

WHAT ARE EXPUNCTIONS?

Expunctions remove past dismissed charges and convictions of misdemeanors and minor felonies on eligible criminal records by a court order. Without pro bono volunteers, these would otherwise appear on background checks when applying for housing and employment.

MECKLENBURG
ACCESS TO JUSTICE
PRO BONO PARTNERS



**Janessa, Expunction Client
and CPCC Graduate**

PRO BONO EXPECTATIONS:

Before: The Advocacy Center staff determines case eligibility. We only refer eligible clients.

During: Meet with clients to discuss their expungeable offenses and petition.

After: After filing the petition, some client contact is necessary.

Attorneys occasionally must go to court to complete proceedings.

Time: 5-10 hours

YOU WOULD ENJOY EXPUNCTION WORK IF:

- You want to work directly with clients.
- You are excited about eliminating barriers to opportunity in North Carolina.
- You want to volunteer but have limited or inconsistent time to do so.
- You want to learn more about re-entry and criminal justice reform.

PRO BONO IMPACT:

Individuals are often denied employment, housing, and other opportunities based on past involvement with the criminal justice system, including dismissed charges and long-ago convictions. Criminal record expunction is a vital piece to criminal justice reform and social mobility.

TRAINING + SUPPORT

We offer trainings to attorneys outside of their practice area. We also provide a tool kit with the necessary materials to take the case. The Advocacy Center staff provide ongoing assistance. Co-counsel is welcome and encouraged!

WHY EXPUNCTION PRO BONO?

“Working with folks to expunge their records has been a rewarding and heartwarming experience for me every time.” -Molly Morgan, Charles L. Morgan Jr. P.A.