

COURT LANGUAGE

Seal a Record: “To remove a record from the main file of similar records and to secure it in a separate file area that contains only sealed records accessible only to the juvenile court. The sealed records can be inspected in extremely limited circumstances.”

Sealed records do not appear on any background checks, so employers cannot see sealed records.

Expunge a Record: “To destroy, delete, and erase a record, as appropriate, so that the record is permanently irretrievable. Paper records are destroyed and electronic records are irretrievably deleted and cannot be inspected by anyone.”

No one can see expunged records.

*Only aggravated murder, murder, and rape cannot be sealed and expunged. *

This pamphlet is to help you understand your options. It is not intended to advise you about the law as the law can be different in each case.

If you would like to consult an attorney, please call the Medina County Bar Association at (330) 725-9794.



The Honorable Kevin W. Dunn is one of four Common Pleas Court Judges in Medina County. Judge Dunn was appointed in 2013.

The Medina County Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over all cases involving persons under age 18, including those categorized as unruly, delinquent, abused, neglected or dependent.

In addition to serving as our county’s Juvenile Judge, Judge Dunn is the Probate Judge.



KEVIN W. DUNN
MEDINA COUNTY
JUVENILE COURT JUDGE

**SEALING
AND
EXPUNGEMENT**

Medina County Juvenile Court
225 E. Washington St., 4th Floor
Medina, OH 44256

Phone: (330) 725-9709
Fax: (330) 725-9173

Monday—Friday
8:00 AM—4:30 PM

www.MedinaJuvenile.org

HOW CAN I DO THIS?

Fill out the Application to Seal Juvenile Records. If Applicant is under 18, a parent must also sign the application. The application can be found on our website under "Juvenile Forms."

There is no filing fee for the application.

Submit the completed application to:
MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
225 E. Washington St; 4th Floor
Medina, OH 44256

WHY SHOULD I GET MY RECORD SEALED?

Having a juvenile adjudication can carry collateral consequences such as loss of employment opportunities, difficulty getting into the military, or uncertainty to be licensed by the State of Ohio (as a nurse, teacher, etc.)

HOW CAN YOU EXPUNGE YOUR RECORD?

A juvenile record can only be expunged AFTER it has been sealed. You cannot seal and expunge at the same time.

If the court seals your record, it will be automatically expunged 5 years later, or on your 23rd birthday (whichever is first). Or you can apply to have it expunged sooner.

HOW DOES THE SEALING PROCESS WORK?

REQUIREMENTS

If you are under 18 years of age:

- 6 months since termination of last order made by the court (Judgment Entry Adopting Magistrate's Decision)
- 6 months since the unconditional discharge of Department of Youth Services
- 6 months since release from sex offender registration requirements

If you are 18 years of age or older:

You are no longer under the supervision from the court

All fines and court costs need to be paid

If an Objection is Filed:

The Court shall proceed with the hearing that has been set. The Judge to determine if the record will be sealed. You will find out in the courtroom on the record. You **MUST** attend the hearing or your record will not be sealed.

If the Application is Denied:

The record will not be sealed.

You may file an Application to Seal Record to the Court.

The Court will set a sealing hearing and send notice to you and the Prosecutor. They have 30 days to respond with an objection.

If an Objection is NOT Filed:
The Court may order the record to be sealed without conducting a hearing.

If the Application is Granted:
Judgment Entry Sealing Record will be sent to you and any office or agency that the Court has reason to believe may have a record of the complaint. The sealed record will be stored in a separate area within the court. The Court will respond to inquiries that "no record" exists with respect to the person.