

DO THEY REALLY ASK THAT?
A NATIONAL SURVEY OF CRIMINAL
HISTORY INQUIRIES ON LAW SCHOOL
APPLICATIONS

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1. INTRODUCTION

In the United States, contact with the criminal justice system is not an uncommon occurrence. Today, approximately 2.3 million Americans are behind bars,¹ and nearly 4.4 million are under some form of correctional control (probation, parole, GPS monitor, house arrest, etc.).² Each year, nearly 13 million misdemeanor cases are filed,³ representing nearly three quarters of all criminal cases processed annually,⁴ and almost 20 million of our fellow citizens—roughly 8% of the adult population—now bear the mark of a felony conviction.⁵ By age twenty-three, one in three Americans will have been arrested,⁶ adding to the 77.7 million who have criminal records already on file with the FBI.⁷ Taken together, these statistics make clear that criminal history inquiries impact a substantial portion of our population.

For those with prior criminal justice system contact, a criminal history inquiry can amount to a significant obstacle on several fronts.⁸ Criminal history

¹ Peter Wagner & Wendy Sawyer, *States of Incarceration: The Global Context 2018*, PRISON POL’Y INITIATIVE (June 2018), <https://perma.cc/W3AN-FNVT>.

² LAURA M. MARUSCHAK & TODD D. MINTON, U.S. DEP’T OF JUST., NCJ 252157, CORRECTIONAL POPULATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, 2017-2018 2 (2020), <https://perma.cc/SNX5-RXVZ>.

³ Sandra G. Mayson & Megan T. Stevenson, *Misdemeanors by the Numbers*, 61 B.C. L. REV. 971, 1014-15 (2020) (noting “if the 2013 data, averaged across jurisdictions, were representative of contemporary practice nationwide, there would be more than 13 million misdemeanor cases filed annually, or 40.4 per 1,000 people”); see also Alexandra Natapoff, *Misdemeanors*, 85 S. CAL. L. REV. 1313, 1314-15 (2012); ALEXANDRA NATAPOFF, PUNISHMENT WITHOUT CRIME: HOW OUR MASSIVE MISDEMEANOR SYSTEM TRAPS THE INNOCENT AND MAKES AMERICA MORE UNEQUAL 2 (2018); ISSA KOHLER-HAUSMANN, MISDEMEANORLAND: CRIMINAL COURTS AND SOCIAL CONTROL IN AN AGE OF BROKEN WINDOWS POLICING 2 n.5 (2018) (all finding similar rates of misdemeanor filings yearly in the U.S.).

⁴ Nat’l Ctr. for State Cts., *Statewide Criminal Caseload Composition in 31 States* 1 (2016), <https://perma.cc/Z7Z9-9DCX>.

⁵ See Sarah K.S. Shannon, Christopher Uggen, Jason Schnittker, Melissa Thompson, Sara Wakefield & Michael Massoglia, *The Growth, Scope, and Spatial Distribution of People with Felony Records in the United States, 1948-2010*, 54 DEMOGRAPHY 1795, 1808 (2017); see also Devah Pager, *The Mark of a Criminal Record*, 108 AM. J. SOCIO. 937, 938 (2003).

⁶ Matthew Friedman, *Just Facts: As Many Americans Have Criminal Records as College Diplomas*, BRENNAN CTR. FOR JUST. (Nov. 17, 2015), <https://perma.cc/9N5Q-MQS8>.

⁷ Gary Fields & John R. Emshwiller, *As Arrest Records Rise, Americans Find Consequences Can Last a Lifetime*, WALL ST. J. (Aug. 18, 2014), <https://perma.cc/VQA2-5TU2>.

⁸ See JEREMY TRAVIS, BUT THEY ALL COME BACK: FACING THE CHALLENGES OF PRISONER REENTRY 83-87 (2005); see also Sarah Esther Lageson, *Found Out and Opting Out: The*

inquiries can impact housing alternatives,⁹ employment options,¹⁰ and eligibility for various forms of public assistance.¹¹ Another context in which criminal history is a salient factor is admission to institutions of higher education.¹² The vast majority of colleges and universities in the United States inquire about an applicant's prior criminal justice contact,¹³ often justifying their use of criminal history inquiries by citing campus safety concerns and threats to students.¹⁴

Law schools also appear fond of criminal history inquiries. In 2019, the Stanford Center on the Legal Profession and the Stanford Criminal Justice Center released a report titled "Unlocking the Bar: Expanding Access to the Legal Profession for People with Criminal Records in California."¹⁵ In that report, the first of its kind, researchers found that of the twenty American Bar Association (ABA) approved law schools in California, all ask some form of a criminal history inquiry.¹⁶ The report also notes that most law schools justify criminal history inquiries by citing a need to align admissions requirements with those promulgated by the State Bar of California.¹⁷ Respondent schools suggested that eliminating the criminal history inquiry would violate ABA standards and put students in the unenviable position of committing financial resources and time to an education that may never result in professional licensure.¹⁸

Consequences of Online Criminal Records for Families, 665 ANNALS AM. ACAD. POL. SOC. SCI. 127, 131-36 (2016).

⁹ See Peter Leasure & Tara Martin, *Criminal Records and Housing: An Experimental Study*, 13 J. EXPERIMENTAL CRIMINOLOGY 527, 533-34 (2017); see also Douglas N. Evans, Kwan-Lamar Blount-Hill & Michelle A. Cubellis, *Examining Housing Discrimination Across Race, Gender, and Felony History*, 34 HOUSING STUDIES 761, 773 (2019).

¹⁰ See Michael A. Stoll & Shawn D. Bushway, *The Effect of Criminal Background Checks on Hiring Ex-Offenders*, 7 CRIMINOLOGY & PUB. POL'Y 371, 396 (2008); see also Megan Denver, Justin T. Pickett, & Shawn D. Bushway, *Criminal Records and Employment: A Survey of Experiences and Attitudes in the United States*, 35 JUST. Q. 584, 604-06 (2018).

¹¹ See JAMES B. JACOBS, *THE ETERNAL CRIMINAL RECORD* 257-60 (2015); Cody Tuttle, *Snapping Back: Food Stamp Bans and Criminal Recidivism*, 11 AM. ECON. J.: ECON. POL'Y 301, 304-05 (2019).

¹² See AM. ASS'N OF COLLEGIATE REGISTRARS AND ADMISSIONS OFFICERS, *CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY HISTORY IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS* 7-9 (2019), <https://perma.cc/3JPJ-CKFB>.

¹³ See, e.g., Bradley D. Custer, *College Admissions Policies for Ex-Offender Students: A Literature Review*, 67 J. CORR. EDUC. 35, 36 (2016).

¹⁴ See *id.* at 38-39.

¹⁵ CAROLINE COHN, DEBBIE A. MUKAMAL & ROBERT WEISBERG, STANFORD CTR. ON THE LEGAL PRO. & STANFORD CRIM. JUST. CTR., *UNLOCKING THE BAR: EXPANDING ACCESS TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION FOR PEOPLE WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS IN CALIFORNIA* (2019), <https://perma.cc/MDF4-V4AG>.

¹⁶ *Id.* at 34.

¹⁷ *Id.*; see also *infra* Part II.

¹⁸ *Id.*; see also *infra* Part II.

Building on this prior research, we explore how ABA approved law schools screen applicants with prior criminal justice system contact.¹⁹ To do so, we compile and sort criminal history inquiries—for the first time—from *all* ABA approved law schools to determine: (1) which employ criminal history inquiries and (2) what form those criminal history inquiries take. By amassing this data, we can better assess the utility of criminal history inquiries, while also providing law school applicants and law schools a valuable resource.

Part II provides an overview of research on criminal history inquiries generally, discussing the prevalence of such inquiries, the professed purpose of such inquiries, empirical challenges to their use, and legislative efforts to eliminate criminal history questions from college and university applications. Part III reviews the Stanford Report on formerly incarcerated individuals and the legal profession, the only prior study of the use of criminal history inquiries among law schools. Part IV details the present study, reviewing our methods, analytic strategy, and results. Part V then situates our results in a broader discussion of diversity in the legal profession and possible alternatives to the current state of play for criminal history inquiries on law school applications. And finally, Part VI highlights the importance of diversity in law schools and in the legal profession, illustrates how criminal history inquiries homogenize law school student classes on a number of levels, and advocates the need for a robust, empirically informed debate about criminal history inquiries on law school applications.

2. CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRIES

Across the United States, a significant majority of colleges and universities inquire about prior criminal justice system involvement as part of their admissions process at the undergraduate level.²⁰ In a number of prior studies, data reveal that between 66% and 70% of institutions of higher learning inquire about criminal history or conduct a background check when screening applicants.²¹ More recent research found that in a sample of 1,350 institutions of

¹⁹ See *ABA-Approved Law Schools*, AM. BAR ASS'N, <https://perma.cc/7ZFW-E3TD> (archived Sept. 2, 2021) (noting that the ABA has approved 199 law schools nationally, one of which is conditional).

²⁰ See Custer, *supra* note 15, at 36.

²¹ See MARSHA WEISSMAN, ALAN ROSENTHAL, PATRICIA WARTH, ELAINE WOLF & MICHAEL MESSINA-YAUCHZY, CTR. FOR CMTY. ALTS., *THE USE OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS RECONSIDERED* 8 (2010), <https://perma.cc/8FLE-2UVR> (finding that in a survey of 273 responding institutions of higher education, 66% reported collecting criminal justice contact information); see also Katherine Mangan, *Do Your Students Have Criminal Records? Is it Even Fair to Ask?*, CHRON. OF HIGHER EDUC. (Mar. 2, 2015), <https://perma.cc/U7Q6-QW73> (reporting the results of a study conducted by Minnesota doctoral student Robert A. Stewart finding that of 1,400 responding institutions of higher education, 70% asked some form of a criminal history inquiry (58% of public institutions and 78% of private institutions)).

higher education, 71.6% included a criminal history inquiry on their applications.²²

These inquiries can take many forms and can focus on a variety of infractions ranging from felony convictions only, to all criminal justice involvement including summary offenses, juvenile adjudications, and expunged infractions.²³ If an applicant indicates affirmatively the existence of a criminal justice system contact, schools typically then require additional steps triggered by the listed contacts. For example, in their study of SUNY colleges in New York, Weissman et al. found:

A majority of the schools with special procedures have extra requirements for applicants with criminal records. The most common of these is a letter of explanation (91%) and/or letter from corrections official (probation, parole, corrections) (63%). Fifty-four percent of colleges that consider criminal histories require a personal interview. Almost forty percent require that prospective students have completed any term of community supervision before they can be admitted. Sixteen percent require the applicant to produce official criminal justice documents, such as a rap sheet.²⁴

Colleges and universities suggest that the purpose of criminal history inquires is to ensure student safety and campus security.²⁵ In the only prior study

²² See Robert Stewart & Christopher Uggen, *Criminal Records and College Admissions: A Modified Experimental Audit*, 58 CRIMINOLOGY 156, 160 (2020).

²³ See ALAN ROSENTHAL, EMILY NAPIER, PATRICIA WARTH & MARSHA WEISSMAN, CTR. FOR CMTY. ALTS., *BOXED OUT: CRIMINAL HISTORY SCREENING AND COLLEGE APPLICATION ATTRITION 27* (2015) (“Yet, once an applicant checks “yes” to the criminal history question, at least 30 SUNY campuses include as part of the supplementary criminal history review process a requirement that applicants self-disclose their entire criminal history record, not just felony convictionsBut there are additional problems with requiring applicants to self-disclose their entire record. Most of these supplementary requirements do not include instructions as to whether applicants with sealed records, Youthful Offender or Juvenile Delinquent adjudications, or Juvenile Offender convictions must disclose these arrests.”); see also Rebecca R. Ramaswamy, Note, *Bars to Education: The Use of Criminal History Information in College Admissions*, 5 COLUM. J. RACE & L. 145, 159-60 (2015).

²⁴ Weissman et al., *supra* note 21, at 14.

²⁵ See Callahan, Sarah, Jordana Siegel, Elzbieta Wiedbusch, Isabel Dovale, Brandon Isler, Josh Norris, Noah Gelfman, and Leonard A. Jason. "The utility of criminal history questions in community psychology program applications." 3(1) *Social Behavior Research & Practice Open Journal* 21, 20-24 (2018) (“After the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University shooting in 2007, school officials and parents became more vigilant over campus safety. That same year, the Common Application, a standard application used by approximately 300 universities, added questions inquiring about an applicant's high school disciplinary record

of the purpose for criminal history inquiries at the undergraduate level, over half of all responding college administrators indicated that reducing violence (64.9%), protecting against liability (55.4%), and reducing illegal drug use (50%) are very important reasons for maintaining criminal history inquiries.²⁶ Still, the predictive value of criminal history inquiries is empirically tenuous. Though a single study seemingly suggests that applicants who indicate prior criminal justice system contact are more likely to engage in crime or misconduct on campus than are applicants who do not,²⁷ that same study indicated that criminal history inquiries are a poor method for ascertaining who may engage in criminality on campus.²⁸ All other research in this area makes clear that criminal history inquiries have little probative value in the context of campus misconduct.²⁹

On the other hand, research has shown a strong connection between criminal history inquiries and application attrition.³⁰ When confronted with a criminal history inquiry, many students with prior criminal justice system contact simply abandon their application.³¹ As Rosenthal et al. discovered, for felony conviction criminal history inquiries, the rate of ‘application attrition’ can reach

and criminal back- ground. “); Dickerson, Darby. "Background checks in the university admissions process: An overview of legal and policy considerations." 34 *Journal of College & University Law* 486, 419- 505 (2007) (strongly suggesting that colleges and universities use criminal history inquiries for the purpose of enhancing campus safety, while also noting that insurance companies seem to support this belief “at least some insurance companies believe that **background-check policies** can positively influence campus safety”); *see also* Scott Jaschik, *The 2017 Survey of Admissions Directors: Pressure All Around*, INSIDE HIGHER ED (Sept. 13, 2017), <https://perma.cc/LS5K-FZ9X> (noting the prevalence of criminal history inquiries on college campuses generally).

²⁶ Matthew W. Pierce, Carol W. Runyan, & Shrikant I. Bangdiwala, *The Use of Criminal History Information in College Admissions Decisions*, 13J. SCH. VIOLENCE 359, 365 (2014); *see also* Custer, *supra* note 13, at 37-9 (providing additional evidence of the ineffectiveness of criminal history inquiries at preventing campus violence).

²⁷ *See* Carol W. Runyan, Matthew W. Pierce, Shankar Viswanathan, and Shrikant I. Bangdiwala, *Can Student-Perpetuated College Crime be Predicted Based on Precollege Misconduct?* 19(6) INJURY PREVENTION 405 (2013).

²⁸ *Id.* at 4 (“few of the students with disciplinary action during college reported criminal behaviors at the time of their application”).

²⁹ *See* Malgorzata J.V. Olszewska, *Undergraduate Admission Application as a Campus Crime Mitigation Measure: Disclosure of Applicants’ Disciplinary Background Information and Its Relation to Campus Crime*. PhD Dissertation. East Carolina University (2007); Bradley Custer, *Why College Admissions Policies for Students with Felony Convictions are Not Working at One Institution*, 88 C. & UNIV. J. 28, 29, 35 (2013); Bradley Custer, *Admission Denied: A Case Study of an Ex-Offender*, 219 J. C. ADMISSION 16 (2013).

³⁰ *See* ALAN ROSENTHAL, EMILY NAPIER, PATRICIA WARTH & MARSHA WEISSMAN, CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES, *BOXED OUT: CRIMINAL HISTORY SCREENING AND COLLEGE APPLICATION ATTRITION* (2015).

³¹ *See id.* at 7.

nearly two-thirds of all such applicants.³² In that same study, felony application attrition ranged from 24.1% to 98%,³³ though overall application attrition rate among responding institutions of higher education was merely 21%.³⁴ Still, attrition rates do not convey the whole story.

In that same report, Rosenthal et al. also discovered that while attrition rates stood at roughly 60%, rejections based on a felony criminal conviction were far lower.³⁵ This evidence strongly suggests that those with a felony criminal conviction are far more likely to abandon their application than to disclose their conviction and suffer rejection. To this point, Rosenthal et al. note:

[F]or every one applicant rejected by Admissions Review Committees because of a felony conviction, 15 applicants are excluded by felony application attrition. This suggests it is the questions about criminal history records, rather than rejection by colleges, that are driving would-be college students from their goal of getting a college degree.³⁶

Along this line, many jurisdictions have begun to consider legislation barring the use of criminal history inquiries on college and university applications.³⁷ In 2017, for the first time, criminal history inquiries in higher

³² *Id.* at 9 (finding that “throughout the SUNY system as a whole, each year 2,924 applicants check the box disclosing a felony conviction. Of those, 1,828 do not complete the application and are never considered for admission, resulting in a mean felony application attrition rate of 62.5 percent – almost two-thirds of all such applicants”); *see also id.* at 5 (describing their sample: “Each of the 60 SUNY campuses provided data on their policies and procedures as they relate to applicants who disclose felony convictions. Of those 60 campuses, 30 (17 of the 31 four-year schools and 13 of the 29 community colleges) provided usable quantitative data on the total number of applicants, the number of applicants disclosing a felony conviction, the number of completed applications, and the number of applicants denied admission as the result of a felony conviction.”).

³³ *Id.* at 8 (Adirondack Community College – 24.1% and Potsdam College – 98%).

³⁴ *Id.* at 10.

³⁵ *Id.* at 12 (“Alarming, however, 18 of the 20 schools – 90 percent – report felony application attrition rates that are higher than their felony rejection rates. For two-thirds of these schools (12 of 18), the felony application attrition rate is more than ten times higher than the felony rejection rate.”).

³⁶ *Id.* at 13.

³⁷ *See* Noel Vest, Andrew Winn, Sonja Tonnesen-Casalegno & Emily Blake, *Celebrating Banning the Box in Higher Education in California*, ROOT AND REBOUND (Oct. 22, 2020), <https://perma.cc/P8SS-PWSM>; *see also* Douglas N. Evans, Jason Szkola & Victor St. John, *Going Back to College? Criminal Stigma in Higher Education Admissions in Northeastern U.S.*, 27 CRITICAL CRIMINOLOGY 291 (2019) (detailing research about the prevalence of criminal history inquiries and their use at 85 institutions of higher education in the Northeast); Mike Vuolo, Sarah Lageson & Christopher Uggen, *Criminal Record Questions in the Era of ‘Ban the Box,’* 16 CRIMINOLOGY & PUB. POL’Y 139 (2017) (discussing the related topic of ‘ban the box’ on employment applications and legislation around that issue).

education came under successful attack by legislators. That year, Louisiana became the first state to ‘ban the box’ in higher education.³⁸ Soon thereafter, Maryland (2018),³⁹ Washington (2018),⁴⁰ and Colorado followed (2019).⁴¹ Most recently, in 2020, California became the fifth state to ban the box in higher education.⁴²

Common among all legislative attempts to eliminate the criminal history inquiry from applications to institutions of higher education are carve outs that exempt professional schools from the dictates of ban the box in higher education legislation.⁴³ For example, in California, Education Code § 66024.5(b) forbids colleges and universities from “inquir[ing] about a prospective student’s criminal history on an initial application form or at any time during the admissions process before the institution’s final decision relative to the prospective student’s application for admission.”⁴⁴ Still, this prohibition does not apply to all institutions of higher education in the state, making exceptions for “professional degree or law enforcement basic training courses and programs.”⁴⁵ This has left law schools in California, and in other states where ban the box legislation in higher education exists, free to ask criminal history inquiries as part of their initial screening process.⁴⁶

³⁸ See Nick Roll, *Louisiana Becomes the First State to Ban the Box*, INSIDE HIGHER ED (June 17, 2019), <https://perma.cc/ZL5D-KVEC>; see also LA. STAT. ANN. § 17:3152(A)(1) (2017) (“a public postsecondary education institution, referred to in this Section as an ‘institution,’ shall not inquire about a prospective student’s criminal history on an initial application form or at any time during the admissions process prior to the institution’s decision relative to the prospective student’s acceptance for admission.”).

³⁹ Michael Dresser, *Maryland senate overrides Hogan veto of bill barring college admissions from asking about arrests*, BALTIMORE SUN (Jan. 12, 2018), <https://perma.cc/L6NX-9C6R>.

⁴⁰ See WASH. REV. CODE § 28B.160.020 (2018) (“(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, an institution of higher education may not use an initial admissions application that requests information about the criminal history of the applicant. (2) An institution of higher education may, but is not required to, use a third-party admissions application that contains information about the criminal history of the applicant if the institution of higher education posts a notice on its web site stating that the institution of higher education may not automatically or unreasonably deny an applicant’s admission or restrict access to campus residency based on an applicant’s criminal history.”).

⁴¹ See COLO. REV. STAT. § 23-5-106.5 (2019).; see also Jenni Fink, *Colorado Colleges Limited in Asking About Criminal History on Applications*, NEWSWEEK (May 29, 2019), <https://perma.cc/SL2K-NSSC>.

⁴² See Vest et al., *supra* note 37; see also CAL. EDUC. CODE § 66024.5(b) (West, 2020).

⁴³ In all four jurisdictions that have ‘banned the box’ in higher education, all law schools employ a criminal history inquiry. Though not explicit in any of the respective ‘ban the box’ in higher education statutes, law schools rely on carve outs that exempt them from the legislation. See Appendix A (noting those criminal history inquiries used by law schools in jurisdictions with ‘ban the box’ legislation).

⁴⁴ CAL. EDUC. CODE § 66024.5(b).

⁴⁵ *Id.*

⁴⁶ *Id.* (“Except for purposes of an application for a professional degree or law enforcement basic training courses and programs, a postsecondary educational institution shall not inquire

3. LAW SCHOOLS AND THE CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRY: THE STANFORD REPORT

As noted, in the only prior study of law school criminal history inquiries, researchers at Stanford found that all of the 20 ABA approved law schools in California make a criminal history inquiry on their applications for admission.⁴⁷ Those researchers also found that law school criminal history inquiries varied considerably in how much information is required of an applicant with a criminal history,⁴⁸ and in how clearly criminal history inquiries probe for that information.⁴⁹ As the report notes,

Moreover, in many cases it is not clear what criminal-record information a particular law school requires the applicant to disclose. For example, in our analysis of the 20 ABA-accredited California law schools' moral character disclosure questions, we were unable to determine for at least half of the schools whether they wanted applicants to disclose juvenile offenses, sealed offenses, or dismissed offenses.⁵⁰

Far more consistent than the criminal history questions themselves were the professed purposes for using criminal history inquiries as part of the law school application process. To that point, respondent law schools reported using criminal history inquiries for two primary purposes. First, much like the proffered justification at the undergraduate level, law schools suggested that criminal history inquiries are necessary to preserve campus safety and to avoid

about a prospective student's criminal history on an initial application form or at any time during the admissions process before the institution's final decision relative to the prospective student's application for admission.") (emphasis added). Note that a law degree is considered a 'professional degree' for the purposes of this legislation. *But see also* Eli Rosenberg, *SUNY to Stop Asking Applicants About Felony Convictions*, N.Y. TIMES (Sept. 14, 2016), <https://perma.cc/7AL5-WKBQ>. (Certain university systems have also taken the lead on eliminating criminal history inquiries as part of their application process. For example, the State University of New York system has eliminated criminal history inquiries as part of their statewide application process.); *see also* Cohn et al., *supra* note 15, at 66 (noting that the University at Buffalo School of Law does not use criminal history inquiries on their application, in accordance with the SUNY ban on criminal history inquiries).

⁴⁷ *See* Cohn et al., *supra* note 15, at 66.

⁴⁸ *Id.* at 33 ("For example, half of California's ABA-accredited law schools require applicants to disclose past arrests even if those arrests did not lead to charges, and the other half do not. Similarly, while three of the twenty law schools explicitly do not require applicants to disclose expunged convictions, about one-third of law schools do, and the rest are unclear about whether expunged convictions must be disclosed or not. As a result, an applicant may be in the position of disclosing different information about her criminal record depending on the particular requirements of each school to which she is applying.").

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 34.

