

Sheriff's Office of Sussex County

MICHAEL F. STRADA, SHERIFF



The Sussex County Smart Book

A Resource Guide For Reentry

Quick Reference: Useful Numbers and Hotlines

American Friends Service Committee
Prisoner's Resource Center 1-973-643-2205

CDC National STD and AIDS Hotlines

Spanish: 1-800-344-7432

English: 1-800-227-8922

Addictions Hotline of NJ 1-800-238-2333

Alcoholics Anonymous 1-800-245-1377

Division of Disability Services (DDS) 1-888-285-3036

Division of Youth & Family Services 1-800-792-8610

Hyacinth AIDS Foundation 1-800-433-0254

Legal Services of New Jersey 1-888-576-5529

NJ Motor Vehicle Commission

Driver's License Suspension Hotline 1-609-292-7500

Main Information 1-888-486-3339

Narcotics Anonymous of NJ 1-800-992-0401

National Suicide Crisis Hotline 1-800-784-2433

New Jersey AIDS

STD Hotline (Beth Israel) 1-800-624-2377

2-1-1 First Call For Help 2-1-1/

Se habla español or toll free 1-800-331-7272

Social Security Office 1-800-772-1213

Statewide Domestic Violence Hotline

(Woman's Space, Inc.)

Bilingual and TTY accessible 1-800-572-7233

The Sussex County Resource Guide

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completed 2016 by:
Sussex County Sheriffs
Bureau of Corrections
Sheriff Mike Strada

The Start of a New Beginning:

How to use this book

This book is intended to prepare you for your arrival home and reintegration back into society. In order to make the transition smoother for you a list of resources have been compiled along with a list of necessary items you will find that are essential to your success. This book focuses on the first few weeks and

months of your arrival home and assisting you on managing the transition. Although not every resource available to you will be found in here, there are many that will help to guide your journey.

Unless a fee or charge is listed, all of the services and resources listed here are free.

Each section of this book is categorized by items that you will need in order to find employment, return to school, and to obtain identification. It will also provide addresses, websites, phone numbers, and general tips on how to acquire that particular service. You can use the table of contents to easily identify what service you require, and follow instructions as to how to contact providers.

FYI: ***Please feel free to utilize your social services department for assistance in contacting an agency or inquiring information about a service found in this book. There are some services that may be free to you that you can contact through your social services department before making an out-of-pocket expense.*

There are things that can be completed prior to release from jail. Two things specifically are requesting a duplicate social security card for **FREE** and applying for a birth certificate for a **fee**. Please contact your social worker six months prior to release to apply for these items. By doing this while still in custody, you are taking a large step towards making your transition back into the community easier for you. Providing both documents are processed successfully, you will have two necessary forms of identification made available to you the day you are released. This will speed up the process of finding employment.

You will not find every service or organization in **Sussex County** in this book, however there will be many to help you begin. Also, the organizations that are listed may be able to offer additional resources to you. For current information as services change procedure and or cost please visit www.njsuccess.org.

You may visit your local library for **Free Internet**.

**Getting Started:
Identification (I.D.) and Other Documents**

In order to apply for employment, rent an apartment, apply for general assistance, food stamps, or Medicaid, proper identification will be required. The more identification you have in your possession, the easier it will be for you to obtain these services. Certain items can be obtained while you are still incarcerated ask your social worker for assistance, and, for the remainder, this book will point you in the right direction.

FYI: In order to obtain identification, various agencies will

require proof of address. It is smart to keep bills in your name or official documents that have your name and address for further verification of your address.

A. Social Security Card

If at all possible, apply for a duplicate social security card with your social worker six months prior to release. If for some reason this is not possible or your application has been denied, you will need to visit your closest Social Security Office to apply. The following offices are the local branch in Sussex County.

Social Security Administration local branch office

20 East Clinton Street

Newton, N.J. 07860

Office hours Monday- Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

Phone numbers:

Toll Free 1-800-772-1213

TTY- 1-800-325-0778

If you choose to visit your local office to apply you will need to fill out the application at the office. To save time you can download the application online:

(www.ssa.gov/replace_sscard.html). You will need to show proof of identification. **Prison release papers may count as proof of identification.**

B. Birth Certificate

The office of Vital Statistics in the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has all the New Jersey birth, marriage, and death records. The fee is **\$25.00**. However, depending upon where you were born in Sussex County, you may be able to apply for a birth certificate for a lesser fee.

