

**New Jersey Clemency Briefing for Attorneys:**  
**Learn about the Governor’s Clemency Power, Executive Order 362, and the Petition Process**  
December 18, 2024  
12:30 -1:45  
CLE Materials

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 362 (2024) ..... 1

THE NEW JERSEY CONSTITUTION

    N.J.S.A. CONST. ART. 5, § 2, ¶ 1. PARDONS AND REPRIEVES; REMISSION OF FINES AND FORFEITURES.....9

    N.J.S.A. 2A:167-3.1. ANNUAL REPORT BY GOVERNOR OF EACH PARDON, REPRIEVE OR COMMUTATION  
    OF SENTENCE GRANTED ..... 10

    N.J.S.A. 2A:167-4. FORM OF ORDER; FILING..... 11

    N.J.S.A. 2A:167-5. RESTORATION OF RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE AND OTHER RIGHTS; SUSPENSION OR  
    REMISSION OF FINE..... 12

    N.J.S.A. 2A:167-7. INVESTIGATION AND REPORT ..... 13

PETITION FOR EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY ..... 14

ARTICLES & HELPFUL LINKS

    ACLU-NJ

[THE CLEMENCY PROJECT | ACLU OF NEW JERSEY](#)

[CATEGORICAL CLEMENCY: A BEACON OF HOPE IN AN UNJUST CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM \(REBECCA  
        UWAKWE, DEC. 7, 2023\)](#)

    OFFICE OF NEW JERSEY GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY

[CLEMENCY: PROVIDING SECOND CHANCES THROUGH PARDONS AND COMMUTATIONS](#)

[GOVERNOR MURPHY LAUNCHES HISTORIC CLEMENCY INITIATIVE \(JUNE 19, 2024\)](#)

[CLEMENCY - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#)

PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES ..... 26

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 362**

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of New Jersey vests in the Governor the power to grant pardons and reprieves in all cases other than impeachment and treason; and

WHEREAS, executive clemency, including pardons, reprieves, and commutations, can temper the impact of a criminal justice system that does not always produce justice; and

WHEREAS, the availability of executive clemency also reflects a recognition that individuals are endowed with human dignity and value, capable of rehabilitation, and deserving of second chances; and

WHEREAS, the worst moment in someone's history should not serve as the sole defining moment for their future; and

WHEREAS, over 155,000 individuals are currently incarcerated in prison or jails, or under community supervision through parole or probation in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, even after successfully completing a court-ordered sentence for a crime or offense, an individual may still be burdened and hindered by stigmatization and may still continue to experience collateral consequences from their conviction; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, we have made significant progress in reducing the unduly harsh collateral consequences of a conviction and in dismantling barriers faced by individuals with prior involvement with the criminal justice system, which disproportionately affect Black and Hispanic or Latino New Jerseyans; and

WHEREAS, for example, during my Administration we have worked with the Legislature to reform our expungement process to be one of the most progressive in the nation, to restore voting rights for individuals on probation and parole, to ensure that individuals with criminal records have a fair chance to find affordable housing, and to reduce barriers to professional licensure and employment faced by individuals with criminal records; and

WHEREAS, despite these and other recent changes to mitigate collateral consequences of convictions, a conviction still may result in certain legal disabilities under state law, including a prohibition on jury service for individuals convicted of an indictable offense, limitations on eligibility for expungement, and barriers to professional licensure and employment, among others; and

WHEREAS, a conviction under New Jersey law also may have collateral consequences under federal law, including rendering an individual removable from or inadmissible into the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's grant of a pardon may relieve an individual from such legal disabilities, and also may enable the recipient to reintegrate more fully into the community by reducing the stigma associated with a conviction; and

WHEREAS, establishing a sound process for consideration of clemency applications can promote the proper and responsible use of this power; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution provides that a commission or other body may be established to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of executive clemency; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Parole Board has played and continues to play a critical role in aiding Governors in their exercise of executive clemency by accepting clemency applications and communicating pertinent information about each to the Governor's Office; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the assistance provided by the State Parole Board, my consideration of clemency applications would be aided by the deliberations and recommendations of a board of advisors with varying perspectives on the criminal justice system generally and on executive clemency in particular; and

