

WHAT TO DO — EMERGENCY REFERENCE

What to Do to Clear Your Texas Record

Texas offers two remedies: expunction (complete erasure) under Code of Criminal Procedure art. 55, and non-disclosure (sealing) under Gov't Code § 411.071. Eligibility is strict and the process is procedural.

CALL AN ATTORNEY IMMEDIATELY — (214) 466-1398

A licensed attorney answers 24/7. Do NOT discuss your case with anyone except your lawyer. Statements to police, cellmates, friends, or family can be used against you.

Do This Now

1. Obtain your complete criminal history from Texas DPS (and FBI if applicable).
2. Identify each case — cause number, county, date, charge, disposition.
3. Verify eligibility: expunction requires acquittal, dismissal, no-bill, or certain deferred outcomes.
4. For non-disclosure: wait out the 2-year (misdemeanor) or 5-year (felony) waiting period.
5. Check for any subsequent convictions that could disqualify you.
6. Compile a list of every agency that might have records (local PD, sheriff, DA, DPS, FBI, court, private vendors).
7. Contact L and L Law Group at (214) 466-1398 for a free eligibility review.

Avoid These Common Mistakes

- Do NOT file a pro-se petition without eligibility confirmation — denial creates procedural complications.
- Do NOT assume all cases are expungeable — some categories (family violence, sex offenses) are permanently ineligible.
- Do NOT forget the 180-day agency destruction period after the order — some agencies require follow-up.
- Do NOT apply for jobs or licenses assuming the record is already sealed before the order is signed.
- Do NOT pay "record removal" services online — most are scams.

Key Texas Law You Should Know

Texas Code of Criminal Procedure art. 55 — Expunction

Available for acquittals, dismissals, no-bills, pardons, identity-theft cases, and some deferred adjudications.

Texas Government Code § 411.071 — Non-Disclosure

Seals record from most public background checks. 2-yr wait for misdemeanors, 5-yr for felonies.

Texas Gov't Code § 411.0735 — Misdemeanor Non-Disclosure

Eligible for many misdemeanor convictions after 5-year wait with no subsequent convictions.

Texas Gov't Code § 411.0745 — Certain DWI Non-Disclosure

First-offense DWI deferred adjudication may qualify.

Possible Outcomes

- Expunction granted — all records destroyed; can legally deny arrest on most applications
- Non-disclosure granted — records sealed from private background checks
- Petition denied — may be able to re-file after waiting period or appeal
- Partial relief (some charges expunged, others sealed)

CRITICAL DEADLINES

Non-disclosure: 2-yr wait for misdemeanors, 5-yr for felonies | Misdemeanor conviction non-disclosure: 5 years after sentence completion | Order enforcement: 180 days for agencies to comply

Questions to Bring to Your Consultation

- Am I eligible for expunction or only non-disclosure?
- When is the earliest I can file?
- Will this clear me for [licensing board / employer / immigration] purposes?
- Can I seal multiple cases in one petition?
- What is the total flat fee for filing and service?

FREE CONSULTATION — AVAILABLE 24/7

Call (214) 466-1398 or visit friscocriminalattorneys.com/contact.html. A licensed attorney answers day or night. Flat-fee pricing with payment plans available.