



What Makes A Good Pardon Candidate

- 5+ years of no problems (10+ if crime involved guns, children, serious violence or sex) since completion of sentence
- 7 years “clean and sober” / anger and behavioral issues under control
- **Independent** confirmation of rehabilitation
- Reasons to stay on “straight and narrow”
- Community and family supports
- Evidence of “giving back” to the community

What Makes A Good Application?

- **100% honesty** and openness/nothing to hide
- Giving the government reasons to believe won't commit another crime
 - “Owning” the crime – no insisting on innocence or blaming others (eg the Public Defender or judge)
 - Showing/demonstrating remorse
 - Explaining the change
 - Having support structures in place
- A specific “clean date” if history of addiction
- Proof of completion of counseling, 12-step, and/or anger management program(s)

