

HB3316 Expungement Reform

MOVES OKLAHOMA AWAY FROM THE CURRENT PETITION (PAPER) BASED EXPUNGEMENT SYSTEM TO AN AUTOMATED COMPUTER BASED SYSTEM.

What is Clean Slate Expungement

An automated or "Clean Slate" expungement system uses modern computer tools to streamline the record clearance process by reducing the administrative cost for courts and eligible defendants.

Oklahoma allows for certain criminal records to be sealed or expunged, but under the current petition-based system, only a tiny fraction of eligible individuals ever successfully get their records cleared. Many do not even know it's an option. And nearly all eligible individuals must proactively file a petition in court—a process that can be both expensive and time-intensive. Requiring courts to process each paper petition one by one, straining valuable judicial resources.

By implementing the Clean Slate process everyone who qualifies for an expungement receives the clean slate they've earned—regardless of whether they can afford a lawyer and expensive court fees and without having to navigate a complex court process.

What Clean Slate DOES Do

- "Clean Slate" expungement rewards good behavior.
- "Clean Slate" expungement would benefit hundreds of thousands of Oklahomans and is currently focused on relatively narrow case types- like misdemeanors, acquittals and dismissed cases.
- "Clean Slate" reduces admin costs for the courts.

What Clean Slate DOES NOT Do

- "Clean Slate" expungement does not alter expungement eligibility. It simply takes the existing legal process and automates certain classes to reduce administrative and application cost and reduce paperwork.
- "Clean Slate" expungement does not hide criminal records from law enforcement. Arrest or court records would continue to be visible to law enforcement, but sealed from public view for things like employment, housing, and education access.
- Expunged cases can, and are, used for sentence enhancements.

Quick Facts

> **93%**
Percentage of individuals who are eligible for expungement but do not obtain relief.

> **\$0**
Cost to an individual to obtain an expungement under Clean Slate.

> **2.8%**
The reduction in unemployment among justice involved individuals once Clean Slate is passed.