⁵⁰ *Id.*

school liability.⁵¹ Though no data on the efficacy of law school criminal history inquiries exists, data at the undergraduate level strongly suggests that criminal history inquiries – regardless of campus type – do little if anything to ensure campus safety or shield institutions from liability.⁵²

The second reason that law schools offer for including a criminal history inquiry is to align criminal history inquiry information with that sought by their jurisdictional licensing agency – the state bar.⁵³ In all jurisdictions, professional organizations – state bars – regulate the licensure of attorneys.⁵⁴ As part of this licensing process, applicants must disclose, among a number of other things, prior contact with the criminal justice system.⁵⁵ As is the case with law school criminal history inquiries, bar inquiries can take many forms and vary in their detail.⁵⁶

In the Stanford report, respondent law schools suggested that failing to ask about criminal history would contradict stated A.B.A. Standard 501(b),⁵⁷ which states “A law school shall only admit applicants who appear capable of satisfactorily completing its program of legal education and being admitted to the bar.”⁵⁸ Respondents further noted that failing to inform an applicant that licensure may be difficult if not impossible with a prior criminal history, sets that applicant up to expend time and financial resources on a program of study that may never lead to bar admission.⁵⁹

Though, a closer look at ABA standards clearly indicates that criminal history inquiries are not mandatory. While standard 501 does mandate that law schools admit only those capable of “being admitted to the bar,”⁶⁰ the published

⁵¹ *Id.* at 35

⁵² *See supra* note 29.

⁵³ *See Cohn et al., supra* note 15 at 34 (“Interviews revealed that one of the chief reasons law schools include moral character questions on their applications is that they are hoping to mirror state bars’ moral character requirements, and they are anticipating the particular information requests that state bar officials will make.”).

⁵⁴ *See James M. Binnall, Convicts in Court: Felonious Lawyers Make a Case for Including Convicted Felons in the Jury Pool*, 73 ALB. L. REV. 1379-1440 (2010).

⁵⁵ Keith Swisher, *The Troubling Rise of the Legal Profession’s Good Moral Character*, 82(3) ST. JOHN’S L. REV., 1037, 1038 (2008); Scott DeVito, *Justice and the Felonious Attorney*, 48 SANTA CLARA L. REV. 155 (2008); Hadar Aviram, *Moral Character: Making Sense of the Experiences of Bar Applicants with Criminal Records*, 43 MAN. L.J. 1 (2019).

⁵⁶ *See Richard R. Arnold Jr., Presumptive Disqualification and Prior Unlawful Conduct: The Danger of Unpredictable Character Standards for Bar Applicants*, 1997 UTAH L. REV. 63 (1997); *see also James M. Binnall, Convicts in Court: Felonious Lawyers Make a Case for Including Convicted Felons in the Jury Pool*, 73 ALB. L. REV. 1379 (2009) (cataloguing all U.S. jurisdictions approaches to applicants with a felony criminal history).

⁵⁷ *See Cohn et al., supra* note 15 at 34.

⁵⁸ STANDARDS AND RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL OF LAW SCHOOLS § 501(b) (A.B.A. 2021).

⁵⁹ *See Cohn et al., supra* note 15, at 34 (noting that one admissions professional stated, “[o]ne of the primary functions of a law school is to prepare individuals to be members of the bar, so to ignore moral character misses the point of what a law school is supposed to do.”).

⁶⁰ A.B.A., *supra* note 58, at 31.

interpretations of the standard make no mention of character and fitness issues.⁶¹ The closest language is found in ABA Standard 501 Interpretation 501-2, which states, “Sound admissions policies and practices may include consideration of...obstacles overcome.”⁶² Additionally, ABA Standard 504 clearly establishes how to notify applicants with a history of contact with the criminal justice system. That standard reads:

A law school shall include the following statement in its application for admission and on its website:

(a) In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

(b) The law school shall, as soon after matriculation as is practicable, take additional steps to apprise entering students of the importance of determining the applicable character, fitness, and other requirements for admission to the bar in each jurisdiction in which they intend to seek admission to the bar.⁶³

Taken together, ABA standards do not require a criminal history inquiry on law school applications. Instead, the ABA mandates only that law schools notify applicants that an incident in their past may prevent them admission to the bar.⁶⁴ Suggesting that a criminal history inquiry is sufficient to determine whether one is capable of being admitted to the bar is a fool’s errand. Criminal histories vary, state bar perspectives fluctuate, political winds shift, and professional climates change quickly.⁶⁵ For these reasons, the prospect of predicting admission, or likely admission, is virtually impossible and should not be the predicate for inquiring about an applicant’s criminal history, especially when doing so may trigger serious unintended consequences. Such an approach also overlooks those applicants who seek a law degree but have no intention of ever practicing law.

⁶¹ *Id.* at 31-32.

⁶² *Id.* at 32.

⁶³ *Id.* at 33-34.

⁶⁴ *See id.* at 33-34 (Standard 504(a)-(b)).

⁶⁵ *See* Deborah L. Rhode, *Virtue and the Law: The Good Moral Character Requirement in Occupational Licensing, Bar Regulation, and Immigration Proceedings*, 43 L. AND SOC. INQUIRY 1027 (2018) (discussing the disparate treatment of bar applicants with a history of criminal justice system contact); *see also* Deborah L. Rhode, *Moral Character as a Professional Credential*, 94 YALE L. J. 491 (1985).

The impact of criminal history inquiries was also examined in the Stanford report. In a survey of 88 individuals with prior convictions, evidence revealed that among the 47 individuals who had not yet applied to law school, “over half cited concern about passing the moral character component as one of the top three reasons.”⁶⁶ Though not a direct test of application attrition among those with criminal convictions, this significant finding strongly suggests that application attrition exists at the law school level and may be close to as prevalent as has been found among undergraduate applicants in prior studies. These findings, at any educational level, are all the more troubling when one considers that the U.S. population of individuals with criminal justice system contact is disproportionately comprised of racial minorities.⁶⁷

To date, the Stanford report is the most comprehensive study of access to the legal profession for those with prior criminal justice system involvement. We build on this effort by compiling *all* criminal history inquiries for *all* ABA approved law schools, scoring those law schools on the invasiveness of their criminal history inquiry, and then examining trends in criminal history inquiries by school ranking and by jurisdiction.

4. CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRIES ON LAW SCHOOL APPLICATIONS: A NATIONAL SURVEY

In January 2021, we conducted the first nationwide survey of criminal history inquiries on law school admissions applications. Data reveal that all but one ABA accredited law school in the United States ask about an applicant’s criminal history as part of their admissions process.⁶⁸ Still, the form of the question varies considerably across institutions, leaving applicants to wonder, as a general proposition, what they will be required to disclose should they choose to pursue a law degree.

A) Methods

We used the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) website to access electronic applications for 196 ABA Accredited law schools.⁶⁹ The survey includes schools from 51 states/jurisdictions: all 49 U.S. states, with the

⁶⁶ See Cohn et al., *supra* note 15, at 31.

⁶⁷ See MICHELLE ALEXANDER, *THE NEW JIM CROW: MASS INCARCERATION IN THE AGE OF COLORBLINDNESS* (2010); FRANKLIN E. ZIMRING, *THE INSIDIOUS MOMENTUM OF AMERICAN MASS INCARCERATION* (2020); DAVID COLE, *NO EQUAL JUSTICE: RACE AND CLASS IN THE AMERICAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM* (1999); JAMES FOREMAN JR., *LOCKING UP OUR OWN: CRIME AND PUNISHMENT IN BLACK AMERICA* (2017); MONA P. LYNCH, *HARD BARGAINS: THE COERCIVE POWER OF DRUG LAWS IN FEDERAL COURT* (2016); MICHAEL H. TONRY, *SENTENCING FRAGMENTS: PENAL REFORM IN AMERICA 1975-2025* (2016).

⁶⁸ See Appendix A (The lone exception is the University at Buffalo School of Law).

⁶⁹ Schools on a teach out (La Verne and Thomas Jefferson Universities) and schools closing after the 2019-2020 academic year (Concordia University) were not included in the survey. Also omitted is Pontifical Catholic University in Puerto Rico as there was no application available on LSAC at the time of data collection.

exception of Alaska which does not have an ABA accredited law school, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. We reviewed each application to identify any questions that inquired into an applicant's criminal history, most typically found in a section of the application titled "Character & Fitness."⁷⁰ After compiling the data, we created nine categories of sub-inquiries to describe the information required by a criminal history inquiry. Those categories include sub-inquiries focused on: felony convictions, misdemeanor convictions, other convictions, juvenile convictions, expunged/sealed convictions, charged offenses, arrests, pending charges, and official documentation required. For each sub-inquiry, schools were assigned one point, resulting in a total low score of zero and a high score of nine.

1. *Felony Convictions*

Schools received a point in this category for any inquiry into past felony convictions. For example, University of Alabama asks applicants "have you ever been convicted of a felony?"

2. *Misdemeanor Convictions*

Schools received a point in this category for any inquiry into past misdemeanor convictions. For example, Boston College asks applicants "Within the past five years, have you been convicted of, or released from incarceration for, a misdemeanor (or its equivalent in the applicable jurisdiction), other than for a first offense for drunkenness, simple assault, speeding, a minor traffic violation, affray, or disturbance of the peace?" Although the language of this question means that not all misdemeanors must be disclosed, Boston College received a point in this category because it inquires into at least some misdemeanor convictions.

3. *Other Convictions*

Schools received a point in this category for any inquiry into criminal convictions other than misdemeanors and felonies. This includes schools that require applicants to disclose misdemeanors even if the offense was plead down to a summary offense or infraction. For example, St. Thomas University in Minnesota asks applicants "Have you ever been charged with, cited for, arrested for, pleaded guilty to, or been convicted of a violation of any law, other than a minor traffic violation or paid parking violation?" Because the inquiry into convictions is not limited to felony or misdemeanor convictions, St. Thomas University received a point in this category.

4. *Juvenile Convictions*

⁷⁰ For all references to individual criminal history inquiries, see Appendix A. Please note that each school's name is linked to that school's criminal history inquiry in January 2021.

Schools received a point for any explicit inquiry into juvenile criminal offenses. For example, Mississippi College explicitly states that juvenile convictions must be disclosed: “Have you either as an adult or a juvenile, been charged with, arrested for, convicted of, and/or pled guilty or “no contest” to any crime or violation of the law?” Schools also received a point if they inquire about past criminal history without excluding juvenile offenses from the required information. For example, Elon University in North Carolina also receives a point in this category for the question “Have you ever received a citation for, been arrested for, charged with any criminal charge?” as the language implies that all criminal history must be reported, without exception for juvenile offenses.

5. *Expunged/Sealed Convictions*

Schools received a point in this category for any explicit inquiry into expunged and/or sealed convictions. For example, University of Akron asks applicants the following question: “Have you been arrested, charged, formally accused, cited, fined, posted bail, subject to a restraining order, or ordered to do community service for the violation of any law (including any juvenile or expunged matters, but excluding traffic or parking violations)?” Schools also received a point if they inquire about past criminal history without excluding expunged and/or sealed convictions from the required information. For example, Inter-American University in Puerto Rico asks applicants “With exceptions to minor traffic violations, have you ever been convicted for violating the law in Puerto Rico, the United States, or any foreign country?” Because there is no carve out for expunged and/or sealed convictions, the question requires an applicant to assume that any conviction they have received must be reported, regardless of whether it was later expunged or sealed.

6. *Charged Offenses*

Schools received a point in this category for any inquiry into past charges, regardless of eventual conviction status. For example, University of Tennessee asks applicants “Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of any felony or misdemeanor, including any charges or convictions that were expunged?” The question requires that an applicant disclose if they have ever been charged with a crime, even if the charge did not result in a conviction.

7. *Arrests*

Schools received a point in this category for any inquiry into past arrests. For example, Liberty University in Virginia asks applicants “Have you been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any offense(s)? (Please include traffic violations.)”

8. *Pending Charges*

Schools received a point in this category for any inquiry into pending charges. For example, Yale University in Connecticut asks applicants “Have you

ever been convicted of, or pleaded guilty or no contest to, a felony or misdemeanor, or are there any criminal charges pending against you?”

9. *Official Documentation Required*

Schools received a point in this category for requesting or requiring that applicants provide official documentation, including court records or police reports, to substantiate the answers provided on their application. For example, Howard University in the District of Columbia states that an applicant’s written explanation of any affirmative answers to their Character & Fitness inquiries “should include all official documentation from the state or administrative body involved in the matter (i.e., court records, arrest records, letters from academic institution officials).” Schools also received a point in this category if they noted reserving the right to request such information at a later point in the application process, as this could deter applicants who are unable to obtain documentation. For example, Northwestern University in Illinois informs applicants that they “...should have available and be prepared to submit or exhibit copies of police and court records regarding any matter you disclose in reply to this question.”

B) Results

1. *National*

Our completed survey showed that 195 of the 196 schools surveyed make at least some inquiry into an applicant’s criminal history, with University of Buffalo being the sole exception. University of Buffalo’s application states that questions about an applicant’s criminal history may be asked after admission for purposes of housing and participation in university activities. However, the school does not collect any criminal history information before an applicant is admitted to the university. All other schools, 99.49 percent of those surveyed, inquired into applicant’s past felony convictions and misdemeanor convictions. Most schools made inquiries into each of the categories, with the sole exception being the “official documentation required” category. Official documentation was required or requested by 18.97 percent of schools surveyed. Although relatively fewer schools made this request, it is likely the most burdensome for applicants to complete given the challenges of obtaining court and police records, especially during COVID-19 where many courts are not open to the public.

The national average score out of a possible total of 9 was 6.84 (SD = 1.40). The lowest state average was Massachusetts with an average of 4.13 (SD = 1.27) from its eight ABA accredited schools.⁷¹ The highest state average was 8.00 shared by Wisconsin, South Carolina, New Mexico, New Jersey,

⁷¹ The eight ABA accredited schools in Massachusetts are Boston College, Boston University, Harvard University, University of Massachusetts, New England University, Northeastern University, Suffolk University, and Western New England University. *Supra* note 19.

Mississippi, Maine, and Idaho. As demonstrated by the variance in location among the aforementioned schools, there is no clear regional pattern in the depth of criminal history inquiries.

Table 1: Sub-Inquiry Frequency

Sub-Inquiries	Percent of Schools Making Sub-Inquiry (N = 196)
Felony Convictions	99.49
Misdemeanor Convictions	99.49
Other Convictions	90.30
Juvenile	95.41
Expunged/Sealed	78.57
Charged	75.51
Arrested	68.37
Pending Charges	59.69
Official Documentation Required	18.88

Within each of the categories, we found variation in the types of information requested. Several schools employ sunset provisions within their criminal history sub-inquiries. The sunset provisions employed are caveats in disclosure requirements based on the current age of an applicant, the applicants age at time of conviction, or the amount of time elapsed between an incident and the present. For example, many schools do not require applicants to disclose traffic offenses if those offenses happened more than ten years prior.⁷² Similarly, University of Houston is the sole school surveyed that requires arrests to be disclosed only if they happened within the past ten years. In sum, nine schools employ some type of sunset provision.⁷³

2. *By Jurisdiction*

We found significant variation between the questions asked by schools in several jurisdictions. The divergence is best illustrated by incongruence in requirements to disclose expunged or sealed convictions among schools in the

⁷² See Appendix A (This includes University of Maine, Georgia State University, Columbia University, Cornell University, and PACE University).

⁷³ See Appendix A (This includes Georgia State University, University of Maine, Columbia University, Cornell University, PACE University, Drexel University, Duquesne University, University of Pennsylvania, and University of Houston).

same jurisdiction. In Virginia, five⁷⁴ of the eight ABA Accredited schools in the state do not require applicants to disclose sealed or expunged records. Two of those cite state law prohibiting them from inquiring into expunged or sealed convictions. However, George Mason University, Liberty University, and Richmond University, all in Virginia, explicitly request that expunged or sealed convictions be disclosed.

A similar discrepancy exists in Pennsylvania: University of Pennsylvania requests that expunged matters be included in an applicants' answers to the character and fitness section whereas Pennsylvania State University, University Park campus cites a Clean Slate law in Pennsylvania as the reason that they do not inquire into expunged convictions. For applicants attempting to apply to multiple schools within a region, and possibly apply for moral character within that state, these inconsistencies may act as a barrier to completing the application.

Within other jurisdictions, the criminal history inquiry questions were very similar, suggesting that the schools cooperated in their formation -- perhaps mirroring questions asked by their respective state bar associations. Although no jurisdictions have schools with completely identical criminal history inquiry questions, of the thirty-seven jurisdictions with more than one ABA Accredited law school,⁷⁵ eight had no variance in their criminal history inquiry scores.⁷⁶ Of these eight, all but Arkansas reached their total criminal history inquiry score through identical sub inquiries. In other words, the wording of the questions differed, but each school within the jurisdiction made inquiries into the same categories (e.g., felony convictions, juvenile convictions, etc.). Applicants in these jurisdictions can therefore prepare similar materials for character and fitness explanations and materials, rather than preparing unique answers for each application.

Even in jurisdictions with significant variation in criminal history inquiry scores, some schools within the jurisdiction shared common questions, including sharing some uncommon disclosure instructions. For example, in the state of New York, three schools do not require traffic violations which occurred 10 or more years ago to be disclosed,⁷⁷ but this language is not found in the applications of other schools within the state. Such instructions are also not found within other jurisdictions. Similarly, three schools in Pennsylvania include the following question in their application: "Between the ages of 14 and 18, were

⁷⁴ See Appendix A (This includes Appalachian University, Regent University, University of Virginia, Washington and Lee University, and William and Mary University).

⁷⁵ The jurisdictions with only one ABA Accredited Law School include Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Maine, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming).

⁷⁶ See Appendix A (This includes Arkansas, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and Wisconsin).

⁷⁷ This includes Columbia University, Cornell University, and PACE University.

you ever convicted of or pleaded guilty to a crime involving serious bodily injury to another person? If it has been more than 10 years since you turned 18, you need only list those convictions that occurred in the past 10 years.” However, the other schools in the jurisdiction either do not require juvenile offenses to be disclosed or make no distinction between juvenile and adult criminal offenses.

Figure 2: Ten Highest Criminal History Inquiry Scores by State/Jurisdiction⁷⁸

	M	SD
Idaho*	8.00	(0.00)
South Carolina	8.00	(0.00)
New Mexico*	8.00	(0.00)
New Jersey	8.00	(1.00)
Mississippi	8.00	(0.00)
Maine*	8.00	(0.00)
Wisconsin	8.00	(0.00)
Florida	7.82	(0.83)
Tennessee	7.80	(0.75)
Michigan	7.60	(0.49)

* Indicates a jurisdiction with only 1 ABA accredited law school

Figure 3: Ten Lowest Criminal History Inquiry Scores by State/Jurisdiction⁷⁹

	M	SD
Massachusetts	4.13	(1.27)
Montana*	5.00	(0.00)
Puerto Rico	5.00	(0.00)
Rhode Island	5.00	(0.00)
Wyoming*	5.00	(0.00)
Hawaii*	6.00	(0.00)
Nevada*	6.00	(0.00)
California	6.17	(1.26)
District of Columbia	6.17	(1.07)
Pennsylvania	6.22	(1.31)

* Indicates a jurisdiction with only 1 ABA accredited law school

3. By Ranking

The U.S. News and World Report ranks law schools annually.⁸⁰ For purposes of comparing the criminal history inquiries of ranked schools, we used

⁷⁸ For full jurisdictional rankings see Appendix B.

⁷⁹ *Id.*

⁸⁰ The U.S. News and World Report (USNWR) ranks law schools based on the following factors: peer assessment score, assessment score by lawyers and judges, median LSAT and GRE scores, median undergraduate GPA, acceptance rate, placement success, bar passage

the 2021 U.S. News and World Report to divide the ABA Accredited Law Schools into 5 groups: Top 14 and Tiers 1 through 4.⁸¹ Of the tiers, we found that Tier 1 schools had the lowest average criminal history inquiry score. The most severe Tier was Tier 3, which is the last tier in which schools receive a unique ranking – all schools in Tier 4 are ranked 148-194.

Perceived prestige derived from a favorable ranking in the U.S. News and World Report may correlate with more opportunities for graduates of that institution. As employment placement and bar passage are factors in the ranking systems, admissions offices may raise concerns about admitting students who may be unable to pass the moral character assessment and therefore negatively impact the school's bar passage and placement statistics. Higher-ranked schools may be able to offset any possible negative consequences of this since they are granted the favor in the rankings of peer assessment, LSAT scores, and undergraduate GPAs. On the other hand, schools in Tier 3 may face significant pressure to maintain their current rank as they are part of the last tier with unique rankings.

Figure 4: Criminal History Inquiry Score by USNWR Ranking

	M	SD
Top 14	6.57	(1.50)
Tier 1	6.51	(1.40)
Tier 2	6.73	(1.74)
Tier 3	7.13	(1.15)
Tier 4	6.98	(1.53)

rate, expenditures per student, student-faculty ratio, library resources. See Robert Morse et. al., "Methodology: 2022 Best Law School Rankings," U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REP. (Mar. 29, 2021), <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-graduate-schools/articles/law-schools-methodology>.

⁸¹ See Appendix C. University of North Texas, Dallas, University of Puerto Rico, and Inter-American University are included in our survey, but are not ranked by USNWR and are therefore not included in the statistics presented in figure 3. Tier 1 includes schools ranked 1-49, tier 2 includes schools ranked 50-99, tier 3 includes schools ranked 100-147, and tier 4 includes all schools that are ranked 148-194. USNWR does not distinguish between schools ranked 148-194.

5. DIVERSITY, CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRIES, AND ADMISSIONS

The law is not a diverse profession.⁸² Today, 86% of all lawyers in the United States are white, while the population of whites in the U.S. stands at only 60%.⁸³ In the past decade, the number of lawyers of color in the U.S. – Latinx, African American, Asian, Native American, and mixed race – grew only about 3% from 11.4% in 2010 to 14.1% in 2020.⁸⁴ Perhaps not surprisingly, law schools share similar demographic characteristics. In 2019, only 31% of all law students were ethnic minorities, up from 25% in 2011.⁸⁵ In 2019, a law student demographic breakdown revealed that while “62% of first year law students are white, only 13% Hispanic, 8% African-American, 6% Asian, 4% multiracial, and 7% are classified as race unknown or other.”⁸⁶ As a whole, these demographic statistics strongly suggest that law schools and the legal profession suffer from a homogeneity problem that has resulted in a field that is overwhelmingly white.⁸⁷

A) Ensuring the Benefits of Diversity

For institutions of higher education, the benefits of diversity are well established.⁸⁸ In the context of race, diversification enriches college campuses in a host of ways:

Now there is compelling evidence showing that students who interact with peers from different ethnic and racial backgrounds develop more positive academic and social self- concepts, graduate at higher rates, achieve superior leadership skills, have higher levels of civic involvement, and importantly, exhibit lower levels of prejudice after graduation.⁸⁹

⁸² See Maria Beaulieu, *The Underrepresentation of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in Legal Occupations* (May 2018) (B.A. Thesis, Honors College, University of Maine) (DigitalCommons@UMaine); see also Alex M. Johnson Jr., *The Underrepresentation of Minorities in the Legal Profession: A Critical Race Theorist's Perspective*, 95 MICH. L. REV. 1005 (1996); Alison E. Laffey & Allison Ng, *Diversity and Inclusion in the Law: Challenges and Initiatives*, A.B.A (May 2, 2018), <https://perma.cc/6GMW-U9UF>.

⁸³ AM. BAR ASS'N, ABA PROFILE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION 2020 33 (2020) (but noting that demographic data is difficult to come by in this context as “[m]ost state bars and state licensing agencies do not track race and ethnicity in the profession. In 2020, 21 states reported the race and ethnicity of lawyers – up from 19 states in 2010.”).

⁸⁴ *Id.*

⁸⁵ *Id.* at 58.

⁸⁶ *Id.*

⁸⁷ See, e.g., Michelle J. Anderson, *Legal Education Reform, Diversity, and Access to Justice*, 61 RUTGERS L. REV. 1011, 1012 (2009) (arguing that the law is the “whitest” profession).

⁸⁸ See, e.g., SCOTT E. PAGE, *THE DIFFERENCE: HOW THE POWER OF DIVERSITY CREATES BETTER GROUPS, FIRMS, SCHOOLS AND SOCIETIES* (2019), for a review of prior research.

⁸⁹ Marta Tienda, *Diversity ≠ Inclusion: Promoting Integration in Higher Education*, 42(9) EDUC. RSCH. 467, 470 (2013).

In the realm of students with prior criminal justice system contact, research has uncovered similar benefits.⁹⁰ Students with a prior criminal history typically bring to college campuses a sense of resiliency, a desire to give back to the community, a practical sense of how systems operate on the ground, and the ability to cultivate important connections between colleges and communities.⁹¹ Though to reap these benefits of diversity, institutions of higher education must first admit students with histories of criminal justice system contact.⁹²

At the undergraduate level, a host of efforts have made the admittance of applicants with prior criminal justice system contact increasingly more common.⁹³ Along with ‘beyond the box’ legislation forbidding the use of criminal history inquiries in certain jurisdictions,⁹⁴ in 2018, the common app eliminated its criminal history question.⁹⁵ This change implicated roughly 1 million applicants and nearly 800 institutions of higher education in the United States.⁹⁶ Moreover, on many college campuses, student groups of formerly incarcerated or system involved students have begun to form, actively recruiting and then supporting students with criminal justice system involvement.⁹⁷ Likewise, campus-centric initiatives in some jurisdictions (e.g. Project Rebound in California) have made access to education far easier for those who have had

⁹⁰ See, e.g., Alexis Halkovic, *Redefining Possible: Re-Visioning the Prison-To-College Pipeline*, 47(4) EQUITY & EXCELLENCE IN EDUC. 494 (2014).

