

***The first-ever effort to catalog and analyze  
the relief mechanisms in every state!***

**RELIEF FROM THE COLLATERAL  
CONSEQUENCES OF A CRIMINAL CONVICTION  
A State-By-State Resource Guide**

By Margaret Colgate Love

*Cited by Justice Ginsburg in a Supreme Court decision for  
Logan v. United States (No. 06-6911.)*

*"At last, an accessible compendium that brings the hidden world of collateral consequences into open view, written by one of the nation's foremost experts on the topic. One can only hope that lawyers, policy analysts, justice reformers and the general public, armed with this information, will clamor for a fundamental reexamination of these formidable barriers to offender reintegration."*  
— Jeremy Travis, President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

*"This book provides the most comprehensive and original guide to the increasingly important issue of the collateral consequences of felony conviction. It will prove invaluable to attorneys, policymakers and citizens alike."*  
— Marc Mauer, Director, The Sentencing Project

*"Defenders understand how important it is to deal with the collateral consequences of conviction when representing their clients, both before and after conviction. This survey of applicable law in each state will prove to be an indispensable reference book in every defender office."*  
— Jo-Ann Wallace, President and CEO, National Legal Aid & Defender Association

This work is the first complete survey of U.S. laws and practices that overcome or mitigate the collateral legal consequences of a criminal conviction. It begins with short analytical pieces on executive pardon, judicial expungement and sealing, deferred adjudication and set-aside, certificates of rehabilitation, and laws that limit consideration of conviction in connection with employment and licensing.

Author Margaret Colgate Love is Director of the ABA Commission on Effective Criminal Sanctions. The heart of the guide is its detailed descriptions of available relief mechanisms for each U.S. Jurisdiction and how they operate. A Table of Charts allows easy state-to-state comparisons. The guide is an invaluable resource for policymakers and legal researchers dealing with the barriers to offender re-entry and for practitioners at every level of the justice system.

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**This work, the first-ever effort to catalog and analyze the relief mechanisms in every state, will be an indispensable field manual for practitioners and a valuable tool for advocates and policymakers. It fosters awareness of the state of the law and practice in this country where it comes to giving criminal offenders a second chance.**

## **Facts about Felony Conviction in the U.S.**

- \* **Thirteen million people in the U.S. have a felony conviction on their record.** We say we want these people to pay their debt to society and take up productive and law-abiding lives in the community. At the same time, we deprive them of the tools for doing so by excluding them permanently from many opportunities and benefits, consigning them to a legal status that has aptly been called “internal exile.” Once someone has been labeled a criminal in this country, it is almost impossible to get rid of the stigma attached to that status. This phenomenon is hardly new; what is new is the scale of the problem.
- \* **Every state provides at least one way for a convicted person to avoid or mitigate** the collateral consequences of conviction, but the actual mechanisms for relief are generally inaccessible and unreliable, and are not well understood even by those responsible for administering them. Ironically, as more and more people are convicted of crimes, it is harder and harder for them to satisfy their debt to society.
- \* **It would seem that if rehabilitation of criminal offenders** and reduction of crime are desirable social goals, it would be helpful to begin serious discussion of the growing contrary pressures that seem to consign all persons with a criminal record to the margins of society, and to a permanent outcast status in the eyes of the law.

**Includes: Jurisdictional Profiles of all 50 states, plus Federal, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands**