 days to object. If an objection is filed, the court shall set a date for hearing. At the hearing the court shall hear evidence on whether the sealing of the records should or should not be granted. The person whose records are sealed under the provisions of this Act shall pay to the clerk of the court and the Department of State Police a fee equivalent to the cost associated with the sealing of records. The fees shall be paid to the clerk of the court who shall forward the appropriate portion to the Department at the time the court order to seal the defendant's record is forwarded to the Department for processing. The Department of State Police portion of the fee shall be deposited into the State Police Services Fund.

(i) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act to the contrary and cumulative with

any rights to expungement of criminal records, whenever an adult or minor prosecuted as an adult charged with a violation of a municipal ordinance or a misdemeanor is convicted of a misdemeanor and has not been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor or placed on supervision for a misdemeanor within 4 years after the completion of the sentence, if the conviction occurred on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly, the Chief Judge of the circuit in which the charge was brought may have the official records of the arresting authority, the Department, and the clerk of the circuit court sealed 4 years after the completion of the sentence, except those records are subject to inspection and use by the court for the purposes of subsequent sentencing for misdemeanor and felony violations and inspection and use by law enforcement agencies and State's Attorneys or other prosecutors in carrying out the duties of their offices. This subsection (i) does not apply to persons convicted of: (1) a violation of Section 11-501 of the Illinois Vehicle Code or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (2) a misdemeanor violation of Article 11 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (3) a misdemeanor violation of Section 12-15, 12-30, or 26-5 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (4) a misdemeanor violation that is a crime of violence as defined in Section 2 of the Crime Victims Compensation Act or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (5) a Class A misdemeanor violation of the Humane Care for Animals Act; or (6) any offense or attempted offense that would subject a person to registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act.

(2) Upon the conviction of such offense, the person charged with the offense shall be informed by the court of the right to have the records sealed and the procedures for the sealing of the records. Four years after the completion of the sentence, the defendant shall provide the clerk of the court with a notice of request for sealing of records and payment of the applicable fee and a current address and shall promptly notify the clerk of the court of any change of address. The clerk shall promptly serve notice that the person's records are to be sealed on the State's Attorney or prosecutor charged with the duty of prosecuting the offense, the Department of State Police, the arresting agency and the chief legal officer of the unit of local government effecting the arrest. Unless the State's Attorney or prosecutor, the Department of State Police, the arresting agency or such chief legal officer objects to sealing of the records within 90 days of notice the court shall enter an order sealing the defendant's records 4 years after the completion of the sentence. The clerk of the court shall promptly serve by mail or in person a copy of the order to the person, the arresting agency, the prosecutor, the Department of State Police and such other criminal justice agencies as may be ordered by the judge. If an objection is filed, the court shall set a date for hearing. At the hearing the court shall hear evidence on whether the sealing of the records should or should not be granted.

(3) The clerk may charge a fee equivalent to the cost associated with the sealing of records by the clerk and the Department of State Police. The clerk shall forward the Department of State Police portion of the fee to the Department and it shall be deposited into the State Police Services Fund.

(4) Whenever sealing of records is required under this subsection (i), the notification of the sealing must be given by the circuit court where the arrest occurred to the Department in a form and manner prescribed by the Department.

(5) An adult or a minor prosecuted as an adult who was charged with a violation of a municipal ordinance or a misdemeanor who was convicted of a misdemeanor before the date of this amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly and was not convicted of a felony or misdemeanor or placed on supervision for a misdemeanor for 4 years

after the completion of the sentence may petition the Chief Judge of the circuit in which the charge was brought, any judge of that circuit in which the charge was brought, any judge of the circuit designated by the Chief Judge, or, in counties of less than 3,000,000 inhabitants, the presiding trial judge at that defendant's trial, to seal the official records of the arresting authority, the Department, and the clerk of the court, except those records are subject to inspection and use by the court for the purposes of subsequent sentencing for misdemeanor and felony violations and inspection and use by law enforcement agencies, the Department of Corrections, and State's Attorneys and other prosecutors in carrying out the duties of their offices. This subsection (i) does not apply to persons convicted of: (1) a violation of Section 11-501 of the Illinois Vehicle Code or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (2) a misdemeanor violation of Article 11 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (3) a misdemeanor violation of Section 12-15, 12-30, or 26-5 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (4) a misdemeanor violation that is a crime of violence as defined in Section 2 of the Crime Victims Compensation Act or a similar provision of a local ordinance; (5) a Class A misdemeanor violation of the Humane Care for Animals Act; or (6) any offense or attempted offense that would subject a person to registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act. The State's Attorney or prosecutor charged with the duty of prosecuting the offense, the Department of State Police, the arresting agency and the chief legal officer of the unit of local government effecting the arrest shall be served with a copy of the verified petition and shall have 90 days to object. If an objection is filed, the court shall set a date for hearing. At the hearing the court shall hear evidence on whether the sealing of the records should or should not be granted. The person whose records are sealed under the provisions of this Act shall pay to the clerk of the court and the Department of State Police a fee equivalent to the cost associated with the sealing of records. The fees shall be paid to the clerk of the court who shall forward the appropriate portion to the Department at the time the court order to seal the defendant's record is forwarded to the Department for processing. The Department of State Police portion of the fee shall be deposited into the State Police Services Fund.

(Source: P.A. 91-295, eff. 1-1-00; 91-357, eff. 7-29-99; 92-651, eff. 7-11-02.)

(20 ILCS 2630/11 new)

Sec. 11. Legal assistance and education.

Subject to appropriation, the State Appellate Defender shall establish, maintain, and carry out a sealing and expungement program to provide information to persons eligible to have their arrest or criminal history records expunged or sealed.

(20 ILCS 2630/12 new)

Sec. 12. Entry of order; effect of expungement or sealing.

(a) Except with respect to law enforcement agencies, the Department of Corrections, State's Attorneys, or other prosecutors, an expunged or sealed record may not be considered by any private or public entity in employment matters, certification, licensing, revocation of certification or licensure, or registration. Applications for employment must contain specific language which states that the applicant is not obligated to disclose sealed or expunged records of conviction or arrest. Employers may not ask if an applicant has had records expunged or

sealed.

(b) A person whose records have been sealed or expunged is not entitled to remission of any fines, costs, or other money paid as a consequence of the sealing or expungement.

This amendatory Act of the 93rd General Assembly does not affect the right of the victim of a crime to prosecute or defend a civil action for damages. Persons engaged in civil litigation involving criminal records that have been sealed may petition the court to open the records for the limited purpose of using them in the course of litigation.

(20 ILCS 2630/13 new)

Sec. 13. Prohibited conduct; misdemeanor; penalty.

(a) The Department of State Police shall retain records sealed under subsections (h) and (i) of Section 5. The sealed records shall be used and disseminated by the Department only as allowed by law. Upon conviction for any offense, the Department of Corrections shall have access to all sealed records of the Department pertaining to that individual.

(b) The sealed records maintained under subsection (a) are exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.