

## August 3, 2023, 1-2pm Sealing Conviction Records

Did you know that after 10 years, some conviction records can be sealed in NYS and that most employers are NOT allowed to ask about or consider any records that have been sealed? Attendees will learn:

- What convictions are eligible for sealing under NYS law
- Who can see a conviction after it has been sealed
- Whether or not your conviction record may be eligible for sealing. People with eligible convictions will receive information that will help them to complete a pro-se sealing application on their own. Attendees presenting with complex conviction issues will be referred for attorney representation, where possible

All workshops are free and open to the public. Registration is encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome. Visit the Events Calendar at [www.RocCityLibrary.org](http://www.RocCityLibrary.org) to register or call **585-428-8313** for more information.



Central Library  
of Rochester &  
Monroe County  
Monroe County Library System

[www.RocCityLibrary.org](http://www.RocCityLibrary.org)

Outreach Department  
Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County  
115 South Ave., Rochester, NY 14604

*Center for Community Alternatives,  
Judicial Process Commission,  
and Legal Assistance of Western NY  
present:*

# How to Reduce Barriers from a Criminal Record

**May 4 • June 1  
July 6 • August 3**  
**1:00pm – 2:00pm**

*First Thursday of the month;  
more details inside*

**Get your RAP sheet for free**

All workshops held at:  
**KATE GLEASON AUDITORIUM**  
**Central Library of Rochester  
& Monroe County**  
115 South Ave, Rochester NY, 14604



Central Library  
of Rochester &  
Monroe County  
Monroe County Library System

# Reducing Barriers from a Criminal Record: A Workshop Series

## Offered at each workshop: Get your RAP sheet for free

If you have ever been arrested, you may think you know what's on your government Record of Arrest and Prosecution – your "RAP sheet." But do you *really* know?

- RAP sheets often contain mistakes that can cause serious problems for you. To minimize potential barriers to employment, housing, public benefits, and more, you need to make sure your RAP sheet is accurate. To get a copy of your RAP sheet for review, you must submit a request to NYS, along with a set of your authorized fingerprints
- Each month income eligible attendees can be fingerprinted for free and helped with obtaining their RAP sheet. Bring your NYS Benefit Card or another NYS Photo ID with proof of income
- Attendees who are not income eligible will be instructed how to obtain their own RAP sheet from NYS for a small fee
- All information shared will be kept strictly confidential

## May 4, 2023, 1-2pm Know Your Rights: Applying for a Job

An arrest and conviction record can create barriers or unexpected challenges for people looking for employment. It's important to know your rights so you're not unfairly discriminated against. Attendees will learn:

- What types of conviction records NYS keeps and how you can access them
- What employers can legally ask about and see regarding your convictions
- What kind of help/legal relief may be available to you and how to apply, such as record sealing and certificates of rehabilitation
- How and when to request a conviction record for personal review
- How to obtain professional assistance to correct errors

## June 1, 2023, 1-2pm Know Your Rights: Fair Housing Protections

An arrest and conviction record can create barriers or unexpected challenges for people looking for safe, affordable housing. It's important to know your rights so you're not unfairly discriminated against when filling out rental applications. Attendees will learn about:

- The protected classes of people covered by state and federal law
- Specific protections that exist for people with an arrest or conviction record as they relate to applying to a NYS funded affordable housing program
- What to do when the condition of your apartment fails to meet basic safety standards
- The rights of boarding/rooming house tenants and shelter residents

## July 6, 2023, 1-2pm Certificates of Rehabilitation

Did you know that Certificates of Rehabilitation remove some automatic disqualifications for certain jobs and may restore some rights lost due to a conviction? Attendees will:

- Learn the basics of eligibility for Certificates of Relief from Disabilities and Certificates of Good Conduct
- Receive legal information to help determine if you are eligible to apply for Certificate relief
- Receive assistance with filling out a pro se application (pro se = on behalf of yourself); attendees with complex legal issues will be referred for attorney representation, where possible

***Workshop descriptions continued on back...***



The Central Library is accessible to people with disabilities. To request specific accommodations, call 585-428-8304 ten days prior to the program.