



Narrator:

Every year in the United States, hundreds of thousands of people leave state and federal prisons and millions cycle into and out of jails. For many, reentering and reintegrating into their communities is overwhelming. Many people face challenges with critical aspects of life during a reentry, including housing, education, employment, criminal records, relationships, and healthcare. Connections to the support needed to address these challenges can help people live in the community safely and free of future legal system involvement.

The National Reentry Resource Center or the NRRC is a project funded by the US Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The NRRC is the nation's primary source of information and guidance in re-entry. Among its many resources, the NRRC hosts two online clearinghouses, specifically focused on resources to help people during and after reentry understand the impact of a criminal record and find information and services to overcome barriers they may face. These clearinghouses are also relevant to people working in the reentry field, providing promising and best practices that they can use in their work.

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The National Inventory of Collateral Consequences of Conviction, NICCC. Collateral consequences are legal and regulatory sanctions or restrictions that limit opportunities for people who have criminal records. Collateral consequences are far ranging affecting one in three Americans and include tens of thousands of state and federal restrictions on access to benefits and opportunities related to employment, housing, voting, parental custody, education, and licensing. Collateral consequences can prohibit people in reentry from fully reintegrating with society and may have lifelong impacts on individuals and their families. Collateral consequences differ among states and it can be difficult to identify all the penalties that may be triggered by a particular conviction.

The NRRC's National Inventory of Collateral Consequences of Conviction, or NICCC, helps address this problem. The NICCC is an online searchable database that identifies and categorizes the statutes and regulations that impose collateral consequences in all 50 states, the federal system and in the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. The information available on these consequences include the related offenses, duration of consequences, and information on and direct links to statutes and regulations. The inventory is reviewed and updated across all jurisdictions following each annual or biannual legislative session. Visitors to the NICCC will also find resources, including state and national reports and inventories, research articles, webinars, presentations,



podcasts and links to additional online sources of information. Users can browse the entire collection or use a search tool to find issues of particular interest to them.

Narrator: The Clean Slate Clearinghouse. Roughly 70 million adults in the US have a criminal record. Additionally, more than one million youth each year are charged with crimes that result in juvenile court records. These records can result in long-lasting collateral consequences that may hinder their attempts at gaining employment, finding housing, getting a driver's license, and even returning to school. For many individuals, the ability to clear their criminal or juvenile record is the only way to fully overcome these barriers. Record clearance means that an individual's criminal or juvenile history information is removed from easy public access from online searches to formal background checks.

The NRRC is also home to the Clean Slate Clearinghouse, which houses accurate and up-to-date juvenile and adult record clearance and mitigation policies for each state. Visitors who have been involved in the criminal or juvenile legal systems will find critical information about record clearance policies in their state. Like the NICCC, policies on the Clean Slate Clearinghouse are reviewed and updated annually or biannually following legislative schedules. The Clearinghouse also includes a comprehensive listing of legal service providers in all US states and territories. In addition to the state policies, policymakers and legal practitioners and researchers will also find record clearance resources to help guide their work, such as legal journal articles and research reports highlighting best practices and record mitigation and clearance. Many people who are reentering their communities after involvement with the criminal or juvenile legal system don't know where to turn for help. The NRRC is a starting place.

Narrator: The clearinghouses from the NRRC can provide people with the information, resources and contacts needed to understand their rights. With these tools, people can move beyond a criminal record and pursue opportunities to help them thrive. For some, it can offer hope and a path to living fully with dignity and purpose. Inquiries about the National Reentry Resource Center should be directed to info@nationalreentryresourcecenter.org or 1-866-536-8686.

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of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this video are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the US Department of Justice.