

ERASURE OF ELIGIBLE CONVICTIONS THROUGH CONNECTICUT'S CLEAN SLATE AND CANNABIS LAWS

CLEAN SLATE

Clean Slate is a Connecticut law that requires automatic erasure of certain state criminal convictions from your record. The law requires automatic erasure of eligible offenses that occurred on or after January 1, 2000, and the law allows you to petition the court for erasure of eligible offenses that occurred before January 1, 2000. The law became effective on January 1, 2023. However, implementation has been delayed, and automatic erasure of eligible convictions began in the fall of 2025.

Who is eligible to have convictions erased from their record under Clean Slate?

You ARE eligible if:	You NOT eligible if:
✔ You have completed your term of incarceration and supervised release (parole or probation) for the crime you're asking the court to erase <u>AND</u> for any charges you were convicted of in Connecticut state court on or after January 1, 2000.	✘ You are on probation, parole, special parole, or any other kind of supervised release for a Connecticut state charge. ✘ You have pending state criminal charges in Connecticut.

Which charges are eligible for erasure under Clean Slate?¹

Once the State of Connecticut begins automatic record erasure, the following convictions will be **automatically erased** if they occurred on **January 1, 2000 or later**:

- **Most misdemeanor convictions** (except family violence and sex crimes), once it has been 7 years since your most recent conviction for any crime.
- **Most Class D, Class E, and unclassified felony convictions** (except family violence and sex crimes), once it has been 10 years since your most recent conviction for any crime.

If you believe that a conviction should have been automatically erased but it is still appearing on your record, you can request a hearing. See: https://portal.ct.gov/cleanslate/Clean-Slate-Eligibility?language=en_US

If you have a conviction that is eligible for erasure that occurred **before January 1, 2000**, it will not be erased automatically. However, you can **petition the court** to ask for it to be erased. The State of Connecticut has a website with information on how to petition the court for erasure, as well as blank copies of the petition form

¹ In addition to family violence (as defined in 46b-38a) and sex crimes (as defined in 54-250), the following specific convictions are not eligible for Clean Slate erasure: sale, delivery or transfer of pistols and revolvers (29-33); assaults under 53a-60a, 53a-60b, 53a-60c, and 53a-61a; strangulation or suffocation in the 2nd (53a-64bb) or the 3rd (53a-64cc); sexual assault in the 3rd (53a-72a); enticing a minor (53a-90a); burglary in the 3rd with a firearm (53a-103a); stalking in the 1st (53a-181c); voyeurism (53-189a)(1); incest (53a-191); obscenity as to minors (53a-196); possessing child pornography in the 1st (53a-196d) or the 3rd (53a-196f); weapons offenses under 53a-211, 53a-212, 53a-216, 53a-217, 53a-217a, and 53a-217c; abuse in the 2nd (53a-322) or the 3rd (53a-323); registration for specific offenses under 54-251, 54-252, 54-253, and 54-254.

(Form JD-CR-202), available here: https://portal.ct.gov/cleanslate/Petition-for-Clean-Slate-Erasure?language=en_US.

CANNABIS LAWS

Under Connecticut's new **cannabis laws**, convictions for possession of 4 ounces or less cannabis between January 1, 2000, and September 30, 2015, were automatically erased on January 1, 2023. If you were convicted of cannabis possession outside of that timeframe, you are still eligible to have that conviction erased by petitioning the court. In addition, other cannabis-related offenses are eligible for erasure through court petition.

Which cannabis-related convictions are eligible for erasure under the Connecticut cannabis laws?

If you have a conviction for one of the following cannabis-related offenses, you can petition the court for erasure:

- Convictions for **possession of 4 ounces or less of cannabis**, occurring before January 1, 2000 or between October 1, 2015 – June 30, 2021.
- Convictions for **possession with an intent to use drug paraphernalia for cannabis**, occurring before July 1, 2021.
- Convictions for **manufacturing, selling, or possessing with an intent to sell cannabis**, where the amount involved was **4 ounces or less of cannabis or 6 plants or fewer** grown for personal use, and the conviction occurred before July 1, 2021.

Where can I get help in finding out if I have a conviction that is eligible for erasure?

- **You can search for your criminal record on the State of Connecticut Judicial Branch website.** It is important to note that some charges on your record may not show up on this website, particularly ones that occurred over 10 years ago. You can search your record on the Connecticut Judicial Branch website: <https://www.jud2.ct.gov/crdockets/SearchByDefDisp.aspx>
- **The State of Connecticut has a website with more information** on criminal record erasures under Clean Slate and the state cannabis laws. You can find more information on eligibility and the process of petitioning for erasure here: https://portal.ct.gov/cleanslate/?language=en_US
- **If you are experiencing a housing or employment denial or another time sensitive problem** due to a conviction that is eligible for erasure under Clean Slate or the state cannabis laws, please contact New Haven Legal Assistance Association at 203-946-4811 or to see if we are able to take your case. If you live outside of the Greater New Haven area, contact Statewide Legal Services instead at (800) 453-3320.