⁹¹ See Alexis Halkovic & Andrew C. Greene, *Bearing Stigma, Carrying Gifts: What Colleges Can Learn from Students with Incarceration Experience*, 47(4) URBAN REV. 759 (2015).

⁹² Patricia Gurin, Biren (Ratnesh) A. Nagda, & Gretchen E. Lopez, *The Benefits of Diversity in Education for Democratic Citizenship*, 60(1) J. OF SOC. ISSUES 17, 18 (2004) (noting “[t]he presence of diverse students on a campus is a necessary but certainly not sufficient condition for diversity to work in a positive manner”).

⁹³ See Michelle Fretwell, *Punishment Beyond Bars: Pursuing Higher Education with the Degree of Incarceration*, 14(1) MCNAIR SCHOLARS RSCH. J. 9 (2019), for a review of the literature.

⁹⁴ See Vest et al., *supra* note 37.

⁹⁵ See Alia Wong, *The Common App Will Stop Asking About Students’ Criminal Histories*, ATLANTIC (2018), <https://perma.cc/F9KQ-KPKR>; see also Jen Davis, *Change to Criminal History Question for 2019-2020 Application Year*, Common App (Aug. 19, 2018), <https://perma.cc/2NFJ-W8G6>.

⁹⁶ See Justin Dillon & Scott Berstein, *The Common App Will No Longer Require the Disclosure of Criminal History. But What it Still Asks is More Troubling*, WASH. POST, Aug. 23, 2018, <https://perma.cc/C7TC-57BC>.

⁹⁷ See James M. Binnall & Melissa Inglis, *Coalition Building on Campus: Creating and Maintaining Student Organizations for Students With Criminal Convictions*, in *Higher Education Accessibility Behind and Beyond Prison Walls* 125 (Dani V. McKay & Rebekah D. Kimble eds., 2020).

criminal justice system contact.⁹⁸ Still, at U.S. law schools, progress on this front has lagged.

In response to calls for the increased diversification of the profession,⁹⁹ many law schools have begun to alter their admissions policies.¹⁰⁰ In particular, a number of law schools now accept the GRE (Graduate Record Examination) in lieu of the LSAT (Law School Admission Test).¹⁰¹ Additionally, two law schools – University of Pennsylvania and Cornell – announced that they would also accept the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) instead of either the GRE or the LSAT.¹⁰² Proponents describe this change as one that will improve diversity at U.S. law schools, as the LSAT has been found to be racially disparate.¹⁰³ As Nancy Sdaut, Dean of Washington University School of Law explained in 2018:

The class beginning this fall was one of the most accomplished and diverse in the history of WashULaw. The decision to accept the GRE will continue to build on these efforts, making the admissions process even more accessible to highly qualified and motivated students of all backgrounds interested in pursuing a legal education.¹⁰⁴

⁹⁸ See DEBBIE MUKAMAL, REBECCA SILBERT, & REBECCA M. TAYLOR, DEGREES OF FREEDOM: EXPANDING COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CURRENTLY AND FORMERLY INCARCERATED CALIFORNIANS 26 (Renewing Communities Initiative 2015), <https://perma.cc/LG9C-W8VC> (“These programs can make the difference between a student who persists to a degree and a student who drops out. For people in the community who confront the barriers and stigma stemming from a criminal record, attending college can feel unattainable. Even when individuals find the inspiration and stability necessary to enroll in school, basic processes such as figuring out how to navigate campus and complete on-line applications can be unfamiliar and overwhelming. Students with conviction histories can easily feel out of place on college campuses; many hide their past experiences to avoid discrimination (perceived or real) from teachers, administrative staff, and other students. Campus and community programs also serve as a beacon of hope for incarcerated people and can provide crucial connections for incarcerated students intending to continue their education upon release.”).

⁹⁹ See, e.g., Desiree A. Kennedy, *Access Law Schools & Diversifying the Profession*, 92 TEMP. L. REV. 799 (2019).

¹⁰⁰ See Hilary G. Escajeda, *Legal Education: A New Growth Vision Part I—The Issue: Sustainable Growth or Dead Cat Bounce? A Strategic Inflection Point Analysis*, 97(3) NEB. L. REV. 628 (2019).

¹⁰¹ See *id.* at 711 n.366.

¹⁰² See *id.* at 712 n.368.

¹⁰³ See Kennedy, *supra* note 99, at 803 (“The average LSAT score is 153 for whites and Asians, 146 for Latinxs, and 142 for Blacks. The entrance examination differences may help to explain the disparity in application acceptances by race, which result in higher offers of admissions for whites than for Blacks.”); see also Aaron N. Taylor, *The Marginalization of Black Aspiring Lawyers*, 13 FLA. INT’L UNIV. L. REV. 489, 490, 490 n.3 (2019).

¹⁰⁴ Neil Schoenherr, *School of Law to Accept GRE*, WASH. UNIV. ST. LOUIS – THE SOURCE, Oct. 3, 2017, <https://perma.cc/B34C-84QT>.

Though altering admissions testing requirements was meant to expand access to legal education, the move has had little impact on law school diversity.¹⁰⁵ Critics suggest that the change in testing criteria has largely been ineffectual because the GRE suffers from many of the structurally inequalities that plague the LSAT.¹⁰⁶ Nonetheless, the change signals that law schools are aware of their homogeneity problem and are willing to significantly alter their admissions' practices to ensure a diverse student body – at least in some contexts.

B) Eliminating the Criminal History Inquiry: Does it Make Sense?

As the present study reveals, among U.S. law schools, criminal history inquiries are the norm rather than the exception. All but one ABA approved law school – College at Buffalo School of Law – makes some form of a criminal history inquiry. Data also indicate that criminal history inquiries vary considerably as to the depth of information sought. While nearly all law schools ask about convictions (99.49%), a large majority also ask about juvenile incidents (95.41%), expunged or sealed cases (78.57%), and also arrests that led to no charges (75.51%).

Opponents of eliminating criminal history inquiries again cite campus safety concerns and/or liability exposure, but prior research strongly suggests that these reservations lack empirical support.¹⁰⁷ Moreover, ABA regulations allow for the elimination of criminal history inquiries, requiring only that law schools adequately inform those with prior criminal justice system contact that their admission to the bar is predicated on successfully meeting moral character and fitness requirements.¹⁰⁸ Though slightly paternalistic, this standard is not an obstacle to reform.

Illustrative is the situation of University at Buffalo School of Law, which does not ask a criminal history inquiry on its application for admission.¹⁰⁹ The New York State Bar does conduct a moral character and fitness inquiry, and

¹⁰⁵ See Kennedy, *supra* note 99, at 800 (discussing changes to law school admissions criteria and noting “none of these changes have resulted in a significant growth in the diversity of the profession or any sustained increase in the admissions of Black and Latinx students to law schools”).

¹⁰⁶ See Aaron Taylor, *The GRE is No Diversity Tool*, NAT'L JURIST, June 7, 2016, <https://perma.cc/4MGT-2QWQ> (explaining “score trends are typified by racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic disparities, and schools often misuse the test in the admissions process. A recent study found that, on average, white test-takers scored about 100 points (roughly 25 percentile points) higher than their black counterparts on the verbal reasoning section, and about 60 points higher than Mexican Americans. Disparities in quantitative reasoning scores were observed as well.”).

¹⁰⁷ See *supra* note 29.

¹⁰⁸ See *supra* Part III.

¹⁰⁹ See Appendix A.

students from University at Buffalo School of Law are subject to that inquiry.¹¹⁰ Since removing their criminal history inquiry, Buffalo has not reported a serious incident on campus, exposure to liability, or a rash of applicants claiming to be unaware of the moral character and fitness requirements of the New York State Bar. Suffice it to say, Buffalo has made their application work – *sans* criminal history information – possibly providing a model for law schools nationally.

6. CONCLUSION

From an applicants' point of view, the criminal history inquiry on a law school admissions application can be daunting. Though beyond the scope of our data, prior research makes clear that it is likely that these probing inquiries dissuade some portion of applicants from applying.¹¹¹ Moreover, given the racial composition of those who have had criminal justice system contact, criminal history inquiries likely also undermine efforts to racially diversify applicant pools and student bodies. As Sociologists Robert Stewart and Christopher Uggen note:

The increasing scrutiny of criminal records in college admissions is especially consequential for groups most subject to the criminal justice system, particularly young Black males. Considering the historic underrepresentation of Black Americans in higher education and their overrepresentation in justice-involved populations, criminal history disclosure requirements could lead to additional barriers to racial progress, student learning, and democracy.¹¹²

Given concerns about the homogeneity of the legal profession, the null risk to campuses posed by those with prior criminal justice system contact, and the possibility that criminal history inquiries dissuade applicants – often racial minorities – with valuable experiential knowledge, the utility of such questions is unclear and ought to be thoroughly debated. Our hope is that our data can inform that debate, such that emotion and prejudice give way to an honest

¹¹⁰ See RULE 520.12(A)-(B) PROOF OF MORAL CHARACTER, N.Y.S. BD. L. EXAM'R (2021), <https://perma.cc/R4CA-BGUG> (noting that “[e]very applicant for admission to practice must file with a committee on character and fitness appointed by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court affidavits of reputable persons that applicant possesses the good moral character and general fitness requisite for an attorney and counselor-at-law” and that “[t]he Appellate Division in each department may adopt for its department such additional procedures for ascertaining the moral character and general fitness of applicants as it may deem proper”).

¹¹¹ See *supra* Part III.

¹¹² Robert Stewart & Christopher Uggen, *Criminal Records and College Admissions: A Modified Experimental Audit*, 58 CRIMINOLOGY 156, 157 (2020) (citations omitted).

empirical exploration of what law schools gain with criminal history inquiries, and perhaps more importantly, what and whom they potentially lose.

APPENDIX A: CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRY SCORES

School*	Felony Convictions	Misdemeanor Convictions	Other Convictions	Juvenile Convictions	Expunged/Sealed Convictions	Charged Offenses	Arrests	Pending Charges	Official Documentation Required	Criminal History Inquiry Score
Alabama										
University of Alabama	X	X		X				X		4
Faulkner	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Samford	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Alaska										
No ABA Accredited Law Schools										
Arizona										
University of Arizona	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Arizona State	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Arkansas										
University of Arkansas - Fayetteville	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	7
University of Arkansas - Little Rock	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
California										
University of California, Berkeley	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
University of California, Davis	X	X		X	X			X		5
University of California, Hastings	X	X	X	X				X		5
University of California, Irvine	X	X	X	X	X			X		5
University of California, Los Angeles	X	X		X	X			X		5
University of Southern California	X	X		X	X			X		5

California Western University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Chapman University	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
Golden Gate University	X	X		X	X			X		5
Loyola Marymount University	X	X		X	X	X	X			6
Pepperdine University	X	X	X	X		X	X			6
University of Santa Clara	X	X		X	X	X	X			6
Southwestern University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Stanford University	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
University of San Diego	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		7
University of San Francisco	X	X		X	X			X		5
University of the Pacific	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Western State University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Colorado										
University of Colorado	X	X	X	X		X	X			6
Denver University	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	7
Connecticut										
University of Connecticut	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Quinnipac University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Yale University	X	X		X	X			X		5
Delaware										
Widener	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
District of Columbia										
American University	X	X	X	X				X		5
Catholic University	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		7
University of District of Columbia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Georgetown University	X	X	X	X	X			X		6

George Washington University	X	X	X	X				X		5
Howard	X	X	X	X				X	X	6
Florida										
Ave Maria Barry University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
University of Florida	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
Florida A&M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Florida Coastal International	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	8
Florida State University of Miami	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		9
Nova Southeastern	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		7
St. Thomas	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Stetson	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Georgia										
Atlanta's John Marshall	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Emory University of Georgia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Georgia State	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Mercer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Hawaii										
University of Hawaii	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
Idaho										
University of Idaho	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Illinois										
University of Chicago	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		7
University of Chicago Kent	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
DePaul	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
University of Illinois	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
UIC John Marshall	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Loyola - Chicago	X	X	X	X				X		5

Northern Illinois	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Northwestern	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Southern Illinois	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Indiana										
University of Indiana - Bloomington	X	X	X	X		X	X			6
University of Indiana - Indianapolis	X	X	X	X		X	X			6
Notre Dame	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Iowa										
Drake University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		7
Iowa University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			6
Kansas										
Kansas University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Washburn	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Kentucky										
Kentucky University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Louisville	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Northern Kentucky	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Louisiana										
Louisiana State	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	8
Loyola - New Orleans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Southern University	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
Tulane	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Maine										
University of Maine	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	8
Maryland										
University of Baltimore	X	X	X	X		X		X		6
University of Maryland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Massachusetts										
Boston College	X	X		X						3

Boston University	X	X		X	X				X	5
Harvard University	X	X		X						3
University of Massachusetts	X	X		X	X					4
New England	X	X		X						3
Northeastern	X	X		X	X	X		X		6
Suffolk	X	X	X		X	X	X			6
Western New England	X	X		X						3
Michigan										
Detroit Mercy University	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	7
University of Michigan	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		7
Michigan State University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Wayne University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Western Michigan University	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	8
Minnesota										
University of Minnesota	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Mitchell Hamline	X	X	X	X	X	X				6
St. Thomas	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Mississippi										
Mississippi	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Mississippi College	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Missouri										
Missouri	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		7
Missouri - Kansas City	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Saint Louis University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Washington University, Saint Louis	X	X	X	X	X	X				6
Montana										
University of Montana	X	X	X	X	X					5
Nebraska										
Creighton University	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
University of Nebraska	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7

Nevada										
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
New Hampshire										
University of New Hampshire	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
New Jersey										
Rutgers	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Seton Hall	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
New Mexico										
University of New Mexico	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
New York										
Albany	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Brooklyn	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		7
CUNY	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Columbia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Cornell	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Fordham	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Hofstra	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
New York Law	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
New York University	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		7
PACE	X	X	X		X			X		5
Cardoza - Yeshiva	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
St. John's	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
SUNY Buffalo										0
Syracuse	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Touro	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
North Carolina										
Campbell	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	8
Duke	X	X	X	X		X	X			6
Elon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
North Carolina	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
North Carolina Central	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
Wake Forest	X	X	X	X		X	X			6

North Dakota										
North Dakota	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	7
Ohio										
Akron	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Capital	X	X	X			X	X			5
Case Western	X	X	X	X	X	X				6
Cincinnati	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Cleveland State	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
Dayton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Ohio Northern	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Ohio State	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Toledo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Oklahoma										
Oklahoma	X	X	X	X		X		X		6
Oklahoma City	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Tulsa	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Oregon										
Lewis and Clark	X	X	X		X	X	X			6
Oregon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Willamette	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Pennsylvania										
Drexel	X	X	X	X						4
Duquesne	X	X	X	X	X					5
University of Pennsylvania	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Penn State - Dickinson	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
Penn State - University Park	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
Pittsburg	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Villanova	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
Temple	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Widener Commonwealth	X	X	X	X				X		5
Puerto Rico										
Inter-American	X	X	X	X	X					5
Puerto Rico	X	X	X	X	X					5
Rhode Island										
Roger Williams	X	X		X	X			X		5

South Carolina										
Charleston	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
South Carolina	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
South Dakota										
South Dakota	X	X	X	X	X	X				6
Tennessee										
Belmont	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Lincoln Memorial	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Memphis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Vanderbilt	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Tennessee	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
Texas										
Baylor	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Houston	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
UNT Dallas	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
St. Mary's	X	X	X							3
South Texas - Houston	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			7
Southern Methodist	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Texas	X	X	X	X				X		5
Texas A&M	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
Texas Southern	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8
Texas Tech	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
Utah										
Brigham Young	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Utah	X	X	X	X	X			X		6
Vermont										
Vermont	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
Virginia										
Appalachian	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
George Mason	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Liberty	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Regent	X	X	X	X		X	X			6
Richmond	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Virginia	X	X	X			X	X	X		6

Washington and Lee	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		7
William and Mary	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	8
Washington										
Gonzaga	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Seattle University of Washington	X	X	X	X	X	X				6
University of Washington	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
West Virginia										
West Virginia	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		7
Wisconsin										
Marquette	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Wisconsin	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8
Wyoming										
Wyoming	X	X	X	X	X					5

* ALL LINKED QUESTIONS CURRENT AS OF JAN. 2021.

APPENDIX B: CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRY SCORES BY STATE/JURISDICTION

State/Jurisdiction	Average (M)	(SD)
Alabama	6.33	(1.70)
Arizona	7.50	(0.50)
Arkansas	7.00	(0.00)
California	6.17	(1.26)
Colorado	6.50	(0.50)
Connecticut	7.33	(1.70)
Delaware	7.00	(0.00)
District of Columbia	6.17	(1.07)
Florida	7.82	(0.83)
Georgia	7.20	(0.40)
Hawaii	6.00	(0.00)
Idaho	8.00	(0.00)
Illinois	7.00	(1.05)
Indiana	6.67	(0.94)
Iowa	6.50	(0.50)
Kansas	7.00	(0.00)
Kentucky	7.00	(0.00)
Louisiana	7.50	(0.87)
Maine	8.00	(0.00)
Maryland	7.50	(1.50)
Massachusetts	4.13	(1.27)
Michigan	7.60	(0.49)
Minnesota	7.00	(0.82)
Mississippi	8.00	(0.00)
Missouri	6.75	(0.43)
Montana	5.00	(0.00)
Nebraska	7.00	(0.00)
Nevada	6.00	(0.00)
New Hampshire	7.00	(0.00)
New Jersey	8.00	(1.00)
New Mexico	8.00	(0.00)

New York	7.00	(2.13)
North Carolina	7.00	(0.82)
North Dakota	7.00	(0.00)
Ohio	7.44	(1.42)
Oklahoma	7.00	(0.82)
Oregon	7.00	(0.82)
Pennsylvania	6.22	(1.31)
Puerto Rico	5.00	(0.00)
Rhode Island	5.00	(0.00)
South Carolina	8.00	(0.00)
South Dakota	6.00	(0.00)
Tennessee	7.80	(0.75)
Texas	6.70	(1.49)
Utah	7.00	(1.00)
Vermont	7.00	(0.00)
Virginia	7.25	(0.83)
Washington	7.33	(0.94)
West Virginia	7.00	(0.00)
Wisconsin	8.00	(0.00)
Wyoming	5.00	(0.00)

APPENDIX C: CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRY SCORES BY RANK

School	USNWR Ranking	Tier	Criminal History Inquiry Score
Yale University	1	1	5
Stanford University	2	1	6
Harvard University	3	1	3
University of Chicago	4	1	7
Columbia University	4	1	9
New York University	6	1	7
University of Pennsylvania	7	1	8
University of Virginia	8	1	6
University of California, Berkeley	9	1	6
Northwestern	9	1	8
University of Michigan	9	1	7
Duke University	12	1	6
Cornell University	13	1	8
Georgetown University	14	1	6
University of California, Los Angeles	15	1	5
University of Texas	16	1	5
Washington University, Saint Louis	17	1	6
University of Southern California	18	1	5
Vanderbilt	18	1	8
Boston University	20	1	5
University of Minnesota	21	1	7
Notre Dame	22	1	8
George Washington University	23	1	5
Arizona State	24	1	7
University of Florida	24	1	7
Emory	24	1	7
University of California, Irvine	27	1	5
Iowa University	27	1	6
Fordham	27	1	7
North Carolina	27	1	7
University of Alabama	31	1	4

University of Georgia	31	1	7
University of Illinois	31	1	6
Boston College	31	1	3
Washington and Lee	31	1	7
William and Mary	31	1	8
Brigham Young	37	1	8
University of California, Davis	38	1	5
University of Indiana - Bloomington	38	1	6
Ohio State	38	1	8
Wisconsin	38	1	8
Wake Forest	42	1	6
George Mason	42	1	8
University of Washington	42	1	8
Utah	45	1	6
University of Colorado	46	1	6
University of Arizona	47	1	8
Pepperdine	47	1	6
University of Maryland	47	1	9
University of Connecticut	50	2	9
Florida State	50	2	7
Baylor	50	2	7
Cardoza - Yeshiva	53	2	6
Tulane	54	2	8
Richmond	54	2	8
Temple	56	2	7
Houston	56	2	8
Southern Methodist	56	2	8
University of California, Hastings	59	2	5
Penn State - University Park	60	2	7
Texas A&M	60	2	7
Loyola Marymount	62	2	6
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	62	2	6
Seton Hall	62	2	7
Penn State - Dickinson	62	2	6
Villanova	62	2	6
University of Miami	67	2	7

Northeastern	67	2	6
University of Missouri	67	2	7
Loyola - Chicago	70	2	5
Kansas University	70	2	0
Kentucky University	70	2	7
Tennessee	70	2	9
Denver University	74	2	7
St. John's	74	2	7
American University	76	2	5
Georgia State	76	2	7
University of Nebraska	76	2	7
Rutgers	76	2	9
Case Western	76	2	6
Oklahoma	76	2	6
Pittsburg	76	2	8
University of San Diego	83	2	7
University of Chicago Kent	83	2	6
Wayne University	83	2	8
Brooklyn	83	2	7
Cincinnati	83	2	8
University of New Hampshire	88	2	7
Oregon	88	2	8
University of Arkansas - Fayetteville	90	2	7
Florida International	90	2	9
Saint Louis University	90	2	7
Michigan State University	93	2	8
Lewis and Clark	93	2	6
Drexel	93	2	4
University of Hawaii	96	2	6
Louisiana State	96	2	8
South Carolina	96	2	8
Louisville	99	2	7
University of New Mexico	99	2	8
SUNY Buffalo	99	2	0

Hofstra	102	3	9
Cleveland State	102	3	6
Marquette	102	3	8
Stetson	105	3	9
Drake University	105	3	7
University of Santa Clara	107	3	6
Howard	107	3	6
Washburn	107	3	7
CUNY	107	3	8
Chapman	111	3	6
Catholic University	111	3	7
Mississippi	111	3	8
Syracuse	111	3	8
Tulsa	111	3	7
Texas Tech	111	3	7
West Virginia	111	3	7
St. Thomas	118	3	9
DePaul	118	3	8
Albany	118	3	8
Gonzaga	118	3	8
Quinnipac University	122	3	8
University of Indiana - Indianapolis	122	3	6
University of Maine	122	3	8
University of Montana	122	3	5
Mercer	126	3	7
Loyola - New Orleans	126	3	8
University of Baltimore	126	3	6
New York Law	129	3	8
Duquesne	129	3	5
Belmont	129	3	7
Seattle	129	3	6
University of Missouri - Kansas City	133	3	7
Creighton University	133	3	7
Wyoming	133	3	5
University of Idaho	136	3	8
Suffolk	136	3	6

PACE	136	3	5
Toledo	136	3	9
UIC John Marshall	140	3	8
Mitchell Hamline	141	3	6
Akron	141	3	9
University of Dayton	141	3	7
Williamette	141	3	7
South Dakota	141	3	6
University of Memphis	141	3	8
Vermont	141	3	7
Faulkner	148	4	7
Samford	148	4	8
University of Arkansas - Little Rock	148	4	7
California Western	148	4	8
Golden Gate	148	4	5
Southwestern University	148	4	9
University of San Francisco	148	4	5
University of the Pacific	148	4	8
Western State University	148	4	8
Widener	148	4	7
University of District of Columbia	148	4	8
Ave Maria	148	4	8
Barry University	148	4	7
Florida A&M	148	4	8
Florida Coastal	148	4	8
Nova Southeastern	148	4	7
Atlanta's John Marshall	148	4	8
Northern Illinois	148	4	7
Southern Illinois	148	4	8
Northern Kentucky	148	4	7
Southern University	148	4	6
University of Massachusetts	148	4	4
New England	148	4	3
Western New England	148	4	3

Detroit Mercy University	148	4	7
Western Michigan University	148	4	8
St. Thomas	148	4	8
Mississippi College	148	4	8
Touro	148	4	8
Campbell	148	4	8
Elon	148	4	8
North Carolina Central	148	4	7
North Dakota	148	4	7
Capital	148	4	5
Ohio Northern	148	4	9
Oklahoma City	148	4	8
Roger Williams	148	4	5
Charleston	148	4	8
Lincoln Memorial	148	4	7
St. Mary's	148	4	3
South Texas - Houston	148	4	7
Texas Southern	148	4	8
Appalachian	148	4	7
Liberty	148	4	8
Regent	148	4	6

APPENDIX D: CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRY MASTER LIST AS OF JAN. 2021

Alabama**University of Alabama**

If your conviction has been sealed, expunged, or overturned, you do not have to disclose the conviction associated with that situation

- a. Have you ever been convicted of any felony?
- b. Have you ever been convicted of an offense involving physical harm to another person or animal (whether a felony or not)?
- c. Have you ever been convicted of a sexual offense (whether a felony or not)?
- d. Have you ever been convicted of stalking or have you ever received a restraining order, protective order or similar directive to avoid or to limit contact with a group or individual?
- e. Are you currently the subject of pending charges or an indictment for any of the offenses listed above ...?

