

WHAT ARE POLICE RECORDS?

Police records may be created from a variety of interactions with a local police service related to non-criminal and criminal matters, and can include instances where someone:

- ❖ Had informal contact with a police officer and provided their name;
- ❖ Called 9-1-1, or was present when officers responded to a call;
- ❖ Called 9-1-1 for themselves or someone they know was experiencing a mental health crisis;
- ❖ Was involved in a police investigation as a witness, victim or suspect;
- ❖ Was arrested;
- ❖ Was charged with a criminal offence (but not convicted);
- ❖ Was found guilty of a criminal offence; or
- ❖ Was convicted of a criminal offence.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS

Generally, police records can be divided into four categories: criminal convictions, non-conviction findings of guilt, non-conviction dispositions with no finding of guilt, and police contacts. These categories of police records are detailed below.

1. CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS

Sentences that result in criminal convictions:

- Imprisonment Sentence
- Intermittent Sentence
- Suspended Sentence
- Conditional Sentence
- Fine or forfeiture



2. NON-CONVICTION DISPOSITIONS: FINDINGS OF GUILT

- Absolute Discharge
- Conditional Discharge



3. NON-CONVICTION DISPOSITIONS: NO FINDINGS OF GUILT

- Charges withdrawn
- Acquittal at trial
- Stay of proceedings



4. POLICE CONTACTS

- Police contact and surveillance
- Mental health apprehensions
- Arrests (but no charge)
- Victimization
- Witness



**Please note: this information is specific to adult police records only. Youth records are governed by a separate legislative framework.*

*** Provincial Offenses such as parking tickets or speeding tickets do not show up on any level of criminal record check.*

POLICE CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK

- The Police Criminal Record Check is typically used for employment opportunities where a basic criminal background check is requested. It is generally the least intrusive level of check.

POLICE INFORMATION CHECK

- The Police Information Check will generally reveal the same information as a Police Criminal Record Check, as well as absolute and conditional discharges, court orders, charges and warrants.

POLICE VULNERABLE SECTOR CHECK

- The Police Vulnerable Sector Check is the most in-depth check. It is used when applicants are seeking employment and/or volunteering directly with vulnerable populations, and will reveal convictions and all non-conviction records.

A complete breakdown of the definitions of the various types of police records and other terms can be found at JHSO's **On the Record** publications available at:

WWW.POLICERECORDHUB.CA/ONTHERECORD/