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services

Bureau of Vital Statistics and Registration

P.O. Box 370 Trenton, NJ 08625-0370

Contact information for the NJ Bureau of Vital Statistics and Registration:

1-609-292-4087

1-866-649-8726 (toll-free nationwide)

FYI: You are able to apply for a birth certificate while you are still in custody and have six months left prior to release.

Please see your social worker to do so.

If you were born in the following towns you may go to your registrar's office and apply for a birth certificate at the cost listed below.

Town of Newton

Clerk/Vital Statistics Michelle Estremera

39 Trinity Street

Newton, N.J. 07860

PH# 973- 383- 3521 EXT. 232
FAX# 973- 300- 1280
FEE \$ 15.00

Sussex Boro

Clerk/ Vital Statistics Mark Zschak
2 Main Street
Sussex, N.J. 07461
PH# 973- 875- 4831
FAX# 973- 6261
FEE \$ 10.00

C. County Veterans I.D.

The Sussex County Clerk's Office is located at:

Corchoran House Building
83 Spring Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
PH# 973- 579- 08900

D. Driver's License

Once you are released from jail, you can go to the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) to get a new driver's license, replace a lost one, or renew a card that has expired. If you believe that your license has been suspended, you should confirm this and figure out what you need to do to get it back. If you were convicted of any kind of drug offense, your license has been suspended.

Prior to your release, you can get a copy of your driver's license record, which is called an "abstract." Please contact your social worker if you are interested in obtaining an abstract. **The fee for an abstract is \$15.00**

Upon your release, you can go to the MVC offices in Sussex County (listed below) or a Regional Service Center to request

a driver's abstract. If you have internet access, you can also request an abstract online at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/MVC. You will still have to pay **\$15.00**. If your license was suspended for six months or more because of a drug conviction, the period of the suspension will begin from the time of your release. Other kinds of suspension, such as failure to pay parking tickets, insurance surcharges, or child support, will last until you have paid the fine or worked out a payment plan. For questions about suspension, call the suspension hotline: **609-292-7500**.

Restoration Fees, Tickets, and Surcharges: If you found out that your license has been suspended, you will have to pay a restoration fee of **\$100.00** in order to have your license reinstated. This does not include any additional fines or surcharges you are required to pay. This fee can be paid at your local MVC Offices in Sussex County or a Regional Service Center (see below). If you have internet access, this

fee can be paid online at WWW.STATE.NJ.US/MVC. You can pay your surcharges and parking tickets on this website as well.

MVC LOCATIONS IN SUSSEX COUNTY

For questions, please call 1 (888) 486-333

Newton

51 Sparta ave

Newton, N.J. 07860

Monday 8 am – 5:30 pm

Tuesday 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday/ Thursday/ Friday 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

FYI: There are 3 regional offices in New Jersey. The closest to Sussex County is the Randolph Office

Regional Office: Randolph

160 Canfield Ave.

Randolph, N.J. 07860

Services: Driver conferences, driver records, (issuances and inquiries), points and surcharge (inquiries), suspensions and restorations.

Hours: Mon- Fri 8am-5:30pm

Tuesday 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday/ Thursday/ Friday 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

To replace a lost or stolen license,

you will have to bring identification to the MVC and

pay an **\$11.00 fee**. The MVC now has very specific kinds of

I.D. that are required under the new "Six Point" system:

Please use this guide to prepare yourself for your trip to MVC. Make sure you have the six points of identification necessary to obtain your drivers license or non drivers I.D.

SIX POINT SYSTEM OF IDENTIFICATION

Primary Documents:

(4 Points)

_ Birth Certificate or Certified Copy from one of the 50 states.

_ U.S. Dept. of State Birth Certificate

_ US Passport-Current or Expired less than 3 years

_ Current US Passport card

_ Current NJ Digital Drivers License

_ Valid Active Duty US Military Photo ID Card

_ US Adoption papers

_ Certificate of Naturalization

_ Certificate of Citizenship

Secondary Documents:

(3 Points)

_ Civil Marriage/Domestic partnership/ Civil Union

Certificate: Issued by the Municipality or State

- _ Order of Decree of Divorce
 - _ Court Order for Legal Name Change: Signed by a judge or county clerk
 - _ US Military Photo/Retiree Card
(2 Points)
 - _ U.S. Military Discharge Papers (DD214)
(1 Point)
 - _ Current/ Expired (Less than 1 year) Non-Digital NJ Photo Drivers License
 - _ Social Security Card
 - _ Bank statement or record
 - _ ATM Card w/ pre-printed name and applicant signature
 - _ NJ Public Assistance Card w/ Photo
 - _ High School Diploma/GED/ College Diploma
 - _ Veterans Affairs-Universal Access Photo ID Card
- You can get a brochure on this new “Six Point” system from the MVC offices listed above or from the Motor Vehicle Commission website, www.state.nj.us/mvc. If your license has expired, you will have to go with your six points of I.D. to the

MVC to fill out a renewal application. You may have to take the written test again. License renewal costs **\$24.00**.

