

Sample Declaration #8

I, [Insert Name], declare as follows:

1. Between 1996 and 2013, I was convicted for several crimes related to my addiction, including possession of a controlled substance. The need to feed my addiction led me to commit crimes, which I deeply regret. In 2013, I made the decision to change my life, and since then, have accomplished more than I would have thought possible. I have not used any drugs since that date. I now petition the court to consider my motion to dismiss my convictions due to the work I have done since my last conviction to overcome my addiction.
2. At the time of my convictions, I was surrounded by the wrong friends and was making poor choices. I take full responsibility for my past actions and the impact my actions had on other people, including my own children. Unfortunately, I did not begin to learn from my mistakes until after my convictions. However, after my final conviction, I began to turn my life around.
3. Seven years have passed since my last conviction. I have not used any drugs since. I am a proud parent of five children, including two minor children. When I completed my last sentence, my youngest children were three years old. I had to leave them when they were only two and have regretted my inability to be with them in their early years.
4. Once my sentence was complete in 2013, I decided to turn my life around. I got a job to have a more stable life and earn visitation with my children. I have since been at the same job for over seven years. I have also regained full custody of my two minor children and am now their sole financial provider.

5. My children and I have also lived in the same apartment for the last five years and I am proud to be able to provide a stable home for them. I was unable to do the same for my older children and do not want to repeat the same mistakes with my younger ones. I have rebuilt my relationship my older children and am proud to be the mother I am now.
6. As a sole financial provider for my children, I would like the opportunity to further grow in my career and have access to better jobs. At this point in my life, I would like nothing more than to provide a better home for my kids. My children have been and continue to be my biggest motivation. They have given me a second chance and I want to be a better person for them.
7. I would like a clean slate because I don't want to have my criminal record hanging over my head anymore. I do not know what my future holds. I want to further my career and do not want my record to get in the way. I would like an opportunity to seek employment more confidently. Seven years have passed since my last conviction and my last use of drugs. I'm not the same person I was seven years ago and do not want my past to continue to hold me back.
8. I have attached to this Declaration, a letter of support from [employer] and my friend [insert name], speaking to my Record of Rehabilitation.
9. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the court expunge my convictions so that I can continue to achieve my goals, seek better employment and continue to support my family to the best of my ability.