



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF ORANGE

700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92702-2024  
(877) 872-2122  
www.occourts.org

CERTIFICATE OF REHABILITATION AND PARDON  
Information  
Penal Code 4852.01, and 4852.06

- Instruction Sheet
- Petition for Certificate of Rehabilitation and Pardon
- Notice of Filing of Petition for Certificate of Rehabilitation and Pardon
- Proof of Service
- Certificate of Rehabilitation

In California, the granting of a Certificate of Rehabilitation (CR) or a Governor’s pardon restores to the applicant some rights of citizenship that were forfeited as a result of a felony conviction.

**CERTIFICATE OF REHABILITATION**

**GOVERNOR’S PARDON**

**DOES:**

- Relieve some sex offenders, as specified, of further duty to register. (Pen. Code § 290.5.)
- Enhance a felon’s potential for licensing consideration by a State board. (Pen. Code § 4853.)
- Serve as an official document to demonstrate a felon’s rehabilitation, which could enhance employment possibilities.
- Serve as an automatic application for a gubernatorial pardon.

**DOES NOT:**

- Erase the felony conviction or seal the criminal record. (Pen. Code § 4852.17.)
- Prevent the offense from being considered as a prior conviction if the person is later convicted of a new offense.
- Allow a felon to answer on employment applications that he/she has no record of conviction.
- Give a felon the right to vote – this right is automatically restored after termination from probation or discharge from parole.

**DOES:**

- Allow a felon to serve on a jury trial. (Code Civ. Proc. § 203 subd. (a)(5).)
- Allow restoration of firearms rights, upon federal approval, to specified offenders if granted a full and unconditional pardon, **unless** the conviction was for a felony involving the use of a dangerous weapon. (Pen. Code § 4854.)
- Allow a felon to be considered for appointment as a county probation officer or a state parole agent, but not to any other peace officer positions. (Gov. Code § 1029.)
- Allow specified sex offenders still required to register after obtaining a CR to be relieved of duty to register if granted a full pardon. (Pen. Code § 290.5.)

**DOES NOT:**

- Seal or erase the record of conviction. (Pen. Code § 4852.17.)
- Prevent the pardoned offense from being considered as a prior conviction if the person is later convicted of a new offense.
- Allow a pardoned person to answer on employment applications that he/she has no record of conviction.
- Restore ability to own a firearm to felons convicted of any offense involving the use of a dangerous weapon. (Pen. Code 4854.)
- Pardon convictions from another state, or federal convictions.
- Necessarily prevent deportation.