Faulkner

- a. Have you ever as a juvenile or adult been served with a criminal summons, questioned, arrested, taken into custody, indicted, charged with, tried for, pleaded guilty to or convicted of, or ever been the subject of an investigation concerning the violation of any law, regulation or policy, including but not limited to any internal investigation conducted by an employer or public agency? (Include all traffic tickets/offenses in your answer, except that you need not list parking tickets/offenses.) No statute, court order or legal proceeding expunging the information required herein from any record, or dismissing, vacating or setting aside any arrest, accusation or conviction, or purporting to authorize any person to deny the existence of such matter shall excuse less than full disclosure.
- b. Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in ANY legal proceeding, civil or criminal?

Samford

- a. Have you ever been formally accused, cited for, arrested for, charged with or convicted of violating any law, including traffic violations? (All citations, arrests, charges and convictions, whether pending or otherwise, must be noted and explained even if the charges were dismissed, you were acquitted, plead nolo contendere or adjudication was withheld or a conviction was expunged, dismissed, overturned or vacated.)

Alaska

No ABA Accredited Law Schools in the state of Alaska.

Arizona**University of Arizona**

- a. Have you ever been charged with, pled guilty or no contest to, and/or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony (or the equivalent in a military proceeding or juvenile court), or is any such charge currently pending? Please do not include traffic violations, unless they constitute a misdemeanor, felony or involve the use of alcohol or drugs. (If yes, you must attach an addendum fully explaining

Arizona State

- a. Have you ever been arrested for, charged with, convicted of, pled guilty, or pled no contest to a crime other than a minor traffic violation? (A violation that includes the use of drugs or alcohol is not considered a minor violation.)
- b. If you answered "yes" to question #2 above, were any of the instances felonies?

Arkansas**Arkansas, Fayetteville**

- a. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of any misdemeanor or felony? If yes, you must submit an attachment giving full details, including dates; the court, if any; reference to court records, if any; the facts; the disposition of the matter; and if no court records are available, give the names and addresses of all persons involved, including counsel.

Arkansas, Little Rock

- a. Have you ever been charged with, arrested for, convicted of, or plead guilty or nolo contendere for a violation of any law?
- b. Have you ever had any form of restraining order issued against you, including those that never resulted in arrest, criminal charges, or criminal conviction?

California**University of California, Berkeley**

- a. Have you ever been convicted of any offense, excluding minor traffic and parking violations, or is any such charge now pending against you?

University of California, Davis

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor offense (or the equivalent in juvenile court)? NOTE: Conviction includes a plea of guilty or nolo contendere (no contest), or a verdict or finding of guilt, regardless of the sentence imposed by the court. You MUST report all offenses, including those for which the record has been expunged, and any traffic violations that resulted in a misdemeanor or felony conviction, including Failure to Appear, Driving without a License, Driving with a Suspend License, and Reckless Driving (or their equivalent). You do NOT need to include parking or traffic violations that do not involve the use of intoxicants, or any arrest not resulting in a conviction, unless the charge is still pending.
- b. Are you awaiting final adjudication of any investigation or arrest?
- c. Have you ever been granted immunity in lieu of criminal prosecution?

University of California, Hastings

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, or is any such charge now pending against you? For purposes of this question, a conviction includes a plea of guilty

or nolo contendere, or a verdict or finding of guilt, regardless of whether sentence is imposed by a court. Traffic violations which must be reported under this question include Failure to Appear, Driving Without a License, Driving with a Suspended License, and Reckless Driving, as well as all traffic violations that resulted in a misdemeanor or felony conviction. You need not answer "yes" because of an arrest that did not result in a conviction as long as the charges are no longer being adjudicated. You need not answer "yes" for any arrest or conviction that has been sealed, expunged, dismissed, or set aside.

University of California, Irvine

- a. Have you ever been convicted of, or is any charge now pending against you, for any crime other than a traffic violation?

University of California, Los Angeles

- a. Are there any misdemeanor, felony, or other criminal charges pending against you? NOTE: You must promptly inform the Admissions Office in writing if any misdemeanor, felony, or other criminal charges are brought against you between your submission of this application and your registration at UCLA School of Law. In addition, should you enroll at UCLA School of Law, you must promptly inform the Dean of Students in writing if any misdemeanor, felony, or other criminal charges are brought against you during your time as a student through graduation.
- b. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony (or the equivalent in a juvenile court)? This includes sealed convictions and all convictions where you entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. You need not report traffic violations unless conviction for the violation(s) would constitute a misdemeanor or a felony. NOTE: You must promptly inform the Admissions Office in writing if any such conviction occurs between your submission of this application and your registration at UCLA School of Law. In addition, should you enroll at UCLA School of Law, you must promptly inform the Dean of Students in writing if any conviction occurs during your time as a student through graduation.

University of Southern California

- a. Have you ever been convicted of the violation of a misdemeanor or felony, or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a violation of a misdemeanor or felony, whether or not the charges were dismissed, the court entered a judgement of conviction, or the court imposed a sentence?
- b. Are there any charges pending against you?

California Western

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been apprehended, cited, arrested, taken into custody for, charged with, indicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty or no contest (nolo contendere) to the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except for minor traffic violations unrelated to the use of intoxicants, or been the subject of juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceedings, or is any such action pending or expected to be brought against you? Answer affirmatively even if the applicable offense has been dismissed or expunged. 4. Provide a full explanation that specifies the surrounding circumstances, applicable dates, and the sentencing, if any, be it incarceration, probation, community service, community control, restitution, fine, revocation or suspension of driving privileges, or suspension of sentence altogether.

Attach additional documentation ONLY IF your explanation exceeds the character limits allotted. (maximum characters 5000)

Chapman University

- a. Have you ever been convicted of, or pled guilty to the violation of any law or ordinance, or the commission of any felony or misdemeanor (including any traffic violations) or is any such charge now pending against you? (This may include but is not limited to: failure to appear, driving without a license, reckless driving, etc. If "Yes," for each occurrence furnish a written electronic attachment providing the complete facts, including the date, name, and nature of the offense, the name and locality of the court, and the disposition of the matter. The statement must accompany the application.)

Golden Gate University

- a. Have you ever been convicted of the violation of a misdemeanor or felony? As used herein, a conviction includes a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or a verdict or finding of guilt, regardless of whether the sentence is imposed by the court.
- b. Are any criminal charges of any kind currently pending against you?

Loyola Marymount University

- a. **CONVICTIONS:** Have you ever been charged, arrested, or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony (excluding minor traffic violations)? As used herein a conviction includes a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or a verdict of finding of guilt, regardless of whether sentence is imposed by the court. You must disclose this requested information even if the charges were juvenile convictions, the conviction was stayed or vacated, the record was sealed or expunged, or you were told you need not disclose this information. You must also disclose any incident that is awaiting final adjudication. If "yes," for each occurrence furnish complete facts, including the date, name and nature of the offense, the name and locality of the court, and the disposition of each such matter in an electronic statement and enclose it with this application. Please refer to the Disclosures section of the website.

Pepperdine University

- a. Have you been charged, cited, prosecuted, or convicted of any crime for an offense other than a misdemeanor or minor traffic violation? Include any instance of drunk driving whether a felony, misdemeanor, or minor traffic violation. You need not report any arrest, conviction or other proceeding in which the record has been ordered or is required to be sealed, dismissed, obliterated, or otherwise expunged.

Santa Clara University

- a. Have you ever been charged, arrested or convicted of a misdemeanor or felony? As used herein, a conviction includes a plea of guilty or nolo contendere or a verdict or finding of guilt, regardless of whether sentence is imposed by the court. This includes any charge, arrest or conviction that may have been dropped or expunged.

Southwestern University

Full disclosure in response to the below questions is required. During the licensing process for admission to the Bar, which includes state and federal background checks, you will need to address

similar questions. The Bar will compare your disclosures below with their information and any inaccuracies or discrepancies may delay or prevent Bar admission.

If you answer YES to any of the questions below, provide a full explanation in an electronic attachment to this application (found under Attachments). Full disclosure includes, but is not limited to, the following: all criminal, disciplinary, academic or other charges (both initial and final), convictions/rulings, sentencing terms, dates (month/year), and contextual details of the underlying conduct or incident(s) (including their date(s) and time(s), location(s), factual circumstances, other parties involved, and if applicable, case name, case number, jurisdiction, and copy of any decision, decree, judgment, or order issued, etc.). To meet Southwestern's full disclosure requirement, you must include all charges, even if they were later dismissed, or were later reduced as part of plea negotiations, or reduced as part of sentencing terms.

- a. Have you ever been, as an adult or juvenile, cited, investigated for, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted, tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or violation of any law, except minor parking or traffic violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceedings or been party to court proceedings involving allegations of child abuse or neglect? Please note that although a conviction may have been expunged from the records by an order of the court, it nevertheless must be included in this disclosure. Further, Southwestern does not consider a traffic offense to be minor if it involves, in any way, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol or if the applicant's conduct was reckless.
- b. Are there criminal charges pending against you or are you presently under investigation by any police department, law enforcement agency, or other government body?

Stanford University

- a. Have you ever been convicted of, or is any charge now pending against you for any crime other than a traffic violation?

University of San Diego

- a. Have you ever been charged with a misdemeanor or felony (or the equivalent in a juvenile court), is any such charge now pending, or are under investigation? In responding to this question, please include incidents where the charge was originally a misdemeanor or felony, but may have ultimately been reduced to a lesser charge or dismissed. Include all incidents, no matter how minor, even if the record has been sealed, obliterated, destroyed, dismissed or expunged. Please furnish complete facts, including the name and nature of the offense, the date of the offense, the name and locality of the court, and the disposition of each event using an electronic attachment.
- b. Have you ever been convicted of the violation of a misdemeanor or felony? As used herein, a conviction includes a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, or a verdict or finding of guilt, regardless of whether sentence is imposed by the court. Please furnish complete facts including the name and nature of the offense using an electronic attachment.

University of San Francisco

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony or are any such charges pending against you? This includes any conviction that may have been expunged as well as any juvenile adjudication (IF YES, PROVIDE IN AN ELECTRONIC ATTACHMENT THE NAME OF EACH OFFENSE, THE CIRCUMSTANCES

SURROUNDING THE INCIDENT(S), EXACT DATES OF EACH OFFENSE,
NATURE OF THE OFFENSE AND DISPOSITION OF EACH OFFENSE.)

University of the Pacific

If you have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor and had the charges subsequently expunged, you must still disclose the conviction. Disclose all convictions regardless of your age at the time.

- a. Have you ever received a citation for, been arrested for, charged with, convicted of, or pled guilty, no contest, nolo contendere, or otherwise accepted responsibility for a crime, or have you received a deferred prosecution or prayer for judgment continued, for any criminal charge other than a minor traffic violation? This would include any charges of driving under the influence or any other drug or alcohol related offenses.
- b. Are there any criminal charges pending against you or are you presently under investigation for a crime of any kind? (This includes any charges of driving under the influence or other drug or alcohol related charges.)

Western State University

- a. Are there any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you? NOTE: You must promptly inform the Admissions Office in writing if any misdemeanor, felony, or other criminal charges are brought against you between your submission of this application and your registration at Western State College of Law. In addition, should you enroll at Western State College of Law, you must promptly inform the Dean of Students in writing if any misdemeanor, felony, or other criminal charges are brought against you during your time as a student through graduation.
- b. Have you ever been, as an adult or juvenile, cited, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted, tried for, or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere (no contest) to a crime (other than a minor traffic violation), including sealed and/or expunged convictions?

Colorado

University of Colorado

- a. Have you ever been investigated, arrested, cited for, charged with, or convicted of any alcohol or drug-related offenses? Include any traffic or other violations that involved alcohol or drugs, as well as any minor in possession or open container charges. Include all matters that have been dismissed for any reason, subject to a diversion or a deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside. You do not need to disclose any incident (including a juvenile one) that ended in the sealing or expungement of the incident by a court. Expungement or sealing of a record is different than a dismissal as it is conducted by a court and results in a court order.
- b. Have you ever been, in the last five years, investigated, arrested, cited for, charged with, or convicted for any traffic violation? Exclude violations disclosed in the previous question and any parking tickets. Include all matters that have been dismissed for any reason, subject to a diversion or a deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside. You do not need to disclose any incident (including a juvenile one) that ended in the sealing or expungement of the incident by a court. Expungement or sealing of a record is different than a dismissal as it is conducted by a court and results in a court order.
- c. Have you ever been investigated, arrested, cited for, charged with, convicted, imprisoned, or placed on probation or parole for any offense against the law? Exclude violations disclosed in the previous two questions. Include all matters that have been dismissed for any reason, subject to a diversion or a deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside. You do not need to disclose any incident (including a juvenile one) that ended in

the sealing or expungement of the incident by a court. Expungement or sealing of a record is different than a dismissal as it is conducted by a court and results in a court order.

Denver University

- a. Criminal Offenses Have you ever been arrested, cited for, charged with, convicted of, imprisoned, or placed on probation or parole for any offense against the law? Do not include parking or speeding tickets. Include all matters that have been dismissed for any reason, subject to a diversion or a deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside. You do not need to disclose any incident (including a juvenile one) that ended in the sealing or expungement of the incident by a court. If "YES", provide (1) a statement describing what happened in your own words. In addition to the statement (1), described above, if you were convicted of or pled guilty to any charges (including any deferred sentences that were ultimately dismissed), also include (2) a copy of the charging document, complaint, indictment, or citation, (3) the disposition or sentencing order, and (4) substantiation of successful completion of any sentences. Do not include parking or speeding tickets.

Connecticut**University of Connecticut**

- a. Have you ever been arrested, charged and/or convicted of any criminal offense(s) in any criminal proceeding in any jurisdiction, including a General or Special Court Martial? This includes matters that may have been expunged or otherwise removed from your record through completion of court ordered or approved programs. If yes, enclose a copy of all court and/or police records confirming the disposition of the case, along with an essay fully explaining the circumstances (see Attachments section). Your file will remain incomplete until we receive the required documentation.
- b. Are any such charges pending? If yes, enclose a copy of all court and/or police records confirming the disposition of the case, along with an essay fully explaining the circumstances (see Attachments section). Should any charges be filed against you after you submit this application but before enrollment at the Law School, you must immediately report the charges to the Admissions Office in writing. Your file will remain incomplete until we receive the required documentation.

Quinnipac University

- a. Have you ever, as a juvenile or an adult, been arrested; charged with and/or convicted of any crime, offense or violation (other than minor non-alcohol related traffic violations) or currently have charges pending against you? Have you ever been the respondent in a criminal protective order or a family violence temporary restraining order?

Yale University

- a. Have you ever been convicted of, or pleaded guilty or no contest to, a felony or misdemeanor, or are there any criminal charges pending against you?

Delaware**Widener University**

- a. Have you ever been arrested, taken into custody, or accused formally or informally of a violation of the law for any offense other than a minor traffic violation? If "yes", you must submit an electronic attachment to provide a detailed explanation. Your explanation must include the nature of the offense, the facts surrounding the offense, all relevant dates, disposition, and sanctions. If currently on probation or parole, you are ineligible for admission to the law school. You must include any instance of driving under the influence and offenses which have been expunged or occurred while a juvenile, including disorderly person's offenses. Note: You have a continuing duty to update the information you provide in response to this question. You must notify Delaware Law of any legal violations occurring after submission of this application.

District of Columbia

American University

- a. Please list any current criminal charges pending against you in any jurisdiction as well as any instance when you have been convicted or found guilty of a criminal charge(s). In answering these questions, please disclose any relevant pending charges, convictions, or plea agreements for any felonies, misdemeanors, or other criminal offenses, including any charge of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs. You do not need to disclose traffic violations unless they resulted in incarceration, or in actual criminal charges, convictions, or plea agreements. You also do not need to disclose any charge or conviction that has been expunged or sealed by order of a court, provided you have a copy of the order in your possession which you can provide to Washington College of Law upon request.

Catholic University

- a. Have you ever been charged with any traffic or criminal violations or been a party to any lawsuit? Respond yes, even if the charges are pending, or were dismissed, resulted in a conviction, a guilty plea, a nolo contendere plea, probation before judgment or a requirement that conditions be fulfilled as part of a diversion or alternative sentencing program. If "yes," please explain fully in an attachment or use an electronic attachment that gives the disposition of the matter(s).

University of District of Columbia

If you answer "yes" to any of the following questions, you must provide an additional statement which includes:

the date(s) of the incident(s)

the original charge or citation

the specific nature of the incident

a detailed explanation of the relevant facts/circumstances

how the matter was resolved (including any reduced charges or lesser included offences)

any supporting documentation Simply providing copies of court documents does not satisfy this requirement. Your answers to these questions are confidential and will only be used for the determination of your character and fitness to practice law except as required by Bar Examiner disclosure, a court order, or other legal matters.

NOTE CAREFULLY: The Admission Committee wishes to emphasize to applicants that failure to disclose an act or event described here can be more serious than the act itself. Many state bar associations require a candidate to reveal all criminal or disciplinary charges, even if expunged. If in doubt, always err on the side of full disclosure. You must disclose all matters requested on this law school application, even if you have been advised otherwise by anyone else, including legal counsel. That means that once you disclose matters even when an arrest did not lead to a charge, a charge was reduced or dismissed, you were acquitted or found guilty, adjudication was withheld, deferred, or diverted, or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. Disclose all convictions regardless of age at the time. Full disclosure means that you avoid answers and supplemental reports that are vague, superficial, misleading, evasive or only partly true.

- a. Have you ever been cited, charged with, arrested for, convicted of, or plead guilty or nolo contendere to a violation of any law? You must report all violations, even if those violations have been expunged. Repeated moving violations, unpaid parking tickets, or driving while intoxicated or impaired are viewed by some jurisdictions as serious offenses and should be reported here. If you answer yes, please provide a detailed explanation including dates, what led up to the event(s), outcome, and current perspective on what happened. Please remember to include supporting documentation.

Georgetown

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense, or is any charge now pending against you for any crime other than a traffic violation?

George Washington

- a. Have you ever been convicted of or pled guilty or no contest to a criminal charge (felony, misdemeanor, or other), including any charge of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs, but not including minor traffic charges? You need not disclose any charge or conviction that has been expunged or sealed by order of a court, a copy of which order you have in your possession.
- b. Are there any criminal charges (felony, misdemeanor, or other) pending against you?

Howard

The disclosure requirement means you must disclose matters even when an arrest did not lead to a charge, a charge was reduced or dismissed, you were acquitted or found not guilty, adjudication was withheld, deferred, or diverted, or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. Disclose all convictions regardless of age at the time. Full disclosure means providing a written statement that is clear, detailed, and completely true as well as supplemental official organization reports (i.e., complete police or administrative documents related to the matter).

Full disclosure consists of a written statement detailing the facts of the situation written to address the: "WHO" "WHAT" "WHEN" "WHERE" "HOW" and "WHY". Also, it should include all official documentation from the state or administrative body involved in the matter (i.e., court records, arrest records, letters from academic institution officials). The submission of supplemental official organization reports in lieu of a written answer from the applicant is not acceptable. If there are multiple infractions that may impact criminal liability and academic sanctions, you are required to provide only one explanation per incident. You are required to disclose even if you have been advised otherwise by anyone else, including legal counsel. **YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO**

DISCLOSE ANY RECORDS EXPUNGED OR SEALED AS A RESULT OF OFFICIAL COURT ACTION. Please maintain proof of expungement.

3. Have you EVER (either as an adult or juvenile) been charged or convicted of the violation of a law for any offense? Include, without limitation, all felonies, misdemeanors, and major traffic offenses (e.g., DUI/DWI offenses, repeated speeding offenses [more than 5], etc.). You may NOT omit offenses that were dropped, dismissed, or reduced. You may omit offenses that were expunged or sealed by official court action. Even if you perceive a matter to have been minor or to have happened a long time ago, you MUST disclose this information.

4. Are there any criminal charges currently pending against you? If you answered yes, please add a statement explaining the offense. Remember to include supporting documentation.

Also, if you answer “yes” to Character and Fitness questions 1 or 2 above, you must provide an additional statement that includes:

- a. the date(s) of the incident,
- b. a complete copy of the original charge or citation,
- c. a detailed explanation of the relevant facts/circumstances and specific nature of the incident,
- d. how the matter was resolved (including any reduced charges or lesser included offenses); pending matters will require additional information and/or resolution, and
- e. any supporting documentation.

Providing copies of court documents alone does not satisfy the disclosure requirement. Your answers to these questions are confidential and will only be shared externally as required by the state board of law examiners, a court order, or other legal process.

Florida

Ave Maria University

- a. Have you ever been charged with, arrested for, pleaded guilty to, or been convicted of any crime other than a minor traffic violation? Details on parking tickets may be excluded but moving violations, including speeding tickets, must be fully disclosed. Please disclose this information even if the charges were dismissed or you were acquitted, the conviction was stayed or vacated, the record was sealed or expunged, or if you were advised not to disclose this information.
- b. Are there any criminal charges pending against you?

Barry University

- a. Felony Offense(s) Answer the following question "Yes" or "No." If yes, an addendum addressing the issue must be included. In your entire life, have you ever been arrested, detained, or restrained, taken into custody, or accused formally or informally of a felony, whether or not the charge was later reduced to a misdemeanor, other lesser charge or dismissed? If yes, provide a copy of the final disposition and a complete explanation of the circumstances leading to the arrest, the subsequent action taken by the authorities, and the final disposition, including information about the conviction, incarceration, probation, and restoration of civil rights.

- b. Misdemeanor Offense(s). Answer the following question "Yes" or "No." If yes, an addendum addressing this issue must be included. In your entire life, have you ever been arrested, detained, or restrained, taken into custody, or accused formally or informally of a misdemeanor offense? If yes, provide a complete explanation of the circumstances leading to the arrest(s), the subsequent action taken by authorities, and the final disposition, including conviction, incarceration, and probation.
- c. Sealed or Expunged Records. Answer the following question "Yes" or "No." In your entire life, have you ever had any record expunged or sealed by a court or any other authority or institution? If yes, provide a complete explanation of the underlying circumstances regarding the record(s) sealed or expunged.

University of Florida

If your records have been expunged pursuant to applicable law, you are not required to answer Yes to question 3, 4 or 5 with respect to that particular charge. It is your responsibility to know whether your records have been expunged. You should be aware that a state Board of Bar Examiners investigation into your fitness to practice law can extend beyond the scope of this question (as well as questions 1 and 2), and you might be required to disclose expunged records as well as any convictions or charges that you are required to disclose in answering these questions

- a. Have you ever been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of, or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to, a crime or traffic violation (other than a traffic violation resulting in a fine of \$200 or less that did not result in revocation or suspension of your driver's license)?
- b. Are there any criminal charges pending against you?
- c. Are you currently on probation or parole, in a deferred prosecution program, required to perform community service obligations, or required to pay restitution or a fine in any criminal matter?

Florida A&M

- a. In your entire life, have you been arrested, detained, restrained, taken into custody or accused, formally or informally, of violating a law or ordinance? Please include all matters, including juvenile and traffic violations resulting in a fine of \$200 or more, regardless of final disposition (dismissal, acquittal, expungement, sealed or other resolutions). If you answer "yes", please attach a statement providing detailed information regarding the nature of the offense and its disposition, including all relevant material, dates and facts as a Character and Fitness attachment. In addition, official documents pertaining to the incident(s) are required. Official documents include, but are not limited to, court documents, copies of the citation, letter of good standing from the university, letter from the university regarding academic or disciplinary sanctions and the completion of sanctions, etc. Official documentation must include the final disposition of the incident to be valid.

