

# — SEALING YOUR JUVENILE CASE RECORDS —

## WHY SEAL YOUR JUVENILE CASE RECORDS?

Your juvenile record is a permanent record that can potentially be accessed and viewed by the public. A sealed record limits the members of the public that can access your records. Left unsealed, your record can create barriers to your education, employment, housing, and government benefits.

## WHAT'S IN YOUR JUVENILE CASE RECORDS?

- Basic information (name, date of birth, address, etc.)
- Records and notes of arrest, detention, and charges
- Probation terms and status
- Programming (treatment, counseling, etc.)

## WHEN WILL YOUR RECORD AUTOMATICALLY SEAL?

When your case was handled in a non-adjudicative procedure (informal adjustment, pre-trial release, diversion, etc.) or when the complaint or petition in your case was dismissed.



## WHEN CAN YOU APPLY TO SEAL IF IT'S NOT DONE AUTOMATICALLY?

If it has been two years since the final discharge of your case. If you served probation or had any other terms attached to your disposition, the completion of those terms is the final discharge.

## WHEN MIGHT YOUR RECORD NOT BE SEALED?

- If you have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor of moral turpitude since your final discharge.
- If you have been adjudicated a delinquent or unruly child since your final discharge.
- If there is a proceeding seeking adjudication or conviction pending against you.

## HOW DO YOU APPLY TO SEAL YOUR RECORD(S)?

If the Fulton County Juvenile Court is where your case was decided, you must file a Petition to Seal Juvenile Court Case/Record with the Clerk's Office of the Fulton County Juvenile Court.

(404) 613-4663  
FCJC.Clerk@fultoncountyga.gov

### DID YOU KNOW?

- 50% of employers are less likely to offer jobs to applicants with juvenile records.
- Drug-related juvenile offenses can bar you from receiving financial aid for college.
- 20% of students who disclose unsealed juvenile court system involvement were denied admission to colleges.
- The National Affordable Housing Act allows housing authorities to evict residents because of the offenses of their relatives.

"Incredible change happens in your life when you decide to take control of what you do have power over instead of craving control over what you don't." - Steve Maraboli

# FAQS

## **How do I apply to seal my record(s)?**

File a petition with the Fulton County Juvenile Court using one of the forms provided on our website.

## **Do I have to apply exactly two years after my final discharge?**

You don't have to apply exactly two years from the date of your final discharge, but applying anytime before that date may result in a denial of your petition.

## **Do I need an attorney to file a petition?**

No. Contact the Clerk's Office for help filing your petition to seal your record(s).

## **What happens after filing my petition to seal?**

A hearing will be held to determine if you meet the requirements to have your record(s) sealed.

## **What does it mean when my record(s) are sealed?**

The proceeding is treated like it never happened. The court, law enforcement officers, and departments involved in your case will say that there is no existing record of any matter associated with the case, if asked.

## **Does my petition to seal cover all of my juvenile cases/records?**

No. You must petition to seal the records in each case you've had come before the juvenile court.

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**STEVE MARABOLI**

**CONTACT THE  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
AT**

(404) 613-4663

[FCJC.Clerk@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:FCJC.Clerk@fultoncountyga.gov)

**SEALING  
YOUR  
JUVENILE  
CASE**

At Fulton County Juvenile Court

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