WHEREAS, while each clemency application should receive individualized consideration, applications that fall into certain categories are particularly likely to warrant an exercise of executive

clemency and therefore should receive prioritized or expedited consideration; and

WHEREAS, regardless of whether their application is expedited for review or considered in the ordinary course, each applicant should receive thorough consideration and should have the opportunity to identify any circumstances that they believe support their request for executive clemency, including that they have benefited from rehabilitative programming, that a significant amount of time has passed since their latest offense, and that their sentence was disproportionate to their culpability, among other factors; and

WHEREAS, in evaluating any clemency application, consideration also should be given to public safety, the interests of justice, the views of the applicant's victims (if any), and the views of any families affected;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PHILIP D. MURPHY, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. There is hereby established a Clemency Advisory Board ("Board"), which shall be responsible for aiding and advising the Governor in the Governor's consideration of applications for executive clemency, including pardons and commutations.

2. The Board shall consist of the Attorney General, or their designee, and at least five public members appointed by the Governor. The public members shall include a retired member of the Judiciary, an attorney with significant experience representing criminal defendants, and an individual with knowledge or experience regarding the practice of executive clemency in the federal government or in other states, as well as individuals who will contribute moral, social justice, and victim advocacy perspectives to the Board. One member shall be designated by the Governor to serve as Chairperson.

3. All members of the Board shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and without compensation.

4. The Board shall organize as soon as practicable after the appointment of its members and shall convene as often as requested by the Governor or Chairperson, but not less than once per month.

5. The Board will establish internal policies and procedures for evaluating applicants for executive clemency and for providing written evaluations and recommendations to the Governor through the Office of Chief Counsel. These internal policies and procedures will be determined in consultation with the Office of the Governor, and, subject to the approval of the Governor, may include modifications to the criteria for expedited consideration in Paragraphs 8 and 9 of this Order.

6. The Board's evaluations and recommendations shall constitute advisory, consultative, and deliberative materials for the Governor's review. To best encourage complete candor in reviewing all applications before the Board, these materials will remain confidential with the Governor and within the Office of the Governor. Written evaluations and recommendations prepared by the Board and related documents shall be deemed to be confidential, non-public, and not subject to the Open Public Records Act, P.L.1963, c.73, as amended and supplemented. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to limit application of Paragraph 2.h of Executive Order No. 9 (1963), which establishes that no records relating to petitions for executive clemency shall be deemed to be public records subject to inspection and examination and available for copying pursuant to the Open Public Records Act.

7. Consistent with Article V, Section 2, Paragraph 1 of the New Jersey State Constitution, the Governor retains sole authority and discretion to determine whom to grant any measure of executive clemency. The Governor shall not be bound to follow any recommendation provided by the Board.

8. The Board shall expedite its consideration of clemency applications from individuals who have completed their terms of incarceration, probation, or other court-based diversionary program, and parole supervision, if applicable, and consider the individual merits of such applications before others that do not qualify for expedited consideration under Paragraph 8 or 9, if the application satisfies at least one requirement of Paragraph 8.a and at least one requirement of Paragraph 8.b and none of the exceptions in Paragraph 10 apply.

a. Time-Based Criteria:

- i. More than ten (10) years have elapsed since the applicant completed their most recent sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole, or probation, or in a court-based diversionary program;
- ii. More than five (5) years have elapsed since the applicant completed their most recent sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole, or probation, or in a court-based diversionary program, and the applicant is currently at least 60 years old; or
- iii. More than five (5) years have elapsed since the applicant completed their most recent sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole, or probation, or in a court-based diversionary program, and the applicant was 25 years old or younger at the time of the offense.

b. Offense-Based Criteria:

- i. The application does not seek executive clemency for a crime enumerated in the No Early Release Act, N.J.S.A. 2C:43-7.2(d);

- ii. The application seeks executive clemency for a conviction for a crime or offense which is no longer unlawful;
- iii. No objection has been received from the Prosecutor for any county in which the applicant has received a conviction for which the applicant is seeking executive clemency; or
- iv. The Conviction Review Unit within the Office of the Attorney General has referred the application for expedited consideration.