Florida Coastal

If your answer to any of the following questions is "yes," you must submit to the Florida Coastal School of Law a detailed explanation of all incidents and also provide the Florida Coastal School of Law with copies of all official documents (from the university/college and/or court) explaining the final disposition of all proceedings. If your records have been expunged or sealed pursuant to applicable law, you are not required to answer "yes" to question 1 with respect to that particular charge. It is your responsibility to know whether your records have been expunged or sealed pursuant to applicable law. You should be aware that a state Board of Bar Examiners' investigation into your fitness to practice law can extend beyond the scope of this question (as well as questions

2, 3, 4, and 5), and you might be required by a state Board of Bar Examiners to disclose expunged or sealed records as well as any convictions or charges that you are required to disclose in answering these questions.

- a. In your entire life, have you ever been arrested, detained, restrained, given notice to appear, taken into custody, or accused formally or informally of a violation of law or ordinance? You should disclose each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed, or you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. Traffic incidents should be disclosed in question 2.
- b. In your entire life, have you ever been charged with a violation of a traffic law or ordinance that resulted in a fine of \$200 or more, charged with a traffic violation that resulted in time spent in jail, or had your driver's license or your driving privileges revoked or suspended?
- c. Are there any charges of violating the law currently pending against you?

Florida International

All official documentation explaining the current or final disposition of the proceedings may be requested at a later date.

- a. Are you currently the subject of any criminal or disciplinary proceedings? You should disclose each instance, regardless of sanctions or outcomes, here or in the attachment section.
- b. Have you ever been arrested, detained or restrained, taken into custody, or accused formally or informally of a violation of law or ordinance (whether or not the record has been sealed or expunged)? You should disclose each instance, regardless of sanctions or outcomes, here or in the attachment section.
- c. Have you been charged with a traffic violation that resulted in a fine of \$200 or more or that resulted in a suspension or revocation of your driver's license? You should disclose each instance, regardless of sanctions or outcomes, here or in the attachment section.
- d. Have you been arrested, charged, or convicted of driving while intoxicated or under the influence of drugs? You should disclose each instance, regardless of sanctions or outcomes, here or in the attachment section.

Florida State

- a. Violation of Law Duty to Disclose: Have you ever been arrested, detained or restrained, given a notice to appear or taken into custody for the violation of a law or ordinance? You should disclose each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed, you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. However, if your records were expunged pursuant to applicable law, you are not required to answer yes to this question. If your answer to this question is YES, please read the following carefully. You MUST include by electronic attachment to this application a full statement of relevant facts for each incident. In addition to your written account of the incident(s), you MUST furnish the College of Law with copies of all official documents explaining the final disposition of the proceedings. If your answer changes from a NO to a YES after you have submitted your application, you are obligated to notify the Admissions Office of the change and include the written statement and official documentation regarding the incident as part of your application.
- b. Violation of Law Duty to Disclose: Have you ever been arrested, detained or restrained, taken into custody or accused of driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, driving with an unlawful blood alcohol level or charged with vehicular manslaughter or vehicular homicide? You should disclose each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed, you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. However, if your records were expunged pursuant to applicable law, you are not required to answer yes to this question. If your

answer to this question is YES, please read the following carefully. You MUST include by electronic attachment to this application a full statement of relevant facts for each incident. In addition to your written account of the incident(s), you MUST furnish the College of Law with copies of all official documents explaining the final disposition of the proceedings. If your answer changes from a NO to a YES after you have submitted your application, you are obligated to notify the Admissions Office of the change and include the written statement and official documentation regarding the incident as part of your application.

- c. Violation of Law Duty to Disclose: Have you ever been charged with a traffic violation that resulted in a fine of \$200 or more, charged with a traffic violation that resulted in time spent in jail, or had your driver license or your driving privileges revoked or suspended? You should disclose each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed, you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. However, if your records were expunged pursuant to applicable law, you are not required to answer yes to this question. If your answer to this question is YES, please read the following carefully. You MUST include by electronic attachment to this application a full statement of relevant facts for each incident. In addition to your written account of the incident(s), you MUST furnish the College of Law with copies of all official documents explaining the final disposition of the proceedings. If your answer changes from a NO to a YES after you have submitted your application, you are obligated to notify the Admissions Office of the change and include the written statement and official documentation regarding the incident as part of your application.

University of Miami

- a. In keeping with regulations for admission to the Bar, you are required to answer this question completely, irrespective of any statute, administrative rule, court order or legal or administrative proceeding expunging or sealing the information required herein from any record or purporting to authorize any person to deny the existence of such matters, and irrespective of any advice from any source, including legal counsel, that such information need not be disclosed. Incidents that are pending must also be disclosed. You are required to update your application to the School of Law when the pending matter is resolved. Have you ever been charged with a crime resulting in conviction, probation, community service, withhold of adjudication, pre-trial diversion, jail sentence or revocation/suspension of your driver's license? This requires disclosure of all traffic offenses for which the penalty was a fine actually paid of \$200 or more.

Nova Southeastern

- a. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a criminal offense, whether a felony, misdemeanor, or other violation of the law, or had your driver's license suspended or revoked for any reason? Minor traffic violations and parking violations do not need to be disclosed. DUI is not considered to be a minor traffic violation and must be disclosed. If yes, provide a complete statement of the circumstances surrounding each occurrence, including dates, charges, course of the matter, and locations involved.

St. Thomas

Applicants must provide full disclosure as requested below. Applicants must disclose an incident under this section even if the charges were dropped, dismissed, referred to a pretrial intervention program, deferred prosecution, and/or for which the records have been sealed or expunged. St. Thomas University School of Law may revoke an acceptance if the applicant fails to make full disclosure.

- a. In your entire life, have you ever been arrested, detained, or restrained, taken into custody or accused formally or informally of a felony whether or not the charge was later reduced to a misdemeanor or other lesser charge? If you answer yes, for each instance, (a) provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances, including the date(s), the charge, the arresting agency, city and state of the arrest, and the subsequent action taken by the authorities; (b) explain whether there are any pending charges against you, and whether you are currently serving or subject to any kind of probation, deferred prosecution program, or reporting for community service obligations associated with any criminal matter; and (c) attach a copy of the arresting or charging document, police investigation reports, and the disposition order.
- b. In your entire life, have you ever been arrested, detained, or restrained, taken into custody, or accused of driving while intoxicated, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, driving with an unlawful blood alcohol level, or charged with vehicular manslaughter or vehicular homicide? If you answer yes, for each instance, (a) provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances, including the date(s), the nature of the charge, case number and court name, and the disposition of the case, including the sentence; (b) explain whether there are any pending charges against you, and whether you are currently serving or subject to any kind of probation, deferred prosecution program, or reporting for community service obligations associated with any criminal matter; and (c) attach a copy of the arresting or charging document, police investigation reports, and the disposition order.
- c. Other than those incidents disclosed and explained in questions 1 and 2 above, since the date of your 16th birthday, have you ever been arrested, detained, or restrained, given a notice to appear, or taken into custody for the violation of a law or ordinance or for committing a delinquent act? If you answer yes, for each instance, provide: (a) a detailed explanation of the circumstances, including the date, the nature of the charge, case number and court name, and the disposition of the case, including the sentence; (b) explain whether there are any pending charges against you, and whether you are currently serving or subject to any kind of probation, deferred prosecution program, or reporting for community service obligations associated with any criminal matter; and (c) attach a copy of the arresting or charging document and the disposition order.

Stetson

In answering questions on The Florida Bar application, the Board of Bar Examiners states that applicants are warned that no statute, court order, or legal proceeding withholding adjudication, expunging the information required herein from any record, sealing the records which contained the information required herein, or dismissing, vacating or setting aside any arrest, accusation or conviction, or purporting to authorize any person to deny the existence of such matters shall excuse less than full disclosure, **IRRESPECTIVE OF ANY ADVICE FROM ANY SOURCE (INCLUDING LEGAL COUNSEL) THAT SUCH INFORMATION NEED NOT BE DISCLOSED.** It is further required that records will have to be unsealed and released to the Board of Bar Examiners even if sealed or expunged.

- a. In question #2, you should disclose each instance even though charges may have been dismissed, or you were acquitted, or adjudication was withheld, or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. If you have any charges pending or active warrants for your arrest, you are required to answer yes. This question includes periods before you turned 18. If your records were expunged pursuant to applicable law, you may not be required to answer yes, but you should carefully read the Character and Fitness Disclosure below. A Dismissal is not an expungement. You must include any traffic violations (even those you believe to be minor) if the violation resulted in a jail sentence, suspension, or revocation of driver's license, or a fine of more than \$200.00. Any arrest, including a written arrest, charge or conviction of driving while intoxicated or under the influence of drugs or alcohol must be disclosed, regardless of sanctions or outcome. If you are unsure whether to answer "yes," we strongly recommend answering "yes" and

fully disclosing all incidents. In addition to a bar examination, there are character, fitness, and other qualifications for admission to the bar in every U.S. jurisdiction. Applicants are encouraged to determine the requirements for any jurisdiction in which they intend to see admission by contacting the jurisdiction. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available through the National Conference of Bar Examiners. If you answer yes, you must attach or send us your full statement of relevant facts and attach a copy of the final court documentation (disposition, DMV record) or arrange for a copy to be emailed or mailed to the Office of Admissions and Student Financial Planning. Have you ever been arrested, detained, or restrained; taken into custody; or accused formally or informally of a violation of law or ordinance?

Georgia

Atlanta's John Marshall

- a. Excluding parking violations, have you ever been cited (including the paying of fines, even as a juvenile), detained, arrested, formally accused, or prosecuted for the violation of any law? Note: You must disclose each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed or you were acquitted or allowed to plead nolo contendere or an adjudication was withheld, or you were pardoned or a conviction was reversed, set aside or vacated, or the record sealed or expunged and regardless of whether or not you have been told by anyone, including a judge or a lawyer, you do not need to disclose such an instance. You must provide documentation of each instance.

Emory University

- a. Have you ever been accused of, reprimanded for, detained for, or charged with any criminal offense or school conduct violation, regardless of the outcome? This includes any criminal accusations, including traffic offenses, except for parking violations. This also includes any reprimands or social actions while in college, or any educational setting since high school (such as noise violations).
- b. Please disclose even if any charges were dismissed, or if you were acquitted or allowed to plead nolo contendere, or if the conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated, or if the record was sealed or expunged. You must disclose regardless of whether you have been told you need not disclose any such instance.

University of Georgia

- a. Excluding only parking violations, have you ever been detained, arrested, formally accused, cited, or prosecuted for the violation of any law? You must disclose each instance, even if the charges were dismissed; you were acquitted; you pled nolo contendere; adjudication was withheld; your conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated; or the record was sealed or expunged.

Georgia State University

- a. EXCLUDING ONLY PARKING VIOLATIONS, have you ever been detained, arrested, formally accused, cited or prosecuted for the violation of any law (including ALL traffic citations, such as speeding, reckless driving, running a red light or stop sign, failure to yield, etc.)? If YES, electronically attach a statement, including at least the following information for each instance: date, description of the offense(s), and disposition. IMPORTANT NOTE: You must disclose each instance even if the charges have been

dismissed, or you were acquitted, or allowed to plead *nolo contendere*, or adjudication was withheld, or a conviction was reversed, set aside or vacated, or the record sealed or expunged and regardless of whether you have been told you need not disclose any such instance. This includes all juvenile charges. Such instances do not necessarily disqualify you from admission to law school. All circumstances are carefully considered by the College of Law Admissions Committee.

Mercer University

In accordance with standard requirements for bar admission, you must disclose each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed or you were acquitted or allowed to plead *nolo contendere* or adjudication was withheld or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated or the record sealed or expunged regardless of whether you have been told by anyone, including a judge or a lawyer, that you need not disclose any such instance.

In addition to the character and fitness requirements listed above, any conduct or behavior that could call into question your ability to practice law in a competent, ethical, and professional manner, including the inappropriate use of social media, may result in denial or revocation of admission.

- a. Have you ever been detained, arrested, formally accused, cited, or prosecuted for the violation of any law (excluding traffic offenses)?
- b. Excluding parking violations, have you ever been cited or charged with any traffic violation within the last 10 years [including violation(s) to which you were allowed to enter a "nolo contendere" plea]?

Hawaii

University of Hawaii

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a crime (other than a minor traffic violation but including DUI, DWI, etc.)?
- b. Are there criminal charges pending against you or are you presently under investigation?

Idaho

University of Idaho

- a. Have you ever been arrested, served a summons, cited, questioned, indicted, taken into custody, charged, tried, or investigated for a felony, misdemeanor, infraction (including traffic tickets), or probation violation? (Include all incidents as a juvenile or adult, no matter how minor the charge, guilty or not, exonerated or not, whether or not sentencing was withheld, excluding only non-moving traffic violations that resulted in a penalty less than \$25.00. You must include criminal and/or juvenile matters that have been expunged.)

Illinois

University of Chicago

- a. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of any crime or offense other than a minor traffic violation? This includes any charges, complaints, or citations that were filed against you as a juvenile or as an adult, formal or informal, pending or closed, dismissed, expunged, sealed, or subject to a diversionary program, and includes any charges,

complaints, or citations that you reasonably expect to be brought against you. If so, please provide all material facts and an explanation of the circumstances.

Chicago-Kent

- a. Have you ever been convicted of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or received a period of supervision for, any offense other than a minor traffic or parking violation, or is any charge now pending against you concerning such an offense? (A "minor traffic violation" is a violation for which only a citation was issued, e.g., speeding. You must report any other traffic offense, including any offense in which acting under the influence of a drug or alcohol was an element of the offense.) You must disclose each instance, regardless of whether a conviction was reversed, set aside or vacated, or the record sealed or expunged. If yes, give details on an electronic attachment, including a description of the incident, the exact charge, and final resolution.

DePaul

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or is there now pending against you any indictment, criminal information or criminal complaint charging a felony offense?
- b. Have you been detained, arrested, summoned into court, cited, indicted, adjudicated guilty or convicted in any criminal, municipal, military or juvenile proceeding? If yes, you must disclose each instance even though the charges have been dismissed or you were acquitted or adjudication was withheld or a conviction was reversed, set aside, vacated or the record sealed or expunged and regardless of whether you have been told you need not disclose any such instances.

University of Illinois

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense, either as a juvenile or as an adult, or is there now pending against you any indictment, criminal information, or criminal complaint? This includes matters that have been expunged or sealed.

UIC John Marshall

- a. Have you ever been formally or informally detained, restrained, cited, summoned into court, taken into custody, arrested, accused, charged, convicted, placed on probation, placed on supervision, or forfeited collateral in connection with any offense against the law or an ordinance, or accused of committing a delinquent act, other than a minor traffic or parking violation? A "minor traffic violation" is a violation for which only a citation was issued, e.g. speeding less than 25 mph over the limit or other moving violations, however any traffic violation charged as a misdemeanor, involving felonious conduct or involving a fine of \$350 or more must be reported. Other traffic offenses, including any in which acting under the influence of a drug or alcohol was an element of the offense, must be reported. NOTE: Please answer regardless of the final disposition. If your answer is "Yes," please state the facts fully on a separate attachment and attach a copy of the arresting officer's report, complaint, indictment, trial disposition, sentencing documents and appeal documents (see Attachments section). If alcohol or drugs were involved, you must also attach the order of disposition and documents substantiating successful completion of any sentence or condition imposed. You must disclose each instance even if charges were not formally brought against you, were dismissed, you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, or your conviction was reversed, set aside or vacated. You must disclose these instances regardless of whether you have been told that you need not

disclose any such instance, your case was expunged or sealed, or the instance is in any other way subject to non-disclosure. You may be requested to provide additional information if you are accepted.

Loyola University, Chicago

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense or accepted/admitted responsibility (such as by paying a fine) for a criminal citation other than a minor traffic violation (fine \$200 or less)? You are not required to disclose arrests that did not result in a criminal charge or citation, or criminal charges or citations (or juvenile adjudications) that have been dismissed, expunged or sealed. You must disclose any criminal charges or citations that are pending against you at the time of this application.

Northern Illinois

- a. Have you ever, including when you were a juvenile, been formally or informally detained, restrained, cited (including traffic citations in the last ten years but not parking tickets), summoned into court, taken into custody, arrested, accused, charged, convicted, placed on probation, placed on supervision, or forfeited collateral in connection with any offense against a law or an ordinance (including any sealed or expunged incidents)?

Northwestern University

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking or traffic violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? (If yes, explain on a separate sheet or electronic attachment.) Please note that although a matter may have been expunged from the records by an order of a court, it nevertheless should be disclosed in the answer to this question. Also, you should have available and be prepared to submit or exhibit copies of police and court records regarding any matter you disclose in reply to this question.

Southern Illinois

NOTE: Full disclosure is required for any charges against you, including those that have been dismissed, and those for which you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld or deferred, a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated, any records were sealed or expunged, you received court supervision, or you pled guilty or nolo contendere to the charge, and regardless of whether you have been previously told that you do not need to disclose any such instance.

- a. Have you ever been charged or convicted of any crime or offense, including misdemeanors and felonies, or is there now pending against you any indictment, criminal information, or criminal complaint charging a felony or misdemeanor offense, excluding minor traffic offenses? This includes offenses that have been expunged from your record or instances in which the records have been sealed. It includes offenses for which you were charged or convicted when you were a juvenile or adult. Your duty to disclose all offenses for which you have been charged or convicted exists irrespective of any legal advice you receive suggesting you are not required to disclose the offense.

Indiana

Indiana University, Bloomington

IF YOU ANSWER YES TO ANY OF THE CHARACTER AND FITNESS QUESTIONS, you must attach a statement of explanation for each question you answered yes to, giving full details, including the facts and the disposition of the case. You must divulge all arrests, citations, tickets, and charges either as an adult or juvenile, regardless of the final disposition. This explanation must also include details of incidents that have been expunged from your record. You must disclose all incidents where you were formally or informally taken into custody, detained, arrested, restrained, cited, summoned into court, accused, charged, convicted, placed on probation, or supervision in connection with any offense against the law or ordinance.

- a. As a juvenile or adult, have you ever been arrested for, convicted of or accused of any violation of law that have not been expunged or sealed by a court? Include ALL criminal offenses, e.g., felonies, misdemeanors, infractions, speeding tickets and other traffic offenses, regardless of the final disposition. You must disclose all incidents where you were formally or informally taken into custody, detained, restrained, cited, summoned into court, arrested, accused, charged, convicted, placed on probation or suspension in connection with any offense against the law or ordinance.

Pursuant to Indiana Code §35-38-9, you are under no obligation to disclose expunged offenses to the law school as part of your application for admission. However, you are strongly encouraged to do so. Many state bars, including Indiana, require disclosure of expunged and/or sealed records for assessing character and fitness for admission to the bar. As such, admission to law school and completion of JD requirements does not guarantee that you will be able to sit for or be admitted to the Indiana bar (or another state's bar). Please note that expungement and dismissal are distinct and all offenses that have been dismissed must be disclosed.

Indiana University, Indianapolis

IF YOU ANSWER YES TO ANY OF THE CHARACTER AND FITNESS QUESTIONS, you must attach a statement of explanation for each question you answered yes to, giving full details, including the facts and the disposition of the case. You must divulge all arrests, citations, tickets, and charges either as an adult or juvenile, regardless of the final disposition. This explanation must also include details of incidents that have been expunged from your record. You must disclose all incidents where you were formally or informally taken into custody, detained, arrested, restrained, cited, summoned into court, accused, charged, convicted, placed on probation, or supervision in connection with any offense against the law or ordinance.

- a. As a juvenile or adult, have you ever been arrested for, convicted of or accused of any violation of law that have not been expunged or sealed by a court? Include ALL criminal offenses, e.g., felonies, misdemeanors, infractions, speeding tickets and other traffic offenses, regardless of the final disposition. You must disclose all incidents where you were formally or informally taken into custody, detained, restrained, cited, summoned into court, arrested, accused, charged, convicted, placed on probation or suspension in connection with any offense against the law or ordinance.

Pursuant to Indiana Code §35-38-9, you are under no obligation to disclose expunged offenses to the law school as part of your application for admission. However, you are strongly encouraged to do so. Many state bars, including Indiana, require disclosure of expunged and/or sealed records for assessing character and fitness for admission to the bar. As such, admission to law school and completion of JD requirements does not guarantee that you will be able to sit for or be admitted to the Indiana bar (or another

state's bar). Please note that expungement and dismissal are distinct and all offenses that have been dismissed must be disclosed.

Notre Dame University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, charged with, or convicted of a misdemeanor, felony, or other crime? This includes charges that are pending, or to which you have plead "guilty" or "no contest."

Iowa**Drake University**

- a. Have you ever been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of criminal, administrative, or military law (including any deferred, expunged, or sealed judgments)? This question includes, but is not limited to, all alcohol-related incidents. However, the question is not meant to include minor traffic violations.
- b. Are there any criminal charges pending against you?

University of Iowa

- a. Have you ever (either as an adult or juvenile) been cited or arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of the law? (You must disclose each instance, even if you were granted any type of pretrial diversion, even if filed charges were dismissed; even if such charges resulted in a deferred adjudication; even if you were acquitted of such charges; or even if such charges resulted in a conviction that was reversed, set aside, vacated, or expunged. You need not, however, disclose speeding or parking violations.)

Kansas**University of Kansas**

- a. Have you ever had a protective or restraining order entered against you?
- b. Have you ever been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of a felony, misdemeanor or infraction other than a traffic violation (include diversions, sealed or expunged records, and juvenile offenses)?
- c. Have you ever had your driver's license suspended or revoked, or have you ever been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of a traffic violation involving alcohol or a controlled substance? (include diversions, sealed or expunged records, and juvenile offenses)
- d. Have you ever been a party to bankruptcy proceedings, had a tax lien filed against you, or been a party to any other civil or criminal proceeding related to unpaid financial obligations?

Washburn University

- a. Despite whether the record has been expunged, have you ever been summoned charged, arrested, taken into custody, or indicted for driving under the influence of alcohol or any other controlled substance?
- b. Despite whether the record has been expunged, other than listed above, have you ever been issued a citation, notice to appear or summons, charged, arrested, taken into custody, or indicted for any felony, misdemeanor, or infraction of the law excluding minor traffic infractions?

Kentucky**University of Kentucky**

- a. Have you ever been arrested, charged with, or convicted of any crime, including juvenile offenses or any offense or crime that resulted in expunged records (including, but not limited to, driving while intoxicated or impaired, traffic violations, moving violations, or parking violations)? If so, give dates and full details in an attachment (see Attachments section)
- b. Have you ever been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any military offense, including any offense that resulted in expunged records (including, but not limited to, driving while intoxicated or impaired, traffic violations, moving violations, or parking violations)? If so, give dates and full details in an attachment (See Attachments section).

Louisville University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, charged or cited for any criminal offense? This includes felony, misdemeanor and juvenile offenses, even if the record has been sealed or expunged. This does not include speeding, parking or other minor traffic violations, unless resulting in probation or revocation of driving privileges.

Northern Kentucky University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, charged with, or convicted of any crime, or military offense? (This includes felonies, misdemeanors, juvenile offenses, major traffic violations such as driving while intoxicated or impaired, or repeated moving violations. Matters that have been expunged, sealed, or subject to a diversion program must still be disclosed.)
- b. Have you ever been a party to or otherwise involved in an incident that resulted in charges or allegations that you committed abuse, neglect or violence against another?
- c. Have you ever been charged with fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, forgery or other act of dishonesty in any civil, criminal, administrative, or other proceeding?

Louisiana**Louisiana State University**

IF YOUR ANSWER TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS IS YES, PLEASE ATTACH A FULL STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS FOR ALL INCIDENTS AND FURNISH THE LAW CENTER WITH COPIES OF ALL OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS REFERENCING THE CURRENT STATUS OR FINAL DISPOSITION OF ALL PROCEEDINGS. FAILURE TO SUBMIT RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION MAY RESULT IN A DELAY IN RECEIVING AN ADMISSIONS DECISION.

- a. Have you ever been charged with and/or convicted of stalking, cyberstalking, rape, or sexual battery? (You are required to report all incidents, regardless of how minor (except for traffic and/or parking violations, provided they are few in number); regardless of whether you were a juvenile or an adult at the time of incident; regardless of whether the case against you was dismissed or was otherwise disposed of in some manner other than by a conviction (e.g., by your participation in a "diversion" program); regardless of whether the record of the incident was sealed, expunged, or otherwise removed from the public records; and regardless of whether you were advised that you are not required to

disclose the incident. If you are not sure about the nature or the disposition of a particular charge, you must make a diligent effort to discover it and, having done that, report the results of your effort.)

- b. Are there any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you? (You must report all charges, regardless of how minor; regardless of whether you were a juvenile or an adult at the time of the incident that gave rise to the charges; and regardless of whether you were advised that you would not be required to disclose the incident.)

