

Seafarer Licensing

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THOSE WHO WISH TO COMPLETE A MARITIME CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY

The Criminal Records (Clean Slate) Act 2004

This Act came into force on 29 November 2004.

The introduction of the Criminal Records (Clean Slate) Act 2004 is automatic and it will not be necessary for you to apply for a “clean slate”.

This legislation is designed to allow individuals with less serious convictions who have been conviction-free for at least seven years to put their past behind them. It will enable eligible individuals to conceal convictions in most circumstances. There are some exceptions when individuals' convictions can continue to be disclosed.

An individual must meet all of the criteria in section 7 of the Act before all of their convictions can be concealed. The general criteria for obtaining the benefits of the “clean slate” scheme are that an individual must have -

- [1] no convictions within the last 7 years;
- [2] never been sentenced to a custodial sentence [e.g. imprisonment, corrective training, borstal];
- [3] never been ordered by a Court during a criminal case to be detained in a hospital due to his/her mental condition, instead of being sentenced;
- [4] not been convicted of a “specific offence” [e.g. sexual offending against children and young people or the mentally impaired];
- [5] paid in full any fine, reparation or costs ordered by the Court in a criminal case, and
- [6] never been indefinitely disqualified from driving under section 65 Land Transport Act 1998 or earlier equivalent provision.

Should you wish to be more fully informed of the provisions and requirements of the Criminal Records (Clean Slate) Act 2004, a copy of the Act may be purchased from any Whitcoulls Bookshop nationwide; Bennetts Government Bookshop, Auckland; Books "A" Plenty, Tauranga; McLeods Booksellers, Rotorua; Muirs Bookshop, Gisborne; London Bookshop Centre City, New Plymouth; Beattie and Forbes, Napier; Bennetts on Broadway, Palmerston North; Hedeys Bookshop, Masterton; Bowen House, Wellington and Chapters and Verses, Timaru.

If you complete the enclosed "Consent to Disclosure of Information" form, you are agreeing to the Police National Headquarters releasing any record of criminal and road transport related convictions, should you have been convicted of any criminal offence within the immediate past seven years.