9. The Board shall expedite its consideration of clemency applications from individuals who are presently serving a term of incarceration, probation, or parole supervision, or who are in a court-based diversionary program, and consider the individual merits of such applications before others that do not qualify for expedited consideration under Paragraph 8 or 9, if the application satisfies at least one of the following requirements and none of the exceptions in Paragraph 10 apply.

- a. The applicant is a victim of domestic or sexual violence or sex trafficking who was convicted of a crime or offense against the perpetrator of the domestic or sexual violence or sex trafficking, or of a crime or offense committed under the duress or coercion of such perpetrator;
- b. The application establishes that the applicant's sentence reflects an excessive trial penalty, based on a comparison of the sentence and a documented pre-trial plea offer;
- c. The application seeks executive clemency for a conviction for a crime or offense which is no longer unlawful;

- d. The application seeks executive clemency for a conviction that would have resulted in a less severe sentence under current law or policy; or
- e. The Conviction Review Unit within the Office of the Attorney General has referred the application for expedited consideration.

10. Notwithstanding the procedures for expedited consideration of clemency applications in Paragraphs 8 and 9, the Board shall not expedite its consideration of an application for executive clemency if the applicant is requesting executive clemency for a crime involving public corruption; if the applicant has pending charges that have not yet resulted in a sentence; or if the applicant has been convicted in another jurisdiction since the offense(s) for which they are seeking executive clemency and a clemency application relating to such conviction would not receive expedited consideration under the terms of this Order if the conduct at issue had resulted in a conviction under New Jersey law.

11. The Board is authorized to call upon any department, office, division, or agency of this State to supply it with data or other information or assistance available to such agency as the Board deems necessary to execute its duties under this Order. Each Executive Branch department and agency is hereby required, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate fully with the Board and to furnish such assistance on as timely a basis as is necessary to accomplish the purpose of this Order. To the extent necessary, the State Parole Board and the Department of Law and Public Safety shall provide professional and clerical staff to the Board.

12. For purposes of this Order, "Executive Branch departments and agencies" shall mean any of the principal departments in the Executive Branch of State government and any agency, authority, board, bureau, commission, division, institution, office, or other instrumentality within or created by any such department, and any



independent State authority, commission, instrumentality, or agency over which the Governor exercises executive authority, as determined by the Attorney General.

13. The Board shall be purely advisory in nature and shall provide advice to the Governor as appropriate.

14. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to confer any legal right upon any person; nothing shall be construed to create a private right of action on behalf of any person; and nothing shall be used as a basis for legal challenges to rules or other action or inaction by a State entity.

15. Nothing in this Order shall be construed to supersede any federal, State, or local law.

16. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this  
19<sup>th</sup> day of June,  
Two Thousand and Twenty-Four,  
and of the Independence of the  
United States, the Two Hundred  
and Forty-Eighth.

[seal]

/s/ Philip D. Murphy  
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Parimal Garg  
Chief Counsel to the Governor

[New Jersey Statutes Annotated](#)

[The New Jersey Constitution of 1947 \(Annotated\) \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

[Article V. Executive \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

[Section II](#)

N.J.S.A. Const. Art. 5, § 2, ¶ 1

## 1. Pardons and reprieves; remission of fines and forfeitures

### [Currentness](#)

1. The Governor may grant pardons and reprieves in all cases other than impeachment and treason, and may suspend and remit fines and forfeitures. A commission or other body may be established by law to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of executive clemency.

