CLEARING ARRESTS, CRIMINAL CHARGES & CONVICTIONS FROM YOUR RECORD

Massachusetts Law for Survivors of Human Trafficking

HOW IT WORKS

Your criminal record can be a barrier to getting a job, housing, and immigration status. It can also impact family law issues.

However, a new Massachusetts law may be able to help you clear your criminal record. The law applies to convictions in Massachusetts if they occurred as a result of having been a survivor of human trafficking. The law does not limit the number of arrests or convictions.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

You may be eligible if your arrest occurred as a result of being trafficked. A survivor of human trafficking is broadly defined in Massachusetts, so this can include any involvement in commercial sexual activity or other situations if you felt pressured or forced to work.

The following are examples of charges that may be vacated (or cleared) from your record:

- Common night walking
- Resorting to restaurants or taverns for immoral purposes
- Sex for fee
- Simple possession of a controlled substance

WHO TO CONTACT

If you are a survivor of human trafficking and interested in learning more, please contact:

BU Law Immigrants’ Rights and Human Trafficking Program at

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