What is a pardon? Where individuals have lost civil liberties (such as the right to vote or the right to own and possess firearms) as a result of criminal convictions, they can apply to the Governor through the Maryland Parole Commission for a pardon for restoration of these rights. This is not legal advice. Please consult an attorney about your particular situation.

What do I need to do to apply for a pardon?
You must fill out a pardon application, which can be found at https://www.dpscs.state.md.us/publicservs/pdfs/Application-for-Pardon-Revised.pdf, and submit:
- Three character reference letters
- Copy of photo identification or driver’s license
- Copy of your birth certificate
- Certified copy of your entire driving history from the MVA
- Certified copy of the judgment and sentence for all felony, misdemeanor, and traffic convictions
- Copy of any high school, college, training school or university diplomas
- If you served in the military-a copy of your separation papers and if convicted of an offense by court-martial, a copy of the court-martial promulgating order

If you decide to proceed with a pardon application, be aware that there is no guarantee or right to pardon. It is completely at the discretion of the Governor to grant a pardon.

This factsheet was compiled by
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