GETTING A JOB WHILE ON PAROLE

This factsheet outlines the legal issues relating to employment while on parole. This is not legal advice. Please consult an attorney about your particular situation.

PAROLE VIOLATION

After being released on parole, you are expected to begin looking for a job immediately. If you do not, you may be in violation of your parole.

LOOKING FOR WORK

Look for a transition job. Your immediate goal is to establish some consistent work history and prove that you are dependable and self-reliant.

- Depending on the crime, you may have some restrictions on where you can work. For example, if your crime involved alcohol, you might not be allowed to work in a place that serves alcohol.
- You will likely not be able to cross state lines, so jobs like delivery and truck driving may not be available to you.
- Ask your Parole Officer for help with getting a job. They usually have an idea of which companies will be willing to hire someone with a criminal record.
- Keep in mind—Your Parole Officer can visit your jobsite at any time and talk to your supervisor about your behavior. Be aware, anybody can report a violation of your parole to your parole officer.

YOUR RECORD

- Know your criminal background and be prepared to address it.
- When asked about your criminal background, do not lie about it. Employers will have conducted a background check and they will know the truth.
- Look into having other crimes erased from your record, or “expunged.” Maryland law prohibits employers from asking about expunged records.
- To apply to have your record expunged, go to http://mdexpungement.com/. Enter your case number and it will tell you if your record is expungeable. Whether a case is expungeable is determined primarily by the disposition you received in the case. For more information see the Expungement factsheet at http://mvls.org/mvls-factsheets/. Please contact MVLS for help with expungements.

RE-ENTRY AND EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

- VOA Chesapeake Residential Re-Entry Center (https://www.voachesapeake.org/recc): (410)-276-5880
- Druid Hill Community Development Corporation (http://druidheights.com/dhcdd-reentry-program/): (410)-523-1350.
- Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Washington (https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/WelcomeHome): (202) 772-4300 ext. 040
- Baltimore City American Job Center (http://www.dllr.state.md.us/county/bacity/)

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**DEALING WITH YOUR RECORD**

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  - To apply to have your record expunged, go to [http://mdexpungement.com/](http://mdexpungement.com/). Enter your case number and it will tell you if your record is expungeable. Remember, crimes that you were convicted of are not expungeable. If your record is expungeable, download the expungement and waiver forms. Fill out the forms and bring them to the county clerk at the court in which the case was concluded.

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