Loyola University, New Orleans

- a. Have you ever been arrested, cited, charged, indicted, ticketed, and/or convicted of any violation of the law other than a minor traffic violation? Have you ever been discharged from the military less than honorably? Is there any action currently pending adjudication? You are also required to disclose offenses which have been expunged, purged, sealed, obliterated, dismissed, or when the records have been destroyed, regardless of whether you have been told that you need not disclose any such event. This information will also be required to be disclosed by state bar authorities in many states along with a copy of your application to law school. If your answer is yes, please electronically attach a full explanation of the reasons for and circumstances surrounding the incident(s), including the dates, disposition of all of the charges, and your current view on these past incidents.
- b. Were you involved in any disciplinary or criminal incidents involving alcohol or illegal substances? Several states, including Louisiana, have Lawyers Assistance Programs through their state bar offices that may institute a recovery contract based on character and fitness reports and disclosures. In a written statement, please provide the full explanation and include what steps have been taken to avoid further incidents involving alcohol or illegal substance.

Southern University

A university, in Louisiana, may inquire on an initial application form about a prospective student's criminal conviction history relative to any conviction for the following crimes enumerated in Louisiana Revised Statutes: 14:40.2 (stalking), 40.3 (cyberstalking), 41 (rape), 42 (aggravated rape), 42.1 (forcible rape), 43 (simple rape), 43.1 (sexual battery), and 43.2 (second degree sexual battery) or an offense under the laws of another state or under any military, territorial, foreign, tribal, or federal law that is equivalent to any of these offenses. If a university elects to deny admission based on any such conviction, it shall notify the person, who may appeal the decision to the entity that considers the university's disciplinary matters.

- a. Have you ever been convicted of any of the offenses as stated above? If yes, please attach a separate sheet with an explanation and certified copies of court documentation. NOTE: Your responses to question 4 must include matters that have been dismissed, expunged, subject to a diversion or deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside.
- b. Are there any criminal charges for the crimes listed in question 4 pending against you? If yes, please attach a separate sheet with an explanation.

Tulane University

The Tulane Law School Admission Committee requires complete disclosure regarding any violation or alleged violation of law (including traffic offenses) and regarding any university disciplinary actions, including a fully descriptive narrative of the event or events. In some cases, committee members may request additional information and/or supporting documentation.

- a. Have you ever been charged with, arrested for, convicted of, pled guilty or nolo contendere for a violation of any law? For purposes of questions 4 and 5, you should include offenses that resulted in purged, sealed, obliterated, dismissed, or destroyed

records, regardless of whether you have been told that you need not disclose any such event, including traffic offenses. These will also be requested by state bar authorities in many states. If you are not sure about the nature or the ultimate disposition of a particular charge, you are advised to make full disclosure, as a subsequent finding that you failed to disclose relevant information could have disqualifying consequences. If your answer to either question concerning violations of the law is yes, please electronically attach a statement marked "Character/Fitness: Legal" with a full explanation of the reasons for, and circumstances surrounding, your arrest or conviction, or any pending charges. Be sure to provide the dates of the events you are disclosing along with a full description of what took place.

Maine

University of Maine

If you answer "Yes" to ANY of the following questions, you MUST provide a full and complete explanation in an attachment, clearly answering the question, including the ultimate disposition. Your file will remain incomplete if this addendum is not attached. If you have any past or pending criminal charges, you must provide all court documents and police reports.

- a. Have you ever had a complaint filed against you in any civil, criminal, or administrative forum alleging fraud, dishonesty, deceit, misrepresentation, forgery, or legal malpractice?
- b. Have you ever been cited for, charged with, arrested for, or convicted of any alcohol or drug-related traffic violation, other than a violation that was resolved in juvenile court?
- c. Have you been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any moving traffic violation during the past ten years? (Omit parking violations.)
- d. Has your driver's license in any state ever been suspended or revoked?
- e. Have you ever, as an adult, been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of any law (except traffic violations)? Note: This answer should include matters that have been expunged or subject to diversionary action. This answer should not include any violations that were resolved in juvenile court.
- f. Are there criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

Maryland

University of Baltimore

- a. Have you ever been charged with a crime, other than a minor traffic violation, for which the charges have not been expunged? (In Maryland, expungement is not automatic. It requires the filing of a petition with the Court. A result of a Probation Before Judgment in a Maryland Court must be reported unless the charge was expunged.) If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet or electronic attachment, specifying the nature of the offense(s), date the offense(s) occurred, name and locality of the court(s), and the sentence(s) imposed.
- b. If yes, are there any judgments against you that are pending or have been satisfied? If yes, explain fully on a separate sheet or electronic attachment.

University of Maryland

For any affirmative answer, please electronically attach a statement marked "Character and Fitness." Your answer should include the date and location (city, town and state) of each incident, a

description of the incident, and a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding – and the resolution of – each event. The University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law reserves the right to request additional information from you, including further explanation concerning the incidents in question, court records, documents, or any other relevant information.

For purposes of the next two questions, you should include offenses that resulted in purged, sealed, obliterated, dismissed, expunged, or destroyed records, regardless of whether you have been told that you need not disclose any such event. This includes traffic offenses of all kinds, with the exception of the occasional parking ticket. This information will also be requested by state bar authorities in many states. If you are not sure about the nature or the ultimate disposition of a particular charge, you are advised to make full disclosure, as a subsequent finding that you failed to disclose relevant information could have disqualifying consequences. The failure to disclose an act or event is often more significant, and can lead to more serious consequences, than the act of event itself. Failure to provide truthful answers, or failure to inform the Office of Admissions of any changes to your answers, may result in revocation of admission or disciplinary action by the Law School, or denial of permission to practice law by the state in which you seek admission to the bar.

- a. Have you ever been arrested or charged, formally or informally, and without regard to the result, with a violation of any law? (If yes, please attach an explanation of the circumstances, including relevant details.)
- b. Are any charges pending or expected to be brought against you for the violation of any law? (If yes, please attach an explanation of the circumstances, including relevant details.)

Massachusetts

Boston College

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony (or its equivalent in the applicable jurisdiction) that has not been vacated?*
- b. Within the past five years, have you been convicted of, or released from incarceration for, a misdemeanor (or its equivalent in the applicable jurisdiction), other than for a first offense for drunkenness, simple assault, speeding, a minor traffic violation, affray, or disturbance of the peace?*. An applicant with a sealed record on file with the commissioner of probation may answer "no record" with respect to an inquiry herein relative to conviction

Boston University

If the answer to any of the following questions is yes, please provide a detailed explanation, including a summary of the allegations and any sentence imposed. The Admissions Committee may require copies of court documents in addition to your explanation. NOTE: Bar examiners may require other information that we are not permitted to seek under Massachusetts statutes

- a. Have you ever been convicted, without such conviction being vacated, of a misdemeanor for which the sentence was imprisonment?
- b. Have you ever been convicted, without such conviction being vacated, of a felony?
- c. Have you been convicted of any misdemeanor within the past five years?*

Harvard University

- a. Have you ever been convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to, any felony or misdemeanor, other than: • an arrest or other detention that did not result in a conviction, or in which a conviction was vacated; • a first conviction for any of the following misdemeanors: drunkenness, simple assault, speeding, minor traffic violations, affray or

disturbance of the peace; or • any misdemeanor conviction that occurred more than five years before your application for admission, unless you were also sentenced to imprisonment, or were convicted of any additional offense within the five year period. Note that you are not required to answer “yes” to this question, or provide an explanation, if the criminal adjudication or conviction has been expunged, sealed, annulled, pardoned, destroyed, erased, impounded, or otherwise ordered by a court to be kept confidential.

University of Massachusetts

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony?
- b. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor for which you were sentenced to incarceration?
- c. Have you been convicted within the past five years of a misdemeanor for which you were not subject to incarceration? You will be required to reveal if you have been charged with or been the subject of any investigation for a felony or misdemeanor other than a minor traffic charge to state bar examining agencies as part of the application process for taking the bar exam. The University of Massachusetts School of Law cannot guarantee that successful completion of the law degree program will permit you to be admitted to the bar in any jurisdiction. Before applying for admission to law school, you are advised to contact the Bar Examiners of the jurisdiction(s) in which you intend to practice to determine if a prior conviction or other character and fitness issue will affect bar admission.

New England University

- a. Have you ever been a) convicted of a felony for which the conviction has not been vacated or expunged or b) convicted of a misdemeanor for which you were sentenced to imprisonment and for which the conviction has not been vacated or expunged or c) convicted of a misdemeanor within the past five years, for which the conviction has not been vacated or expunged, excluding however a first conviction for drunkenness, simple assault, speeding, minor traffic violations, affray, or disturbance of the peace? Note: Some states' bars require disclosure of much fuller information relating to criminal proceedings, including information that was subsequently expunged or sealed. If yes, submit an attachment describing the nature of the conviction, the circumstances involved, the sentence imposed, and the court in which the case was heard.

Northeastern University

- a. Have you ever been convicted of, pled guilty or no contest to, any felony or is any felony charge currently pending against you?
- b. Within the past five years, have you been convicted of, or released from incarceration for, a misdemeanor (or its equivalent in the applicable jurisdiction), other than for a first offense for drunkenness, simple assault, speeding, minor traffic violations, affray, or disturbance of the peace?
- c. Have you ever been the subject of any charges, complaints or grievances (formal or informal), alleging that you engaged in the unauthorized practice of law, including any now pending?

Suffolk University

- a. Excluding offenses committed as a juvenile, have you ever been: arrested, charged, or been the subject of any investigation for a felony or misdemeanor or other criminal charge

other than a minor traffic charge? If yes, state the dates, courts, details and results in an electronic attachment.

Western New England

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? (Without the conviction later being vacated or sealed.)
- b. Other than a first conviction for drunkenness, simple assault, speeding, minor traffic violations, affray, or disturbance of the peace, have you been convicted of a misdemeanor within the five years preceding the date of this application, or been convicted of a misdemeanor, at any time, where a sentence of imprisonment was imposed? (Without the conviction later being vacated or sealed.)

Michigan

Detroit Mercy University

For the purposes of answering the questions below, your entire criminal history is relevant, including matters in which courts have labeled "non-public." Applicants who respond "yes" to questions 4-11, must submit complete explanations of each incident that include the specific dates, causes, circumstances, and outcome of the incident as well as register of action and court records. If a register of action or court record is not accessible, please attach an additional statement explaining why the document was not provided and who was contacted in attempt to obtain the document. The Detroit Mercy Law Admissions Committee will not review an application for admission until it receives supporting statements and documentation.

- a. Are there any criminal charges against you which are currently pending?
- b. Are there any criminal charges against you for which you are currently on supervised or unsupervised probation?
- c. Are there any criminal charges against you in which sentencing has been delayed or not disposed of?
- d. Are there any criminal charges against you in which a pretrial diversion program has not been completed?
- e. Are there any criminal charges against you in which there is any other nonfinal status?
- f. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor offense? Include any conviction resulting from an appearance in court in which a judge or jury made a finding of guilt, or in which a guilty plea or nolo contendere plea was accepted by the court. Exclude driving convictions that do not require a court appearance, and which are or would be presently treated as civil infractions under the provision of the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code, or under similar provisions in other states. Disclose all convictions stemming from originally charged driving offenses that retain criminal status, such as all alcohol or drug-related offenses and reckless or felonious driving, or convictions for driving while privileges are suspended or revoked.
- g. Have you ever entered a guilty plea or a no contest plea to a criminal offense which was taken under advisement, taken in connection with a pretrial diversion program, or otherwise did not result in a conviction?
- h. Have you ever had a criminal record expunged or set aside?

University of Michigan

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a crime (following a jury or bench trial, a guilty plea, or a nolo contendere plea), or charged with a criminal offense that was later dismissed as a result of a plea bargain or alternative sentencing arrangement, or are such criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you? Include misdemeanors and criminal infractions, as well as any interaction with a law enforcement agency that

resulted in payment of a fine or order of community service. Do not include minor traffic violations or civil infractions or citations for which jail time was not a potential penalty

Michigan State University

If you answer yes to any question in this section, you must submit an addendum. Label this statement as "Character and Fitness Addendum" and include your name and the date the account was written. The Character and Fitness Addendum should include the date, location (city/state), a brief description of all incidents, and a full account of the outcome including, if applicable, the location of the court with jurisdiction over the matter. Official final disposition documentation or any corresponding police reports for each incident are helpful, and in some cases required by the Admissions Committee.

- a. Have you ever been cited, arrested, taken into custody for, indicted for, charged with, convicted of, or pled guilty to violation of any law or been the subject of a juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? (MSU Law requires disclosure of all traffic violations excluding parking violations, although repeated parking violations should be included if they resulted in misdemeanor charges. The entry of an expungement or any order sealing or purporting to authorize any person to deny the existence of such matters does not relieve you of the duty to disclose the matter in this application).

Wayne University

- a. Have you ever been charged with, arrested for, convicted of, pled guilty or nolo contendere for a violation of any law and/or are there any charges pending or expected to be brought against you? (For purposes of this question, a conviction includes a verdict or finding of guilt, regardless of whether sentence is imposed by the court.) You should also disclose offenses that resulted in purged, sealed, obliterated, dismissed, or destroyed records, regardless of whether you have been told that you need not disclose any such event. These will also be requested by state bar authorities in many states. If you are not sure about the nature or the ultimate disposition of a particular charge, you are advised to make full disclosure, as a subsequent finding that you failed to disclose relevant information could have disqualifying consequences.

Western Michigan University

If you answer yes to any of the following questions, you will be required to submit a character and fitness summary form (emailed after application submission) where you will fully state the details of the incident(s), including dates and outcomes. You will also be required to provide official documentation pertaining to the reported incident(s). Official documentation may include but is not limited to police reports, a final register of actions, final dispositions, certificates of completion, or receipts of fines paid. If documents cannot be procured, you will be asked to provide verification in writing from the source that a particular record is not available. Current driving records may be required for incidents related to driving or loss of license. Official documentation can be submitted with your application or sent after the application has been submitted.

- a. In your entire life as an adult OR a juvenile have you: been convicted of, or pleaded guilty or no contest or otherwise admitted responsibility to, or agreed to deferred adjudication or adjournment in contemplation of dismissal of, or conceded that a prosecuting authority had sufficient evidence to convict you of, or had a criminal conviction expunged, set aside, sealed, or otherwise declared confidential for the violation of any law or ordinance other than a minor parking or traffic violation? A minor traffic or parking violation refers

to an instance where only a citation was issued such as a speeding ticket. All careless and reckless driving offenses, or any misdemeanor traffic offenses involving drugs or alcohol, or any offenses that result in the suspension or revocation of your driver's license, are NOT considered minor and must be disclosed.

- b. Are you currently a party to any proceeding that could result in fines, incarceration, probation, or civil forfeiture, other than minor traffic or parking violations? (Civil forfeiture means your property or money is taken because of a crime.) A minor traffic or parking violation refers to an instance where only a citation was issued such as a speeding ticket. All careless and reckless driving offenses, or any misdemeanor traffic offenses involving drugs or alcohol, or any offenses that result in the suspension or revocation of your driver's license, are NOT considered minor and must be disclosed.
- c. Have you been arrested in the last five years?

Minnesota

University of Minnesota

- a. Have you ever in your entire life been charged with, or arrested for, the violation of any law? This includes moving violations (traffic tickets), misdemeanors, felonies, and administrative charges. You must disclose the requested information even if the charges were dismissed or you were acquitted, the conviction was stayed or vacated, the record was sealed or expunged, or you were told at the time that you would not need to disclose in the future.

Mitchell Hamline University

- a. Have you ever in your life been charged with the violation of any law, including traffic laws? (Exclude paid parking tickets.) You must disclose this requested information even if the charges were dismissed, you were acquitted, the conviction was stayed or vacated, the record was sealed or expunged, or you were a juvenile. If you answered "yes," you must provide a complete explanation.

St. Thomas University

- a. Have you ever been charged with, cited for, arrested for, pleaded guilty to, or been convicted of a violation of any law, other than a minor traffic violation or paid parking violation? You must disclose this information even if the charges were dismissed or you were acquitted, the conviction was stayed or vacated, the record was sealed or expunged, or you were told by a judge or attorney, that you need not disclose this information.
- b. Are there any criminal charges pending against you?

Mississippi

University of Mississippi

- a. Have you ever been charged with, arrested for, convicted of, or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to a violation of any law? This includes minor traffic violations, charges of driving under the influence, or any other drug- or alcohol-related offenses and any expunged offenses. You should also disclose offenses which resulted in purged, sealed, obliterated, dismissed or destroyed records, regardless of whether you have been told that you need not disclose any such event. These will also be requested by state bar authorities in many states. If "yes," please attach a statement explaining the circumstances of each incident, whether such incident is still pending, and if not, its resolution

Mississippi College

If you answer YES to any of the following questions, YOU MUST explain the circumstances of each incident, whether such incident is still pending, and if not, the incident's resolution. In accordance with the standard requirements for the bar admission, you must disclose every incident even if the charges were dismissed, if you were acquitted, if adjudication was withheld, or if a conviction was reversed, set aside, vacated or expunged.

- a. Have you either as an adult or a juvenile, been charged with, arrested for, convicted of, and/or pled guilty or "no contest" to any crime or violation of the law? For bar admission purposes, these should include matters which may have been expunged or been subject to a court diversionary program. (Please NOTE: Traffic violations should be addressed in questions below.)
- b. Have you ever been charged or convicted or pled guilty to any drug or alcohol related traffic violation?
- c. Have you been charged with any moving traffic violations, including speeding tickets, during the past seven years?

Missouri

University of Missouri

- a. Other than minor traffic violations, have you ever been arrested for any violation of the law? If yes, in an attachment, name the offense, the date and describe the circumstances (see Attachments section). (This would include arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol or any other substance.) Note: You must disclose the information requested in this question even if you received a deferred prosecution, a suspended imposition of sentence, the conviction was stayed or vacated, or the record (including but not limited to proceedings in juvenile court, family court, or any court of general jurisdiction) was expunged.
- b. Are there any criminal charges currently pending against you? If yes, in an attachment, please name the offense and describe the circumstances (see Attachments section).

University of Missouri, Kansas City

If the answer to any of the questions is yes, please provide a supplemental statement accurately and fully describing the incident. If the matter has been concluded (for example, if a charge or claim was brought against you and the proceedings relating to it have been completed), please explain how it was resolved. If the matter is not completed (for example, if a charge or claim is still pending), please explain the situation and how and when you expect it to be resolved. For every question, if the answer is currently 'no' but there have been events that you believe may cause the answer to change to 'yes,' you should disclose that.

- a. Have you ever been arrested, charged, cited, issued a summons, taken into custody, or been convicted for the violation of any law? You must disclose every instance in which this has occurred even if charges ultimately were not brought against you or were dismissed, you were acquitted, you received a suspended imposition of sentence, the conviction was stayed or vacated, you were placed on probation, you were granted deferred adjudication, you participated in any type of pretrial diversion, or the record was sealed or expunged. You must disclose every incident regardless of whether you were an adult or a juvenile at the time. You must disclose every incident regardless of whether you have been advised by any source (such as legal counsel) that you need not disclose the incident. No statute, court order, or legal proceeding withholding adjudication, expunging or sealing any record, dismissing, vacating, or setting aside an arrest, charge, or conviction shall excuse less than full disclosure of the incident in this application. The

incidents that must be disclosed include (but are not limited to) any violation relating to alcohol or controlled substances (such as driving under the influence, driving while intoxicated, minor in possession, public intoxication, or possession or use of false identification). You may exclude violations of traffic laws (such as speeding tickets or parking tickets) unless the violation resulted in time spent in jail, issuance of an arrest warrant, or revocation or suspension of your driver's license.

Saint Louis University

- a. Have you ever been convicted, cited, arrested, charged, summoned or taken into custody for the violation of any law? (Please exclude incidents listed in 2 & 3 above and also exclude minor traffic or parking violations wherein the fine did not exceed \$250.)
- b. Have you ever been a party to any criminal, civil or administrative proceeding? (Please exclude incidents listed in 2, 3, & 4 above.)

Washington University, Saint Louis

- a. Have you ever been charged with and/or convicted of a criminal offense, including any matters that may have been expunged, or received anything other than an honorable discharge from the military? (Applicants do not need to disclose speeding tickets.)

Montana**University of Montana**

- a. Have you ever been found guilty of or pled guilty or no contest to a crime? NOTE: this question means that you must disclose, regardless of whether a matter is or ever was of record (including expunged records, deferred prosecutions, and deferred impositions of sentence), (1) all criminal offenses committed at or after age 18, (2) all traffic offenses occurring within the last five years, and (3) all felony criminal offenses committed as a juvenile.

Nebraska**Creighton University**

- a. Have you ever been charged, arrested or cited (as an adult or a juvenile) for any crime other than a minor traffic violation? You must include all offenses involving alcohol. Disclosure is required regardless of the disposition, whether the record was sealed or expunged, or whether you were told you did not need to disclose such events.

University of Nebraska

- a. Have you ever been ticketed, cited, charged with or arrested for a crime other than a minor traffic violation? Check "yes" even if the offense was expunged from your record, you went through a pre-trial diversion program, your record was sealed or you were told you did not need to disclose the matter. If "yes," please explain in detail the nature of the crime, the circumstances surrounding the ticket, citation, charges or arrest and the disposition (see Attachments section).

Nevada**University of Nevada**

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or adjudicated delinquent, or are there any criminal charges pending against you? (You need not report either juvenile matters for which records have been sealed or minor traffic violations.)

New Hampshire

University of New Hampshire

Under New Hampshire law, applicants are not required to include expunged and annulled offenses. Applicants bear the responsibility to ensure that each charge has actually been expunged or annulled by a court of law.

- a. Have you ever been arrested or charged with any offense by complaint or indictment, or convicted of a crime, or are any charges now pending against you? "Convicted of a crime" includes pleading guilty to any charge, a deferred judgment or deferred sentencing arrangement. "Offenses" includes felonies, misdemeanors, and motor vehicle violations. This does not include minor traffic or parking tickets, unless there are three (3) or more in a twelve (12)-month period. You are not required to include any arrest or charge that has been expunged or annulled by a court of law. (See note above.) Failure to disclose an arrest, charge, or conviction that has not been annulled or expunged can lead to disciplinary action and revocation of an admission offer.

New Jersey

Rutgers University

- a. Are there any criminal or disciplinary charges pending or expected to be brought against you?
- b. Have you ever been cited for, charged with, taken into custody for, arrested for, indicted, tried for, pled guilty to, or convicted of, the violation of any law (other than a minor traffic violation) or been the subject of a juvenile delinquent or youthful offender proceeding or received a conditional discharge, adjournment in contemplation of dismissal, or pretrial diversionary program? (NOTE: driving while intoxicated or impaired, driving without insurance, reckless driving, leaving the scene of an accident, and driving while suspended are not considered minor traffic offenses for the purposes of this question). The entry of an expungement or sealing order does not relieve you of the duty to disclose the matter on this statement. This includes any juvenile record. You may indicate the existence of such an order in your explanation. If yes, please include an official statement of charges and dispositions.

Seton Hall University

- a. Have you ever been cited for, charged with, taken into custody for, arrested for, indicted, tried for, pled guilty to, or convicted of the violation of any law (other than a minor traffic violation) or been the subject of a juvenile delinquent or youthful offender proceeding or received a conditional discharge, adjournment in contemplation of dismissal, or pretrial diversionary program? (Note: driving while intoxicated or impaired, driving without insurance, reckless driving, leaving the scene of an accident, and driving while suspended are NOT considered minor traffic offenses for the purposes of this section). The entry of an expungement or sealing order does not relieve you of the duty to disclose the matter(s) on this statement. You may indicate the existence of such an order in your explanation. If "yes", you must complete the "Character and Fitness" attachment explaining the nature

of the proceeding and full details, including a narrative of facts, dates, name and location of court, and disposition.

- b. Have you ever been charged with fraud, larceny, embezzlement, misappropriation of funds, misrepresentation, perjury, false swearing, conspiracy to conceal, or a similar offense? If yes, you must complete the "Character and Fitness" attachment explaining the nature of the proceeding and full details, including a narrative of facts, dates, name and location of court, and disposition.

New Mexico

University of New Mexico

- a. Have you ever had disciplinary action taken against you by any government, military, administrative, or licensing agency? NOTE: Any reversal on appeal, expungement, pardon, or other similar action must be disclosed and explained.
- b. Have you ever been arrested or otherwise charged, formally or informally, with a violation of the law (other than a minor traffic violation)?
- c. Are any criminal or disciplinary charges currently pending against you?

New York

University at Albany

The statement should include dates, exact name and location of courts (if any), and final disposition of all matters. Proof of final disposition is preferred, when available. If not available, please explain the reason.

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted, tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking or traffic violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender processing, including matters that have been expunged or dismissed?