N. J. S. A. Const. Art. 5, § 2, ¶ 1, NJ CONST Art. 5, § 2, ¶ 1

Current through amendments approved at Nov. 3, 2020 election

---

End of Document

© 2024 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

[New Jersey Statutes Annotated](#)

[Title 2a. Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

[Subtitle 11. Criminal Procedure](#)

[Chapter 167. Executive Clemency \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

N.J.S.A. 2A:167-3.1

2A:167-3.1. Annual report by governor of each pardon, reprieve or commutation of sentence granted

[Currentness](#)

On or before March 1 of each year, the Governor shall report to the Legislature each reprieve, pardon and commutation granted, stating the name of the convicted person, the crime for which the person was convicted, the sentence imposed, its date, the date of the pardon, reprieve or commutation and the reasons for granting same.

**Credits**

[L.1993, c. 26, § 1, eff. Jan. 25, 1993.](#)

N. J. S. A. 2A:167-3.1, NJ ST 2A:167-3.1

Current with laws through L.2024, c. 87 and J.R. No. 2.

---

End of Document

© 2024 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

[New Jersey Statutes Annotated](#)

[Title 2a. Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

[Subtitle 11. Criminal Procedure](#)

[Chapter 167. Executive Clemency \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

N.J.S.A. 2A:167-4

2A:167-4. Form of order; filing

[Currentness](#)

The governor may, upon application for commutation of sentence of any person sentenced to imprisonment, order that such sentence be commuted upon such terms, conditions and limitations as the governor, in his discretion, may direct, as conditions precedent to the release of any such person from imprisonment; which terms, conditions and limitations shall be annexed to and form part of said order. Upon the filing of such order signed by the governor with the officer in whose custody such person may be, and after the acceptance by such person of the terms, conditions and limitations contained in said order, as evidenced by his signature affixed to the duplicate copy of such order to be kept in the files of the state parole board, such sentence shall thereupon be commuted in accordance with the terms, conditions and limitations of such order.

N. J. S. A. 2A:167-4, NJ ST 2A:167-4

Current with laws through L.2024, c. 87 and J.R. No. 2.

---

End of Document

© 2024 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

[New Jersey Statutes Annotated](#)

[Title 2a. Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

[Subtitle 11. Criminal Procedure](#)

[Chapter 167. Executive Clemency \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

N.J.S.A. 2A:167-5

2A:167-5. Restoration of right of suffrage and other rights; suspension or remission of fine

[Currentness](#)

Any person who has been convicted of a crime and by reason thereof has been deprived of the right of suffrage or of any other of his civil rights or privileges, or upon whom there has been imposed a fine or who has suffered a forfeiture, except disqualification to hold and enjoy any public office of honor, profit or trust in this state under judgment of impeachment, may make application for the restoration of the right of suffrage or of such other rights or privileges or for the suspension or remission of such fine or forfeiture, which application the governor may grant by order signed by him.

N. J. S. A. 2A:167-5, NJ ST 2A:167-5

Current with laws through L.2024, c. 87 and J.R. No. 2.

---

End of Document

© 2024 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.

[New Jersey Statutes Annotated](#)

[Title 2a. Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

[Subtitle 11. Criminal Procedure](#)

[Chapter 167. Executive Clemency \(Refs & Annos\)](#)

N.J.S.A. 2A:167-7

## 2A:167-7. Investigation and report

[Currentness](#)

The governor, in his discretion, may, prior to granting or denying any such application, refer the same to the state parole board for its investigation, and in such case the board shall make a full and complete investigation and report thereon in writing to the governor with its recommendation in the case.

N. J. S. A. 2A:167-7, NJ ST 2A:167-7

Current with laws through L.2024, c. 87 and J.R. No. 2.

---

End of Document

© 2024 Thomson Reuters. No claim to original U.S. Government Works.



# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## PETITION FOR EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY

**INSTRUCTIONS:** All questions must be answered in full and printed legibly in ink or typed. In the event that this form does not provide sufficient space for any answer, attach additional sheets and number your answer accordingly. If you are confined in a correctional facility, this form must be completed and forwarded to the Administrator of the correctional facility where you are confined. In all other cases the completed petition should be mailed to:

New Jersey State Parole Board  
Attn: Clemency Unit  
P.O. Box 862  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

**NOTE:** It would be helpful if you support this petition with documentation (i.e.; copies of high school diploma, college transcripts, marriage license, proof of employment, proof of citizenship, if applicable etc.); however, it is not necessary that you provide these documents.

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are represented by an attorney or other party, please indicate to whom all communications relating to this petition should be addressed.*

**Attorney Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. Type of Executive Clemency sought by applicant ([check one below](#)):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pardon                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Remission of Fine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commutation of Sentence | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____       |

2. List any other names by which you have been known:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is your reason for seeking clemency?

---

---

---

4. State briefly why you believe you should be granted clemency:

---

---

---

5. Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ SBI No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
County of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_

6. If you were not born in the United States, complete below.

When did you first enter the United States? \_\_\_\_\_

Port of entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Under what name did you enter? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a naturalized citizen of the United States?

Yes Date of Naturalization: \_\_\_\_\_

No Give alien registration number: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you presently under an order for deportation or are deportation proceedings pending?  Yes  No

Are you under an immigration detainer?  Yes  No

7. For each member of your family give the following information:

	Name (if deceased, give age at death)	Address	Occupation
Father			
Mother			
Brothers			
Sisters			



8. Were your parents ever separated or divorced?  Yes  No

9. Please indicate the highest level of education you attended and the dates.

School	Date Attended	Date Completed

10. Were you ever married? (include civil union)  Yes  No  
(If "yes", please provide)

Name Used	Maiden Name	Date Married/ Civil Union	Place of Marriage/ Civil Union

Did any marriage or civil union result in annulment, legal separation, or divorce?

Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide)

Name of Court	Location of Court	Date of Decree	Type of Decree	Conditions of Decree

11. Do you have children?  Yes  No If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

Give the following information about your children and any others who are dependent upon you for support:

Name	Address	Date of Birth

12. List each job you have held and give the following information regarding each position:

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Employed: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Salary: \_\_\_\_\_ Reason for Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Employed: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Salary: \_\_\_\_\_ Reason for Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Employed: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Salary: \_\_\_\_\_ Reason for Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please use a separate sheet of paper for additional employers)

13. Religious affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Church: \_\_\_\_\_

14. Provide names and addresses of any social clubs, unions, fraternal groups, or other community organizations to which you belong; include dates of participation.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

15. Have you ever served in the United States Armed Forces?  Yes  No  
(If "yes", please provide)

What branch did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Place of entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial, service or identification number: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Discharge:  Honorable  Dishonorable  General  
 Bad Conduct  Other (explain)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of discharge: \_\_\_\_\_ (Provide official discharge documents)

Do you have a disability that is recognized by the Veteran's Administration?

Yes       No

If you do, describe the degree of your disability and indicate amount of financial benefit received per month:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. Record of arrests: (List each time you were arrested and whether a conviction resulted. If you are uncertain of any details, your statement to that effect may be grounds for rejection of this petition for falsification. If possible, provide any arrest reports or court documents [i.e., Pre-Sentence Investigation Report and/or Judgment of Conviction]. If you are not in possession of these documents, our office will request them from the court.)

Arrest Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Court: \_\_\_\_\_ Crime(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

(Confinement, Probation, Fine, etc.)

Circumstances of Crime: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrest Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Court: \_\_\_\_\_ Crime(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

(Confinement, Probation, Fine, etc.)

Circumstances of Crime: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrest Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Court: \_\_\_\_\_ Crime(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

(Confinement, Probation, Fine, etc.)

Circumstances of Crime: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrest Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Court: \_\_\_\_\_ Crime(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

(Confinement, Probation, Fine, etc.)

Circumstances of Crime: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrest Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Court: \_\_\_\_\_ Crime(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

(Confinement, Probation, Fine, etc.)

