

# VOTING WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD IN FLORIDA



## Determining Someone's Eligibility to Register and Vote Under Amendment 4 and SB 7066

### What are voting rights in Florida?

- Citizens 18 years and older have the right to register and then vote.
- You lose the right to vote in Florida if you are convicted of a felony until you finish your sentence, including prison, parole and/or probation, and pay the money you were ordered to pay by a court when you were convicted.

### You can register and vote now if:

- You were convicted of a **misdemeanor** (and are not currently on probation or parole or owe any money for a felony conviction).
- You are **in jail for a misdemeanor** (and are not currently on probation or parole or owe any money for a felony conviction).
- You are **in jail awaiting trial** (and are not currently on probation or parole or owe any money for a felony conviction).

This card is a resource, not legal advice. It is provided for informational purposes and not as a substitute or supplement to legal advice necessary to address individuals' specific concerns.

### Did you lose your voting rights because of a criminal conviction?

#### If you were convicted of a felony within the state of Florida:

- You lose your voting rights only for a **felony** conviction, and only while serving your sentence. Florida law has included in your sentence paying off "legal financial obligations" (LFOs), which may include "fines," "fees," "costs," and "restitution" related to your **felony** conviction.
- You lose your voting rights if you pleaded guilty or received a guilty verdict after trial. You lose your voting rights when sentenced following your plea or verdict.
- If the court has "withheld adjudication," that means you were not sentenced and you have not lost your voting rights. But if the court later convicts you, then you lose your voting rights.
- You regain voting rights after you complete your sentence, including prison, parole and/or probation, and pay off your LFOs.
- **Exception:** if you received a conviction for murder or a felony sexual offense, you do not regain your voting rights. Instead, you have to [apply for clemency](#).

## If you were convicted of a felony in another state:

- If you were convicted outside Florida, your voting rights are governed by the state where you were convicted. In many other states, you automatically regain your voting rights when released from prison or complete probation/parole.
- You should research your voting rights in the state of your conviction. Here are two websites to assist you in this research: [Criminal Disenfranchisement Laws Across the United States](#) | Brennan Center for Justice & [Restore Your Vote: I have a felony conviction. Can I vote?](#) | Campaign Legal Center.
- **Exception:** if you were convicted in another state of murder or sexual conduct that would be a felony in Florida, your voting rights are governed by Florida law.

### Quick Contacts:

#### League of Women Voters of Florida (LWV)

(t) 407-710-5496

(e) [canivote@lwvfl.org](mailto:canivote@lwvfl.org)

#### The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC)

(t) 407-901-3749

(e) [info@floridarrc.org](mailto:info@floridarrc.org)

Florida law may change after the publication of this card. Therefore, it is your responsibility to determine how all applicable laws concerning voter registration, voting, and the restoration of voting rights in Florida affect you.

## Need help restoring your voting rights or paying off your LFOs?

There may be ways to reduce or eliminate the amount you have to pay.

- **The Florida Rights Restoration Coalition** may provide referrals to free legal assistance or have funds to help pay your LFOs. You can contact FRRC by calling 407-901-3749 or emailing [info@floridarrc.org](mailto:info@floridarrc.org).
- You may be able to convert your LFOs to community service.
- You can seek forgiveness for your restitution obligations.
- If you aren't sure how much you owe, you can request a "declaratory statement" or "advisory opinion" from the [Florida Division of Elections](#).
- If you've registered and your Florida county supervisor of elections wants to remove your voting rights, you have the right to a hearing and explanation of their reasoning.
- If you need help asserting your rights, the **League of Women Voters of Florida** can provide free legal assistance. Call them at 407-710-5496 or email [canivote@lwvfl.org](mailto:canivote@lwvfl.org).

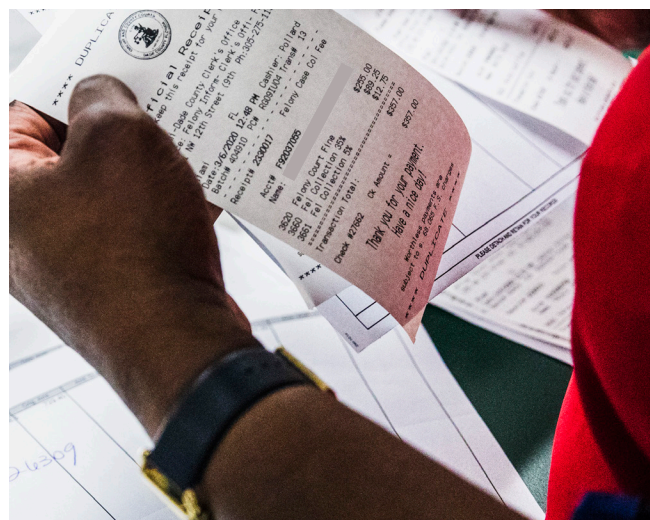


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