Brooklyn

- a. Criminal Sanction: Have you ever, either as an adult or juvenile, been arrested for, or convicted of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law other than minor parking violations? (Note: Records sealed under court order or matters that have been expunged or subject to a diversionary program must be disclosed. You may submit a copy of any certificate of relief from disabilities or a certificate of good conduct in connection with a conviction.)
- b. Other Criminal or Non-Criminal Charges: Are there any criminal or non-criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

CUNY

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, issued a summons, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, pleaded guilty to, tried for or convicted for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, including traffic laws, except minor parking violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? Note: The expungement or sealing of a record or the dismissal of any charge does not relieve you of the duty to disclose the matter in this application. You may include the existence of an expungement, sealing or dismissal in your explanation.
- b. Are there any suspensions or criminal charges currently pending against you?

Columbia

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, arrested, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? This should include matters that may have been expunged from the records or subject to a diversionary program. Please note that you should have available and be prepared to submit or exhibit copies of police and court records regarding any matter you disclose in reply to this question. If you answered "Yes," you must attach a detailed, complete, and truthful explanation, including a statement of the charge(s), the disposition thereof and the underlying facts. Please answer honestly, irrespective of any advice you may have received to the contrary.
- b. Are there any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

Cornell

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, ticketed, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? Traffic violations that occurred more than ten years before the filing of this application need not be reported, with the exception of alcohol or drug-related traffic violations, which must be reported in all cases irrespective of when they occurred. Do not report parking violations. If yes, describe the incident(s) below. Although a conviction may have been expunged from the records by an order of a court, it nevertheless should be disclosed in the answer to this question. For example, if you were charged with shoplifting, only received a fine, and the charge was expunged, you must disclose; or, if you were charged with, but not convicted of, possession of an illegal substance, you must disclose; or if you received a traffic violation as a minor for possession of alcohol, you must disclose. Also, you should have available and be prepared to submit or exhibit copies of police and court records regarding any matter you disclose in reply to this question.

Fordham

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, ticketed, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? Traffic violations that occurred more than ten years before the filing of this application need not be reported, except alcohol - or drug - related traffic violations, which must be reported in all cases, irrespective of when they occurred. Do not report parking violations. Note: Although a conviction may have been expunged from the records by order of a court, it nevertheless should be disclosed in the answer to this question.
- b. Have you ever been a complainant, party or witness to or otherwise involved in any civil or criminal action, proceeding or investigation?

Hofstra

- a. Have you ever, either as a juvenile or an adult, been charged with or convicted of any crime, offense, violation (other than a minor traffic violation), or have any charges pending? You must include matters that have either been expunged or dismissed. Please provide details, including relevant parties involved, description of the incident,

disposition of the incident(s), photocopy of any official court documentation, and information related to post-sentence events (pardons, etc.).

New York Law

- a. Have you ever, as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, convicted of or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except for minor traffic violations, or been the subject of juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding, or is any such action pending or expected to be brought against you? If you answer yes, attach a supplemental statement that states the charge or charges, the disposition thereof, and the underlying facts, as well as the dates and locations involved and the penalty imposed, if any. We seek your statement and do not wish to receive court documents or letters from counsel. Notes: Although a conviction may have been sealed or expunged from the record by an order of the court, it nevertheless must be disclosed in answer to this question. An example of a "minor traffic violation" includes parking tickets that have been paid. A matter that is "like" a traffic violation, but does not involve a vehicle must be disclosed. Traffic violations involving alcohol or drugs are not minor. If you are uncertain as to whether a matter must be disclosed in accordance with this question, please ask the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid. We advise you to fully disclose any matter; the outcome does not determine whether the matter must be disclosed.

New York University

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been charged with or convicted of any crime, or charged with or found to have committed any offense (whether or not defined as a crime), or are any such charges pending? This should include matters that have been expunged or dismissed.

PACE

- a. Have you ever been convicted of or pled guilty, no contest, or nolo contendere to a felony, misdemeanor or a violation of any law, except for minor traffic violations? If your answer is yes, in your description of the facts and circumstances please include the charge(s) against you, the underlying facts of the charge(s) against you, the disposition of the charge(s), and the sentence imposed. (This question does not require the disclosure of adjournments in contemplation of dismissal or youthful offender adjudications.)
- b. Are there any criminal charges or proceedings pending against you now?

Cardoza - Yeshiva

- a. Either as an adult or juvenile, have you ever been convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to, a violation of any law other than a minor traffic violation such as a parking or speeding violation? (You should include convictions or pleas that were sealed, expunged and/or subject to a diversionary program.) Traffic violations that occurred more than ten years before the filing of this application need not be reported, with the exception of alcohol or drug-related traffic violations, which must be reported in all cases irrespective of when they occurred. If you answered "yes", please provide a thorough explanation in the text box below. (maximum characters 4000)number of characters left is displayed after the field
- b. Are any such charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

St. John's

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or juvenile, been cited, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? If yes, please explain in a supplementary statement or electronic attachment the charge or charges and relevant facts, including the nature of the offense, the dates and courts involved, and the penalty imposed, if any. Please note: Although a conviction may have been expunged or sealed by an order of a court, it nevertheless should be disclosed in answer to this question.

SUNY Buffalo

None

Syracuse

- a. Have you ever been arrested, ticketed, charged with, taken into custody, indicted, convicted or tried for, pled guilty to, or are you currently under indictment for any felony or misdemeanor or any violation of law? Note: Although a conviction may have been expunged from your record by an order of the court, it does not relieve you of the duty to disclose the matter on this statement. In addition, traffic violations including drug or alcohol related violations need to be disclosed. Misrepresentation may result in administrative sanctions.

Touro

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been cited, ticketed, arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, convicted or tried for, or pleaded guilty to, the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, except minor parking violations, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding? All matters, including those dismissed or with no charges filed (after taken into custody) must be disclosed.
- b. Are there any criminal charges, other than minor parking violations, pending against you? Any pending charge involving alcohol or controlled substances must be disclosed.

North Carolina**Campbell**

- a. Have you EVER IN YOUR ENTIRE LIFE been arrested, charged, convicted, warned, taken into custody, or accused, formally or informally, of the violation of a law for any offense, including, without limitation all traffic offenses {e.g. DUI/DWI offenses, speeding, improper equipment, expired registration or inspection tags, failure to maintain proof of insurance, failure to wear a seat belt, etc.}? You may NOT omit offenses that were dropped, dismissed or reduced. But you may omit (i) offenses that were either expunged or sealed and (ii) parking violations. Even if you perceive a matter to have been minor or to have happened a long time ago, you MUST disclose the information.
- b. Disclose each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed or reduced, you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE ANY EXPUNGED OR SEALED RECORDS. You must disclose and provide us with official copies of both the

original charge or citation and the ultimate disposition, including any reduced charges or lesser included offenses.

- c. Are there any disciplinary or criminal proceedings pending against you?

Duke

- a. Have you ever (i) been arrested, charged or cited for a crime or (ii) been convicted of any offense other than a minor traffic violation? You are not required to report any matter that has been expunged by a court of law.

Elon

- a. Have you ever received a citation for, been arrested for, charged with any criminal charge? (Criminal charges include, but are not limited to: speeding tickets, other traffic violations, charges of driving under the influence, and/or any crime in violation of the laws of any jurisdiction. Any and all criminal charges must be fully disclosed.) If the answer to this question is "yes", please provide a complete explanation in the attachment section. A complete explanation should include the name of the charge/citation, the date and location of the incident, and the disposition (i.e., guilty, not guilty, dismissal, plea to a lesser charge, diversion program, community service, court costs, fine, penalty, etc.).
- b. Have you ever been convicted of, or pled guilty, no contest, nolo contendere, entered an Alford plea, or otherwise accepted responsibility for a crime? Have you received a deferred prosecution or prayer for judgment continued for any criminal charge? (Convictions or guilty pleas may include, but are not limited to: speeding tickets, other traffic violations, charges of driving under the influence, and/or any crime in violation of the laws of any jurisdiction. Any and all criminal convictions or guilty pleas must be fully disclosed.) If the answer to this question is "yes", please provide a complete explanation in the attachment section. A complete explanation should include the name of the charge/citation, the date and location of the incident, and the disposition (i.e., guilty, not guilty, dismissal, plea to a lesser charge, diversion program, community service, court costs, fine, penalty, etc.).
- c. Are there any criminal charges pending against you? (Criminal charges include, but are not limited to: speeding tickets, other traffic violations, driving under the influence, other alcohol or drug-related charges, and/or any crime in violation of the laws of any jurisdiction.) If the answer to this question is "yes", please provide a complete explanation in the attachment section. A complete explanation should include the name of the charge/citation, the date and location of the incident, and the disposition (i.e., guilty, not guilty, dismissal, plea to a lesser charge, diversion program, community service, court costs, fine, penalty, etc.).
- d. Have you ever been requested to appear before any investigatory agency or prosecuting attorney for any reason or any crime that has not been listed in the previous questions? If the answer to this question is "yes", please provide a complete explanation.

University of North Carolina

Records that have been sealed or expunged by order of a court need not be disclosed on this application.

- a. Have you ever received a citation for, been arrested for, charged with, convicted of, or pled guilty, no contest, nolo contendere, entered an Alford plea, or otherwise accepted responsibility for a crime, or have you received a deferred prosecution or prayer for judgment continued, for any criminal charge other than speeding? This would include any charges of driving under the influence or any other drug or alcohol-related offenses. (Records that have been sealed or expunged need not be disclosed.) If yes, please include an attachment explaining the circumstances.

- b. Are there any criminal charges pending against you or are you presently under investigation for a crime of any kind? (This includes any charges of driving under the influence or other drug or alcohol-related charges.) If yes, please include an attachment explaining the circumstances.

North Carolina Central

Applicants are NOT required to disclose information concerning any arrest, criminal charge, or criminal conviction that has BEEN EXPUNGED.

- a. Have you EVER IN YOUR LIFE entered a plea of guilty, a plea of no contest, a plea of nolo contendere, or an Alford plea to a criminal charge other than a minor traffic offense (minor traffic-related offenses that do not need to be disclosed include: parking, traffic infraction, or an original charge of speeding under 10mph)?
- b. Have you EVER IN YOUR LIFE received a deferred prosecution or prayer for judgement continued to a criminal charge other than a minor traffic offense (minor traffic-related offenses that do not need to be disclosed include: parking, traffic infraction, or an original charge of speeding under 10mph)?
- c. Have you EVER IN YOUR LIFE been arrested, given a written warning (including a citation), taken into custody, or accused, formally or informally, for an offense in violation of law, other than a minor traffic offense (minor traffic-related offenses that do not need to be disclosed include: parking, traffic infraction, or an original charge of speeding under 10mph)?
- d. Have you EVER IN YOUR LIFE accepted responsibility for the commission of a crime, other than a minor traffic offense (minor traffic-related offenses that do not need to be disclosed include: parking, traffic infraction, or an original charge of speeding under 10mph)?
- e. Have you EVER IN YOUR LIFE ever been charged or convicted of DWI/DUI (driving while/under the influence of drugs)?
- f. Do you have any criminal charges pending against you, other than a minor traffic offense (minor traffic-related offenses that do not need to be disclosed include: parking, traffic infraction, or an original charge of speeding under 10mph)?

Wake Forest University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, given a written warning, or taken into custody, or accused, formally or informally, of the violation of a law for an offense other than traffic violations? Speeding tickets and minor traffic offenses need not be disclosed.
- b. Have you been charged with or convicted of DWI/DUI; or driving under the influence of drugs?

North Dakota

University of North Dakota

If the answers to any the following questions are yes, you must provide records from the agency, court, or military office documenting the charge and the disposition of that event, including any sanctions imposed. In addition to the documentation from the agency, court, or military office, you must provide your own personal explanation in the text box or attach an addendum to your application describing the events that led to the charges(s). Your file will not be considered complete and it will not be reviewed until this documentation has been submitted. Failure to submit this documentation in a timely manner may cause your application to be denied or withdrawn.

- a. Have you ever been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any alcohol or drug-related traffic violation, other than a violation that was resolved in juvenile court?
- b. Have you ever been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any moving traffic violation during the past 10 years? (Omit parking violations.)
- c. Have you ever been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of any law, other than a case that was resolved in juvenile court?

Ohio

University of Akron

If you answer "yes," to any of these questions, please submit a DETAILED statement that references the question number and that includes the following information (please be as SPECIFIC as possible):

Date of incident and your age at the time of the incident

Parties involved

Description of incident

Result (expunged, dismissed, probation, arrest, incarceration, etc.)

Degree of misdemeanor or felony and code section (Ohio Revised Code or other state or city code involved)

Photocopy of official court documentation, if applicable

Information related to post-sentence events (pardon, etc.)

Vague statements are NOT acceptable. Failure to fully disclose may result in dismissal from the School of Law.

- a. Are there any criminal charges pending against you?
- b. Have you been arrested, charged, formally accused, cited, fined, posted bail, subject to a restraining order, or ordered to do community service for the violation of any law (including any juvenile or expunged matters, but excluding traffic or parking violations)?
- c. Have you ever been or are you currently a party to or otherwise involved (except as a witness) in any criminal or quasi-criminal action or legal proceeding (including, but not limited to, a misdemeanor, minor misdemeanor, traffic offense or felony), including any actions or legal proceedings that were dismissed, expunged, or sealed?
- d. Have you ever been or are you currently a party to or otherwise involved (except as a witness) in any action or legal proceeding in a juvenile court, including any actions or legal proceedings that were dismissed, expunged or sealed?
- e. Have you ever been summoned for a violation of any statute, regulation or ordinance?
- f. Do you have any outstanding or unpaid fines, court costs, or tickets, including those for traffic or parking violations?
- g. Have you ever been granted immunity from prosecution?
- h. Have you ever been cited or arrested for contempt of court for any reason, including, but not limited to, failure to appear as a witness or answer a subpoena or a jury summons?
- i. Have you been cited or fined for any moving traffic violations within the last ten years (including moving violations that were dismissed, reduced, or removed from your record)?

- j. Have you ever been arrested for or charged with operating a vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol?

Capital University

- a. Have you ever been apprehended, arrested, cited, given a ticket, charged, or convicted of any crime or offense? Have you ever been court-martialed or charged with fraud? Have you been cited or arrested for contempt of court for any reason including, but not limited to, failure to appear as a witness or answer a subpoena or a jury summons? Question 1 Note: You must disclose this information even if the arrest, charge, apprehension, citation, ticket, or conviction was later dismissed, withdrawn, reduced, dropped, or diverted. You need not disclose incidents that occurred prior to the age of 18. You need not disclose minor traffic offenses unless they involved the use, abuse, or possession of alcohol, drugs, or other chemicals. You need not disclose incidents that, in fact, have been officially expunged.

Case Western

- a. As an adult or juvenile, have you ever been cited for, charged with, subject to a penalty for, or convicted of a crime? A crime includes a misdemeanor, traffic offense, or felony (excluding minor traffic violations for which the penalty was a fine of \$150 or less). Include traffic offenses involving driving under suspension or any in which being under the influence of drugs or alcohol was an element of the offense, regardless of the amount of the fine.
- b. Have you ever been subject to a restraining order?

University of Cincinnati

- a. Have you been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of any law, including as a juvenile (except parking tickets)? Note: This should include matters that have been expunged, dismissed, sealed, subject to a diversion program, or otherwise set aside.
- b. Do you have outstanding or unpaid fines, court costs, or tickets, including those for traffic or parking violations?
- c. Have you ever been charged with any alcohol- or drug-related traffic violations, regardless of when they occurred?
- d. Have you ever been charged with any moving traffic violations that were not alcohol- or drug-related during the past ten years?
- e. Are disciplinary actions or criminal charges pending against you?

Cleveland State

- a. Are there any criminal charges pending against you or have you ever been convicted or granted deferred adjudication or diversion for any offense, felony or misdemeanor, including traffic offenses (like driving under the influence), but excluding minor moving violations and parking tickets? (All matters must be reported, even if they were expunged or the records sealed under the laws of any state).

University of Dayton

- a. Have you ever been cited, arrested, charged, or convicted for any violation of any law including as a juvenile, including traffic violations, but excluding parking tickets?

Ohio Northern University

- a. Have you ever been charged with and/or convicted of any criminal offense other than minor traffic violations including as a juvenile? You must answer YES even if your record has been expunged. The Admissions Committee reserves the right to request further documentation.
- b. If you answered YES to question 1, was the incident a misdemeanor?
- c. If you answered YES to question 1, was the incident a felony?
- d. Are criminal charges now pending against you?
- e. If you answered "yes" to number 4, are the charges pending against you misdemeanor charges or felony charges?

Ohio State University

- a. Except for minor traffic and parking violations, have you been formally charged, cited, fined, posted bail, subject to a restraining order, or ordered to do community service for the violation of any law? This means the original charge and not the negotiated or plea bargained charge. This also includes juvenile, expunged, or dropped charges.
- b. Are there any criminal charges pending against you?

If you answered affirmatively to any question in the Character and Fitness section, you must provide a COMPLETE explanation, which needs to include essential information (e.g., the date, the specific nature of the charge, the facts of the incident(s) that led to the charge(s), disposition, etc.) in your own words. Simply providing court documents does not satisfy this requirement. Additional information may be requested by the Admission Committee.

Toledo University

- a. Have you ever been charged with, arrested for, or convicted of (either as an adult or as a juvenile) the violation of any law? Minor traffic violations, except those involving drugs and alcohol, need not be reported.
- b. Are any criminal or traffic violations (other than minor traffic violations) currently pending against you?

STATEMENT REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS OR CRIMINAL OR TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS: If you answered "Yes" to any of the above character and fitness questions, please attach a detailed statement that includes the following information for each incident. Please be as specific as possible.

Date of incident and your age at the time of the incident

Parties involved

Description of incident and initial charge

Outcome: dismissal or conviction (state final offense if conviction); sentence (fine, probation, incarceration, etc.)

The University of Toledo College of Law reserves the right to require documentation related to any disciplinary actions or criminal or traffic violations, including court records.

Oklahoma**Oklahoma**

PLEASE NOTE: It is your duty to be certain that any sealed or expunged record has in fact been sealed or expunged. Expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed. It is recommended that you obtain a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is in fact not expunged or sealed raises questions related to truthfulness in addition to questions regarding the offense itself. It is your responsibility to notify the College of Law Admissions Office of any changes in the above answers.

Failure to timely notify the Admissions Office may result in the revocation of your admission or student disciplinary proceedings.

- a. Have you ever been charged with a crime, or are any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you, other than minor traffic violations? Include any alcohol or drug-related offenses and any reckless driving offenses.

Oklahoma City

- a. Have you EVER been cited for, charged with, arrested for, or indicted for ANY violation of criminal law? Violations of criminal law include charges and tickets for speeding or minor traffic violations, even if a fine was paid and the charges were dismissed. Include parking violations only if you have received ten or more tickets.
- b. Have you ever received deferred adjudication or probation for any violation of criminal law, even if the offense has been expunged and does not appear on your permanent record?
- c. Are there any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

Tulsa

- a. **CRIMINAL SANCTIONS:** Have you ever been charged with or convicted of any felony? You must include deferred or sealed records. Juvenile records that have been sealed need not be disclosed.
- b. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a crime of violence? You must include deferred or sealed records. Juvenile records that have been sealed need not be disclosed.
- c. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a drug or alcohol related offense? You must include deferred or sealed records. Juvenile records that have been sealed need not be disclosed.

Oregon

Lewis and Clark University

- a. Have you ever been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of any law other than a case that was resolved in juvenile court? This includes traffic violations. If "Yes," please provide an explanation of each incident including the resolution of the action and your reflections on each incident. Note: Include matters that have been dismissed, expunged, subjected to a diversion or deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside, except those in juvenile court.

University of Oregon

- a. Including any matters that may have been expunged, except expunged juvenile matters, have you ever been cited, arrested, charged, or convicted of a criminal offense?

- b. Are there any such disciplinary actions, charges, or proceedings referenced in the three questions above pending or expected to be brought against you?

Williamette

- a. As either an adult or a juvenile, have you ever been charged with, arrested for, convicted of, or pled guilty or no contest to any infraction, violation of any law or ordinance, or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor? You must disclose all adjudications in which a sentence or judgment has been withheld, deferred, expunged, or the record sealed, regardless of whether you understood or have been told that you need not disclose any such instance.

Pennsylvania**Drexel University**

- a. Since the age of 18, have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any crime or violation, other than a minor traffic violation (i.e., parking or speeding citations) that has not been subsequently expunged? Between the ages of 14 and 18, were you ever convicted of or pleaded guilty to a crime involving serious bodily injury to another person? If it has been more than 10 years since you turned 18, you need only list those convictions that occurred in the past 10 years.

Duquesne

- a. Between the ages of 14 and 18, were you ever convicted of or pleaded guilty to a crime involving serious bodily harm to another person?
- b. Since the age of 18, have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any crime by a law enforcement agency, other than a minor traffic violation (i.e., parking or speeding citations) that has not been subsequently expunged? If it has been more than 10 years since you turned 18, you need only address those convictions or guilty pleas that occurred within the last ten years.

University of Pennsylvania

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile, been arrested, charged, cited or convicted of a crime (including misdemeanors), or cited for an infraction (including moving violations), or is any charge now pending against you? (This should include matters that have been expunged or subject to a diversionary program.)

Pennsylvania State University, Dickinson

- a. Since the age of 18, have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any crime by a law enforcement agency other than a minor traffic violation (i.e., parking or speeding citations) that has not been subsequently expunged? If it has been more than 10 years since you turned 18, you need only list those convictions that occurred in the past 10 years. Please note that nothing in this question should be interpreted to be inconsistent with the Pennsylvania Clean Slate law.
- b. Between the ages of 14 and 18, were you ever convicted of or pleaded guilty to a crime involving serious bodily injury to another person? If it has been more than 10 years since you turned 18, you need only list those convictions that occurred in the past 10 years. Please note that nothing in this question should be interpreted to be inconsistent with the Pennsylvania Clean Slate law.

- c. Are there criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you by any law enforcement agency, civil or administrative agency, or any other agency? If you answered "yes" to this question, any and all details surrounding these circumstances must be disclosed in an addendum to this question using the corresponding document in the "Attachments" section of this application.

Pennsylvania State University, University Park

- a. Are you currently or have you ever been arrested, charged, cited, accused, or prosecuted for any crime by a law enforcement agency, or have you ever been the subject of any investigation by a law enforcement agency, civil or administrative agency, professional organization, corporation, board, or any other agency? This does NOT include summary (minor) motor vehicle violations for which you received a citation (ticket). If you answered "Yes" to this question, any and all details surrounding these circumstances must be disclosed in an addendum to this question using the corresponding document in the "Attachments" section of this application.

You must answer "yes" to this question even if: the charges were dismissed; or you were acquitted or pardoned; or adjudication was withheld; or a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. You are not required to answer "yes" if your records have been expunged or subject to limited access pursuant to Pennsylvania Act 56 of 2018.

- b. Do you expect to be, or have you been notified or told that you will be charged, cited, accused or prosecuted for any crime by a law enforcement agency or do you have reason to believe or have you been notified that you are or will be the subject of any investigation by any law enforcement agency, civil or administrative agency, professional organization, corporation, board, or any other agency? This does NOT include summary (minor) motor vehicle violations for which you received a citation (ticket).

Pittsburg

- a. Are there any disciplinary charges pending or expected to be brought against you? If your answer is "Yes," please explain in an electronic attachment.
- b. Are you currently or have you ever been arrested, charged, cited, accused, or prosecuted for any crime by a law enforcement agency, or have you ever been the subject of any investigation by a law enforcement agency, civil or administrative agency, professional organization, corporation, board, or any other agency (including, but not limited to, the lawyer Disciplinary Board, Attorney General's Office, government entity, law firm, etc.)? This does NOT include summary (minor) motor vehicle violations for which you were given a citation (ticket). Expunged or sealed convictions or sanctions MUST be disclosed.

Villanova

- a. Are there any disciplinary, academic, or criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?
- b. Since the age of 18, have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any crime by a law enforcement agency, other than a minor traffic violation (i.e., parking or speeding citations) that has not been subsequently expunged?
- c. Between the ages of 14 and 18, were you ever adjudicated delinquent of or pleaded guilty to a crime involving serious bodily injury to another person?

Temple University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, accused, charged, prosecuted, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a crime for an offense other than a minor traffic violation? If the answer is yes, please detail the exact nature of the offense and the dates on a separate page or electronic attachment and enclose with your application. This does NOT include summary (minor) motor vehicle violations for which you were given a citation/ticket. It does include all alcohol-related traffic citation (e.g. DUI, OWI)

Widener Commonwealth

If your record was sealed as a result of the Pennsylvania Clean Slate law, you do not have to disclose it on the Character & Fitness section of the application.