Circumstances of Crime: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please use separate sheets of paper for additional arrests/convictions)

17. List each instance of incarceration in a correctional facility:

Name of Facility	Location of Facility	Date Entered	Date Released

18. Have you ever appealed the conviction or sentence for which you are seeking clemency?  Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide)

Name of Court	Docket Number	Date of Disposition of Appeal

Are any appeals currently pending?  
 (If "yes", please provide)

Yes  No

What jurisdiction? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever filed a motion for post conviction relief?  
 (If "yes", please provide)

Yes  No

Disposition	Date of Disposition

Have you applied for an expungement?  
 (If "yes", please provide)

Yes  No

Disposition	Date of Disposition

19. List each instance of parole or probation including (PTI) Pre-Trial Intervention Program (PTI) and Conditional Discharge (CD):

Type of Supervision (Parole, Probation, PT, CD)	Date Supervision Began	District Office	Date of Discharge

List each instance of revocation of parole or probation:

---



---



---



---



---

20. Have you ever had a court issue a restraining order against you for a domestic violence-related incident?  Yes  No  
 (If "yes". please provide)

Details of restraining order: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

21. Do you have any open, pending court matters?  Yes  No  
 (If "yes". please provide)

Court (Superior or Municipal)	Offense	Date of Arrest

22. Have you ever been hospitalized for treatment of a psychological disorder?  
 Yes  No  
 (If "yes". please provide)

Institution	Date Entered	Date Released

23. Please provide a detailed history of your alcohol and/or drug use.

Substance(s) of choice: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency of use: \_\_\_\_\_

Age started: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of money spent on use: \_\_\_\_\_

Ever sold drugs?  Yes  No

Ever charged with Driving Under the Influence?  Yes  No

(If "yes". please provide)

Disposition: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever received treatment for alcohol and/or drug addiction?

Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide information for each treatment you experienced)

Type of treatment: (Check all that apply)

Inpatient  Outpatient

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)  Alcohol Anonymous (AA)

Name of treatment facility: \_\_\_\_\_ Date entered: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date discharged: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of days in treatment: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for discharge: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please provide additional pages for each instance of treatment)

Did you successfully complete the program?  Yes  No

(If "no", please indicate reason for failure to complete the program)

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Did the court ever order treatment?  Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide for each order)

Court	Date

24. Have you ever returned to active drug or alcohol use after attending Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous or after having received professional treatment?

Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide)

Details of relapse: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever participated in any alcohol or drug treatment programs during your present confinement?  Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide)

Name of Program	Dates of Participation

If possible, provide copy of certificate of completion to all programs.

25. List any other institutional programs you are currently participating in or completed during your present confinement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

26. Have you ever previously applied to the Governor of New Jersey for Executive Clemency?

Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide)

Date of Application	Type of Clemency Sought	Disposition	Date of Disposition

27. This petition is subject to a complete investigation. However, the petitioner has the right to request that the State refrain from contacting individuals such as employers or others. Do you desire any such limitation to be placed on the investigation?  Yes  No

(If "yes", please provide)

List of those not to be contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



If this petition is for a Pardon, attach testimonials (letters of support) addressed to the Governor from at least two (2) persons who have knowledge of your community adjustment during the past two (2) years and, if possible, who are aware of the crime(s) for which clemency is sought; or attach a statement explaining why you cannot furnish such testimonials. If this petition is for a Commutation of Sentence, testimonials are not required.

