



Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Expunctions . . .

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Categories : [Uncategorized](#)

Tagged as : [C-CAT](#), [certificate of relief](#), [collateral consequences](#), [expunction](#), [expungement](#)

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A new guide on obtaining relief from a criminal conviction—*Relief from a Criminal Conviction: A Digital Guide to Expunctions, Certificates of Relief, and Other Procedures in North Carolina*—is now available from the School of Government. This online tool explains in one place the mechanisms available in North Carolina for obtaining relief from a criminal conviction, including expunctions, certificates of relief, and petitions to restore rights or eliminate restrictions.

Features of this guide include:

- Keyword searching
- Links to internal and external cross-references
- Printable pages throughout the site
- Accessibility from anywhere your electronic device can connect to the Internet

The guide is available at no charge [here](#).

The new guide supplements the School's Collateral Consequences Assessment Tool (C-CAT), an online tool created to help attorneys, service providers, affected individuals, and others assess the collateral consequences of a criminal conviction, such as bars to employment and professional licensure and loss of public benefits, among others. [*Editor's note: C-CAT was previously introduced on this blog [here](#).*]

To use C-CAT, you must go through a simple subscription process. The free subscription period, which was initially set to expire December 1, 2012, has been extended indefinitely. (A subscription will NOT convert automatically to a paid subscription. Should the School decide to charge for C-CAT, you will have the opportunity to decide whether to buy a paid subscription.)

You can subscribe to C-CAT at no charge [here](#).

For your convenience, you can access both C-CAT and the new Relief from a Criminal Conviction Guide at the above website. (You may use the relief guide without subscribing to C-CAT.)

If you have questions or suggestions about either tool, please let us know.