- a. Since the age of 18, have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any crime by a law enforcement agency, other than a minor traffic violation (i.e., parking or speeding citations) that has not been subsequently expunged? If it has been more than 10 years since you turned 18, then you need only list those convictions or guilty pleas that occurred in the past 10 years.
- b. If you younger than 28 years of age, between the ages of 14 and 18, were you ever convicted of or pleaded guilty to a crime involving serious bodily injury to another person? If you are 28 or older you should answer "no" to this question since the conviction or guilty plea occurred more than 10 years ago.
- c. Are there civil or criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you by any law enforcement agency, civil or administrative agency, or any other agency?

Puerto Rico**Inter-American Puerto Rico**

- a. With exceptions to minor traffic violations, have you ever been convicted for violating the law in Puerto Rico, the United States, or any foreign country?

University of Puerto Rico

- a. Have you been convicted of any crime?

Rhode Island**Roger Williams University**

- a. Have you ever, as an adult or a juvenile, been charged with a felony, regardless of how any such charge was disposed of or whether any conviction was expunged from your record?
- b. Have you, within the last five years, as an adult or a juvenile, been convicted of a misdemeanor?
- c. Are there any pending criminal charges against you now? Minor, non-criminal traffic offenses such as parking and speeding tickets need not be disclosed.

South Carolina**Charleston University**

- a. Have you ever been charged, arrested for, formally accused, or convicted of any traffic or criminal offense? (i.e., underage possession, open container, simple possession, etc.)
- b. Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a felony?
- c. Are any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

University of South Carolina

Include all disciplinary actions, charges, convictions, and traffic violations. You may exclude parking tickets, but you must disclose all traffic violations including those you consider to be minor. You must provide a complete record of all instances in which you have been arrested, taken into custody, or accused, formally or informally, of a violation of the law. Include instances that were expunged by Order of the Court and juvenile offenses, whether or not the records are sealed. Disclose each instance even if the charges were dismissed, you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated, the record was sealed or expunged, or you participated in a pre-trial intervention program.

- a. Have you ever been arrested, taken into custody, or accused, formally or informally, of a violation of the law? Please refer to the instructions above concerning what must be disclosed in response to this question.
- b. Are any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

South Dakota**University of South Dakota**

- a. Have you ever been charged or convicted of any felony or misdemeanor, petty or other offense, including moving traffic violations? Include all incidents no matter how minor the infraction, whether expunged or suspended imposition of sentence. Juvenile proceedings must be included.

Tennessee**Belmont**

- a. Have you ever as a juvenile been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of any law? Note: Include matters that have been dismissed, expunged, subject to diversion or deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside. Do not include simple fines for parking and moving violations (e.g. speeding, failure to yield); however, driver's license suspension and other court actions taken beyond paying a simple fine must be disclosed.
- b. Have you ever as an adult been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of any law? Note: Include matters that have been dismissed, expunged, subject to diversion or deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside. Do not include simple fines for parking and moving violations (e.g. speeding, failure to yield); however, driver's license suspension and other court actions taken beyond paying a simple fine must be disclosed.
- c. Have you ever been a party to or otherwise involved in any legal proceeding (civil or criminal)?

Lincoln Memorial

If you answer "yes" to any of the above questions, you must fully explain the nature of each incident. Answering "yes" to any question does not automatically disqualify an applicant from consideration for admission. The Admissions Committee would like the opportunity to review all relevant facts including (but not limited to) the issue(s), the offense(s), the date(s) of the offense(s), the law enforcement agency involved and disposition, including fine(s), court costs or other penalties, etc. Please include the corresponding question number(s) and question(s) for each explanation.

- a. Have you ever been arrested?
- b. Have you ever been a party to a legal proceeding?

Memphis

If you answer yes to any of the following six (6) questions, you must provide relevant details of the incident, including, but not limited to, the date of the incident, the location of the incident, and the outcome of the incident. Failure to provide detailed information may result in the Admissions Office requesting additional information, which will ultimately delay the admission decision. Copies of relevant court or other documents should accompany the explanation.

Even expunged or sealed matters MUST be disclosed, unless the expunged or sealed matter was resolved while you were a juvenile (i.e., 17 or younger).

- a. Have you ever been arrested, taken into custody, formally accused, indicted, charged, cited, or convicted (by plea agreement, no contest plea, or otherwise) in connection with the violation of a criminal law or ordinance in any jurisdiction? The foregoing includes:
 - i. All adult offenses and matters that have been expunged or otherwise removed from court records.
 - ii. Any delinquent act if you were fourteen (14) or more years of age at the time of the alleged act and the conduct constituting the delinquent act, if committed by an adult, would be a serious felony as specified in T.C.A. 37-1-154(b)(2)* involving use of a weapon or bodily injury to the victim. If you were charged or convicted as a juvenile with any of these serious acts, you must provide a detailed description of the incident, even if the juvenile court matter has been expunged, along with any documentation that may still be available, and the disposition of the case.
 - iii. You must disclose all traffic violations UNLESS the traffic violation (1) did not result in a jail sentence, (2) did not result in suspension or revocation of your driver's license, AND (3) did not result in a fine of \$200 or more, including court costs and fees. However, any arrest, charge, or conviction for driving while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or drugs must be disclosed regardless of outcome or sanction imposed

*The conduct would specifically constitute "first degree murder, second degree murder, rape, aggravated rape, rape of a child, aggravated robbery, especially aggravated robbery, kidnapping, aggravated kidnapping or especially aggravated kidnapping."

- b. Have you ever been charged with fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, forgery, or other acts of dishonesty in any civil, criminal, administrative, or other proceeding?

Vanderbilt

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or minor, been charged with or convicted of any crime, or charged with or found to have committed any offense (whether or not defined as a crime), or received anything other than an honorable discharge from the military? This should include matters that have been expunged or dismissed.

- b. Are any charges pending or expected which would require you to answer "yes" to either question above?

Tennessee

- a. Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of any felony or misdemeanor, including any charges or convictions that were expunged? Have you ever been charged or convicted of a violation of any other law or ordinance, excluding a parking or traffic violation? If yes, please supply a statement explaining the date and nature of the offense and provide certified copies of the court documents related to the disposition of the matter(s). Note: Your application will not be considered for an admission decision until this documentation has been received.

Texas**Baylor University**

Instructions for the question below: You may exclude minor traffic violations. You must, however, report any traffic or other offenses involving alcohol, drugs, or a controlled substance, or any offenses in which there was an attempt, successful or not, to suspend or revoke your driver's license. List and provide a detailed explanation of each instance, including its ultimate disposition. You must disclose each instance, even if no charges were filed, even if you were granted any type of pretrial diversion, even if filed charges were dismissed (with or without prejudice), even if such charges resulted in a deferred adjudication, even if you were acquitted of such charges, or even if such charges resulted in a conviction that was reversed, set aside, vacated, or expunged. Administrative license suspensions must also be disclosed. You must also disclose any matters involving a failure to appear or answer any citation or warrant, whether for a traffic violation or otherwise. Disclosure is required even if you have been informed by any source that you do not have to disclose any such instance and even if a search of your public records made by you or on your behalf did not disclose an instance that has in fact occurred.

- a. Have you ever, either as an adult or juvenile, been ticketed for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any violation of the law?

Houston University

For questions 1, 2, and 3, please forward the official documentation showing the final disposition of the incident(s).

- a. Have you ever been convicted of an offense, placed on probation, or granted deferred adjudication or any type of pretrial diversion? You must report any such offenses involving alcohol or drugs. You must report any failure to appear conviction resulting from any offense. You must report any conviction for failure to maintain financial responsibility (legally required auto insurance). You may exclude only Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.
- b. Have you, within the last ten (10) years, been arrested, cited or ticketed for, or charged with any violation of the law? You must report any offenses involving alcohol or drugs. You must report any failure to appear charge or warrant resulting from any such offense. You must report any failure to maintain financial responsibility (legally required auto insurance), arrest, citation, ticket, or charge. You may exclude only Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.

- c. Have you ever been confined by any governmental authority because you were found to be dangerous to yourself or others?

University of North Texas, Dallas

- a. Have you been arrested, formally accused, charged, cited, fined, posted bail, subject to or currently under a restraining order, or ordered to do community service for any ANY violation of law? You must report any and/or all offenses involving alcohol or drugs. You may exclude ONLY Class C misdemeanor traffic violations. You must report any failure to appear charge or warrant resulting from any offense.
- b. Have you ever been CONVICTED of ANY offense, placed on probation, or granted deferred adjudication or any type of pretrial diversion? You may exclude ONLY Class C misdemeanor traffic violations. You must report any such offenses involving alcohol or drugs. You must report any failure to appear conviction resulting from any offense, including a failure to appear conviction resulting from a Class C Misdemeanor traffic violation.

St. Mary's College

- a. Have you ever been convicted of and/or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere (no contest) to any violation of the criminal laws other than a minor traffic violation? Adults who have been charged with a crime and who accept Deferred Adjudication must report such information under this question because the concept of Deferred Adjudication involves a plea of guilty or no contest, and the offense cannot be erased from a person's record. An applicant does not need to disclose information about a juvenile record. Further, an applicant does not need to disclose information about a criminal record that has been sealed, ordered nondisclosed, or expunged; however, it is up to each applicant to ensure that his/her offense is in fact expunged, ordered nondisclosed, and/or sealed under the relevant state law. If an applicant fails to disclose information that is not in fact expunged, ordered nondisclosed, or sealed, the applicant may be subject to disciplinary action by the University. NOTE: You must include any offenses involving drugs or alcohol as well as any failure to appear warrant, unless excused as described above. Important: You have a continuing obligation to update the St. Mary's School of Law Office of Admissions if there is any information that would require your answer to this question to change to "yes".

University of South Texas, Houston

- a. Have you ever been arrested, cited, or ticketed for, or charged with any violation of the law? You may exclude minor traffic violations. You must report any offenses involving alcohol or drugs, any failure to maintain motor vehicle financial responsibility (aka No Insurance or No Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance), and any offenses in which there was an attempt, whether successful or not, to suspend or revoke your driver's license. You must report any failure-to-appear charges resulting from the offense.
- b. Have you ever been convicted of an offense, placed on probation, or granted deferred adjudication or any type of pretrial diversion in any jurisdiction? You may exclude minor traffic violations. You must report any offenses involving alcohol or drugs, any failure to maintain motor vehicle financial responsibility (aka No Insurance or No Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance), and any offenses in which there was an attempt, whether successful or not, to suspend or revoke your driver's license. You must report any failure-to-appear charges resulting from the offense.

Southern Methodist University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, cited or ticketed for, or charged with any violation of the law? You must report all offenses, including offenses involving alcohol or drugs. You may exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations, however you must report any failure to appear charge or warrant resulting from any offense, including Class C misdemeanors. An offense is not a minor traffic violation if it involved alcohol or drugs, or if there was an attempt, whether successful or not, to suspend or revoke your driver's license as a result of the violation.
- b. Are you currently under indictment or have you ever been convicted of any offense, placed on probation or granted deferred adjudication or any type of pretrial diversion? You must report all offenses, including offenses involving alcohol or drugs. You may exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations, however you must report any failure to appear arrest or conviction for any offense, including Class C misdemeanors.

University of Texas

- a. Have you ever been arrested and convicted of an offense, placed on probation, or granted deferred adjudication or any type of pretrial diversion, or are there any charges pending against you? If you answer "yes," please explain fully on a separate sheet, and upload the attachment. No You must report:
 - any such offenses involving alcohol or drugs.
 - any failure to appear conviction resulting from an offense.
 - any conviction for failure to maintain financial responsibility (legally required auto insurance).
 While an applicant does not need to disclose information about a juvenile or criminal record that has been sealed or expunged, it is up to each applicant to ensure that their offense is in fact expunged and/or sealed under the relevant state law. If an applicant fails to disclose information that is not in fact expunged or sealed, the applicant may be subject to disciplinary action by the University.

Texas A&M

It is not necessary to disclose information about a juvenile or criminal record that has been sealed or expunged; however, it is up to you to ensure that your offense is in fact expunged and/or sealed under the relevant state law. Mistaken belief or detrimental reliance upon the advice of a third party (such as an attorney or judge) is no excuse for the failure to disclose a reportable offense that has not actually been expunged or sealed. To ensure that you do not run afoul of this exception, you should obtain a copy of the signed Motion and Order of Expungement from the court in question. (You must report any alleged or pending charges, violations, and/or sanctions.)

- a. Have you ever been arrested, cited or ticketed, charged with, convicted of, placed on deferred adjudication, or pled guilty or pled nolo contendere (no contest) to any violation or criminal offense other than a minor traffic violation? Note: You must report any failure to appear resulting from any offense, including a minor traffic offense, any failure to maintain financial responsibility (legally required auto insurance), and any attempt, whether successful or not, to suspend or revoke your driver's license.

(You must report any violation involving the use of drugs or alcohol, regardless of the severity of the incident.)

Texas Southern University

If you answer "yes" to question 1, you must submit official court records as well as a detailed explanation of each instance, including its ultimate disposition. If a court or arresting/ticketing agency is unable to provide copies of pertinent records, you must obtain a written statement so

stating from the court or agency. You must disclose each instance even if no charges were filed, even if you were granted any type of pretrial diversion such as deferred disposition or deferred adjudication, even if charges were dismissed, even if you were acquitted of such charges, and even if such charges resulted in a conviction that was reversed, set aside, vacated, or expunged. If expunged, please attach (in the Attachments Section) official court documents showing that the charges were expunged and the date of the expungement.

- a. Have you ever (either as a juvenile or adult), been charged, arrested, convicted, or granted deferred adjudication or deferred disposition in any jurisdiction of any crime other than a minor traffic violation? If yes, give details in a separate statement and attach to this application in the Attachments Section.

Texas Tech University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, cited or ticketed for, convicted of an offense, placed on probation, granted deferred adjudication or any type of pretrial diversion, or charged with any violation of the law? You must report any such offenses involving alcohol or drugs. You must report any failure to appear charge or warrant resulting from any such offense. You must report any failure to maintain financial responsibility (legally required auto insurance) arrest, citation, ticket or charge. You may exclude only Class C misdemeanor traffic violations. An applicant does not need to disclose information about a juvenile or criminal record that has been sealed or expunged; however, it is up to each applicant to ensure that their offense is in fact expunged and sealed under the relevant state law. If an applicant fails to disclose information that is not in fact expunged or sealed, the applicant may be subject to disciplinary action. If so, please explain below. If additional space is required, please provide a separate attachment.
- b. Are there any charges pending against you which, if you were convicted, would require you to answer "yes" to the previous question? If so, please explain below. If additional space is required, please provide a separate attachment.

Utah

Brigham Young

- a. Criminal Sanctions: Are there any criminal charges now pending or expected to be brought against you? Have you ever been arrested, cited, or convicted of any felony, misdemeanor, or other violation, excluding minor traffic offenses, or had a warrant issued for failure to appear, even for minor traffic offenses? Include charges to which you may have pleaded guilty or no contest or for which you have been placed on probation or granted deferred adjudication, even if the incident occurred when you were a juvenile and/or the record is/has been sealed. Although a conviction may have been expunged from your record by an order of the court, it nevertheless should be disclosed in answer to this question.
- b. Has there ever been an attempt, whether successful or not, to revoke your driver's license based on an offense involving drugs and/or alcohol?

University of Utah

- a. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or are charges pending against you? A conviction includes a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, a plea in abeyance if it is in its period of probation, or a verdict or finding of guilt regardless of whether a sentence was imposed, or if the conviction has been expunged from your records. All drug- and alcohol-related offenses must be reported. Other than drug- and alcohol-related offenses, you are not required to report misdemeanor juvenile offenses, Juvenile felonies must be reported. You are not required to report minor traffic offenses.

Vermont**University of Vermont**

Under Vermont law, you are not required to disclose sealed or expunged Vermont criminal records.

- a. Have you ever, as an adult or a juvenile, been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any criminal or civil law regardless of disposition of any such charge? (Minor, non-criminal traffic offenses such as parking and speeding tickets need not be disclosed.)
- b. Are there any pending criminal charges against you now? Minor, non-criminal traffic offenses such as parking and speeding tickets need not be disclosed.

Virginia**Appalachian**

While Appalachian School of Law is prohibited by Virginia statute from requiring disclosure of information concerning arrests or charges that have been officially expunged (see Virginia Code § 19.2-392.4), state bar examiners may require that bar applicants disclose such information and closely compare disclosures on law school applications with such disclosures on applications for bar admissions.

- a. Regardless of the outcome, have you ever been arrested, cited, ticketed for or charged with any violation of the law, including juvenile offenses and traffic violations? (Note: In other words, all violations of the law must be reported.)
- b. Are there any disciplinary charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

George Mason University

- a. Have you ever been charged with, convicted of, and/or pleaded guilty or no contest to any violation of the criminal laws (misdemeanors and felonies) including expungement?
- b. Are there any criminal charges, felony, misdemeanor or other, pending against you which, if you were convicted, would require you to answer "yes" to the previous question? Answer yes even if directed by an attorney not to disclose.
- c. Have you ever been cited for any traffic infractions (including traffic camera infractions), regardless of disposition? Do not include parking tickets.

Liberty University

- a. Have you been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of any offense(s)? (Please include traffic violations.)
- b. Are you now under charges for any violation of law?
- c. Are there any criminal charges pending or expected to be brought against you?
- d. Are you a plaintiff or a defendant in an ongoing lawsuit?

Regent University

Applicants must disclose dismissed charges but need not disclose charges when the charge has been expunged in accordance with applicable state law.

- a. Have you been charged, arrested, convicted, fined, jailed, placed on probation, or ordered to do community service, for the violation of any law, including traffic violations, but excluding parking violations?
- b. Have you ever been a party to a civil lawsuit, other court proceeding, or government administrative action or proceeding?

Richmond University

- a. Other than minor traffic violations, have you ever been arrested for any violation of the law? If yes, in an attachment, name the offense and the date, and describe the circumstances (see Attachments section). (This would include arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol or any other substance.) Note: You must disclose the information requested in this question even if you received a deferred prosecution, a suspended imposition of sentence, the conviction was stayed or vacated, or the record (including but not limited to proceedings in juvenile court, family court, or any court of general jurisdiction) was expunged.
- b. Are there any criminal charges currently pending against you?

University of Virginia

- a. Have you ever been cited for, charged with, taken into custody for, arrested for, indicted for, tried for, pled guilty to, or convicted of, the violation of any law, excluding minor traffic or parking violations? Note: incidents involving alcohol or drug possession, driving while intoxicated or impaired, damage to property, injury to person(s), driving without insurance, leaving the scene of an accident, driving on a suspended license, and/or reckless driving are NOT considered minor offenses for the purposes of this section and should be disclosed here. This question does NOT require you to disclose information concerning any arrest or criminal charge that has been expunged at the time you submit this application. This question does NOT require you to disclose incidents that were the subject of a juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding.
- b. Are there any charges pending or expected to be brought against you?

Washington and Lee

Though Washington and Lee University is prohibited by Virginia statute from requiring disclosure of information concerning arrests or charges that have been officially expunged (See Virginia Code 19.2-392.4), state bar examiners may require that bar applicants disclose such information and closely compare disclosures on law school applications with disclosures on applications for bar admission. We therefore encourage full, voluntary disclosure

- a. Have you ever been cited, ticketed, taken into custody, arrested, or prosecuted for, or charged with, any violation of law other than (a) citations for parking violations and (b) arrests, charges, prosecutions, or convictions that have been officially expunged in accordance with applicable statutory provisions?
- b. Have you ever entered into a plea agreement or any arrangement to avoid prosecution other than agreements or arrangements specifically involving arrests, charges, prosecutions, or convictions that have been officially expunged in accordance with applicable statutory provisions?
- c. Are you now the subject of a criminal or administrative investigation?

William and Mary

- a. Are there any criminal proceedings pending or expected to be brought against you?
- b. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE ANY EXPUNGED OR SEALED RECORDS. You must provide official copies of both the original charge or citation and

a complete and accurate explanation of the incident. Have you EVER IN YOUR ENTIRE LIFE been arrested, charged, convicted, warned, taken into custody for the violation of a law, court order, or for any offense, including, without limitation, all traffic offenses (e.g. DUI/DWI/OWI offenses, speeding, improper equipment, expired registration or inspection tags, failure to maintain proof of insurance, failure to wear a seat belt, etc.), or formally accused of, charged with, or indicted for such violations? You may NOT omit offenses that were dropped, dismissed or reduced. But you may omit (i) offenses that were either expunged or sealed and (ii) parking violations. Even if you perceive a matter to have been minor or to have happened a long time ago, you MUST disclose the information.

If yes, you MUST disclose and fully and accurately describe each instance even though the charges may have been dismissed or reduced, you were acquitted, adjudication was withheld, a conviction was reversed, set aside, or vacated. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE ANY EXPUNGED OR SEALED RECORDS. You must provide us with official copies of both the original charge or citation and the ultimate disposition, including any reduced charges or lesser included offenses. (maximum characters 3000)

Washington

Gonzaga University

- a. Have you ever been arrested, cited for, detained for, indicted with, or convicted of any crime, whether a felony or misdemeanor? This question requires disclosure of all criminal matters, including: (i) all criminal motor vehicle offenses, including moving traffic violations, for example: speeding tickets, failure to yield, and failure to provide insurance (omit parking violations); (ii) any juvenile offense even if the record was sealed or expunged. Disclosure is required regardless of whether a charge is pending, was dropped, you entered a diversion program, prosecution was deferred, adjudication was deferred or withheld, and even if there was a judgment of acquittal. If yes, provide a complete explanation of the matter, including the initial charges and the ultimate resolution. If you are unsure about the nature or resolution of a particular charge, it is your responsibility to obtain the information before you respond. (If you are not sure about the nature or the ultimate disposition of a particular charge, it is your responsibility to check with the courts before you answer.)
- b. Has a restraining order, anti-harassment order, no contact order, or the like (whether administrative, civil, or criminal in nature) ever been requested against you? This question includes a request/petition that may not have ultimately been granted.

Seattle University

- a. Have you ever been charged or convicted of a felony, misdemeanor, or other crime?

University of Washington

- a. Have you ever been cited for, arrested for, charged with, or convicted for any violation of any law including any cases resolved in juvenile court, whether expunged or not, or is any such charge now pending against you?

West Virginia

University of West Virginia

- a. Have you ever been cited for, arrested for, charged with, pled to, or been convicted of any violation of any criminal law other than a case that was resolved in juvenile court? You should include matters that have been dismissed, expunged, subject to a diversion or deferred prosecution program, or otherwise set aside. (If yes, please attach an explanation.)
- b. Are any criminal charges currently pending against you? (If yes, please attach an explanation.)
- c. Have you ever had a complaint filed against you in any domestic abuse proceeding or been the subject of a protective order? (If yes, please attach an explanation.)

Wisconsin

Marquette University

- a. With respect to criminal charges, civil law violations, or local ordinance violations (excluding parking violations, but including all other tickets or citations, including those for moving violations) have you ever, as an adult or juvenile, been arrested, charged, convicted, issued a citation, or served probation, or paid restitution or served probation in lieu of being arrested, charged, convicted, or entering a plea (whether a plea of guilty or no contest)? You must disclose each instance, however adjudicated, including juvenile delinquency proceeding, criminal case, court martial, or case of an ordinance violation, whether or not the charge and the plea or conviction differ, whether arrest, judgment, conviction, or sentence has been withheld or expunged, or the record sealed, regardless of whether you have been told that you need not disclose any such instance.
- b. Are you presently the subject of any proceedings involving the matters addressed in 1 through 4?

University of Wisconsin

- a. Criminal/Civil/Military Infractions: Have you ever been cited, arrested, charged, convicted or sentenced for any criminal, civil, or ordinance violation, at the federal, state, or local level? This includes, for example, any adult, juvenile, or military violations, as well as any forfeitures. You must answer whether or not the matter was resolved in a conviction, a dismissal, or was resolved at the same or a different level of seriousness as the original violation. You must also answer even if a finding of guilt or sentence was suspended or withheld, or the record was expunged or sealed. You must include all citations and tickets, including traffic tickets, speeding tickets, and moving violations. Only parking violations may be omitted.
- b. Impaired Driving: Have you ever been arrested for, charged with, convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to a violation that involved driving under the influence of alcohol or driving under the influence of drugs?
- c. Pending Issues: Are any such issues currently pending, which relate to incidents described previously? Pending issues include, for example, any incident for which you are on probation or under supervision.

Wyoming

University of Wyoming

- a. Have you ever been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or no contest to any violation of law other than minor traffic violations?