Petitioner's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sworn and subscribed to before me this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_

in the County of \_\_\_\_\_

State of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Notary Public or other authorized to take oaths)

**NOTE:** It is your responsibility to notify our office of any changes in your address or telephone number.



State of New Jersey  
 NEW JERSEY STATE PAROLE BOARD  
 P.O. Box 862  
 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625  
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (609) 292-4257

To Whom It May Concern:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize any law enforcement  
 (Applicant's name)  
 agency, insurance company, current or former employer(s), State and Federal income tax  
 bureaus, educational institution, or any other named agency to furnish the New Jersey State  
 Parole Board with any requested information and/or documents pertaining to myself, for the  
 purpose of completing a confidential community investigation which is required for processing  
 my application for Executive Clemency.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Applicant Identification No. (SS#; SBI #; etc.)

c: Copy for File  
 Copy to Provider

**Rebecca Uwakwe, Director of the Clemency Project, ACLU of New Jersey**

Rebecca Uwakwe (she/her) is currently the Director of the Clemency Project and senior staff Attorney at the ACLU of New Jersey, where she engages in litigation and legal advocacy to challenge unjust laws and policies that contribute to mass incarceration and racial disparities in the criminal legal system. Prior to joining the ACLU-NJ, she was a supervising attorney at Brooklyn Defender Services where for over 10 years, she zealously represented indigent clients who were facing criminal charges.

**John Butler, Senior Policy Adviser, Office of the Governor**

**Leigh Kelsey O'Donnell, Special Senior Counsel, Office of the Governor**

Leigh Kelsey O'Donnell (she/her) is Special Senior Counsel for Clemency in the Office of Chief Counsel for Governor Phil Murphy. Her portfolio covers all aspects of criminal justice—including the Department of Corrections and the State Parole Board—through which she helps to implement the goals and policies of the Murphy Administration. Prior joining the Murphy Administration, Leigh Kelsey was a public defender with the Office of the Public Defender in Ocean County, where she primarily handled juvenile delinquency matters. Leigh Kelsey holds a BA in English from Gettysburg College and a JD from Rutgers School of Law - Camden.

**Alison Perrone, Deputy Public Defender, Office of the Public Defender**

Alison Perrone (she/her) is a Deputy Public Defender, overseeing the statewide Appellate Section of the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender. An experienced criminal appellate attorney, Ms. Perrone has represented hundreds of individuals in the Appellate Division and argued more than 50 cases in the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Ms. Perrone began her Public Defender career in 1997, before entering private practice in 2001. From 2001 through 2018, she was a sole practitioner, specializing in criminal appeals, and she then returned to the Office of the Public Defender's Appellate Section in 2018, initially as the First Assistant and then as the Deputy. She is a former trustee and co-chair of the amicus committee of the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey and has handled amicus cases on behalf of both the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the American Civil Liberties Union. Her committee memberships include the Supreme Court Model Criminal Jury Charge Committee and the Supreme Court Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the Courts, and she has been a speaker at numerous seminars conducted by the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Office of the Public Defender and the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education. Ms. Perrone also co-authored a legal treatise with the Honorable Barnett E. Hoffman, J.S.C. (ret.). The book, entitled "Sex Crimes in New Jersey: Understanding the Process and the Law," was published in January 2011.

Graduating from Georgetown Law School, Ms. Perrone was a member of the Georgetown Law Review and Assistant Editor of the Law Review's Annual Federal Criminal Procedure Project. She earned a B.A. in English from Douglass College at Rutgers University.

**Jessica Henry, Clemency Advisory Board Member, Office of the Governor**

Jessica Henry (she/her) is a Professor of Justice Studies at Montclair State University, an award-winning author of the book *Smoke But No Fire: Convicting the Innocent of Crimes that Never Happened* (U.C. Press 2020), and the host of the "Just Justice" podcast. After obtaining her J.D. from N.Y.U. School of Law, Henry served as a public defender in New York City for nearly a decade before turning to academia. Henry's research focus includes second look laws, wrongful convictions, and severe sentences (including the death penalty and life without parole). She frequently appears as a commentator on national and local television and radio, and has been widely cited in the mainstream media. At Montclair, Henry was awarded the University Distinguished Scholar Award (2022) in recognition of her outstanding scholarship and the University Distinguished Teacher Award (2015) for her excellence in teaching. She was appointed to the New Jersey Clemency Advisory Board in 2024. You can learn more about her work at <http://jessicahenryjustice.com/>.