

What's Expungement?

- Expungement is the removal and destruction of records pertaining to a criminal case.
- Not all charges and dispositions can be expunged.
- Some charges and dispositions come with waiting periods before you may file for expungement.

What will the REDEEM Act Change?

- Waiting periods for expunging eligible convictions will be reduced
 - Most eligible misdemeanors: 5 years
 - 2nd degree assault and battery: 7 years
 - CDS-possession with intent to distribute and 3rd degree burglary: 7 years
 - 1st and 2nd degree burglary and felony theft: 10 years
 - Crimes classified as “domestically related” remain at 15 years
 - Malicious destruction of property is now eligible with a 5-year waiting period

What's the REDEEM Act?

- The REDEEM Act is a law that changes some of the rules around expungement, beginning on October 1st, 2023

And what if I wasn't found guilty?

- The REDEEM Act doesn't change the rules for non-convictions:
 - Acquittal, dismissal, or nolle prosequi: you may file for an expungement immediately
 - Stet: 3 year waiting period
 - PBJ: 3 year waiting period OR completion of probation (whichever is longer) unless you receive another conviction

There are other rules that determine whether a case can be expunged. **Please visit [mvlslaw.org](https://www.mvlslaw.org) or call 410-547-6537 from Mon-Thurs, 9am-12pm to see if you are eligible for free legal assistance. Or, visit <https://www.mdcourts.gov/legalhelp/expungement> to access expungement forms and find instructions for filing on your own.**