E. Non-driver’s State I.D.

New Jersey provides state photo identification for non-drivers. **You can get this official state I.D. even if your driver’s license is currently suspended.** This may be a good option for you if it is going to be some time before you get your license back. You will still need to bring the same type of identification documents described previously, under the new “Six Point” system.

F. Certificates of Naturalization or Citizenship

This certificate is necessary for employment upon your release. In general, if you need to replace lost forms, you can contact the US Citizenship & Immigration Service or Application Support Centers to find out about identification and fingerprint verifications. There is a fee to process an application for replacement documents. The National Customer Service Hotline is 1 (800) 375-5283.

Citizenship Locations

US Citizenship & Immigration Service

970 Broad Street Newark NJ 07101

G. Alien Registration Card “Green Card”

To replace a missing Green Card, you must go to the US Citizenship & Immigration Service Office (see above) to fill out an I-90 form. Please make sure that you bring I. D. with you.

You can also visit the website and download the forms at www.uscis.gov. It costs **\$450.00** for processing. **If you have any questions or concerns about your status as a result of your criminal conviction, call Legal Services of New Jersey at 1-888-576-5529 before going to immigration.**

H. Military Discharge Papers

FYI: You may have the opportunity to meet with the Veterans Administration (VA) liaison from the Veteran's Administration during your incarceration. The VA liaison can assist you in requesting a copy of your DD214 (discharge papers) by completing the SF-180 form. Please notify your

institution's social worker for assistance with your requests and to obtain information on your veteran status. You can also obtain the SF-180 by writing the Veteran Benefit Administration in NJ or the NPRC, which is the main record depository.

Main records depository

NPRC, 9700 Page Ave St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Veterans Bureau

50 South Clinton Street Suite 3200 East Orange NJ 07018
973-395-8394

Your local Veterans Service Officer can assist in your obtaining benefits and acquiring services you may be eligible for.

Sussex/ Morris Veterans Service Officer

Bill Robinson

Division of veterans service

973-827-4020 or

973-366-0245

Upon your release, you can also visit the following website to request military records; www.vetrecs.archives.gov

Once on the www.vetrecs.archives.gov website, follow the on screen instructions for requesting personnel records. You will be asked to print out a signature page which can either be mailed or faxed. Upon receiving the form, the records will be mailed directly to you.

I. Passport

Although a passport may not seem like an important item to have at this point, it can serve as a major form of identification because it is widely accepted. There are **fees** involved in obtaining your passport. To obtain your passport you may visit the Sussex County Clerks Office at:

Sussex County Clerk

Corchoran House Building

83 Spring Street

Newton, N.J. 07860

973-579-0900

You will need to bring:

- _ An original or certified copy of a birth certificate with a raised seal and file date issued by Vital Statistics
- _ A naturalization certificate
- _ Official military I.D.
- _ A previous US passport; photocopies are not accepted.
- _ Your social security card
- _ I.D., such as a valid driver's license, government identification or previous passport issued after your 16th birthday. The expired passport should not be more than 15 years old.
- _ 2 identical copies of a 2x2 face front regulation passport photo.

\$110 for regular service/passport total

\$25 check/money order – made payable to US Dept. of State of New Jersey

FYI: A passport will be valid for 10 years.

J. Release Papers

Make sure you keep your jail release papers. Your release papers can serve as identification in some circumstances.

**First Steps After Release:
Where Do I Go to Find...**

This section provides resources for food, shelter, clothing, money, and other emergency needs. We have provided some resource options in Sussex County that you can utilize upon release.

FYI: Important paperwork will be needed repeatedly throughout your life. Make sure to invest in a folder or safe to keep important documents. **Never** carry your birth certificate or social security card with you. You will only need to produce these items upon request. It is smarter to keep them in a safe place. Leaving them with someone could also result in your documents getting lost so be very careful.

Also, make sure to keep a notebook and a pen with you to write down the names and phone numbers of the people you come in contact with at various agencies. Remember, nobody is going to care about your success as much as you do. Provided for you are agencies and services that can assist you in finding your basic needs.

FYI: It is a good idea to call first to check that the hours of operation haven't changed. Please try to be patient with those

that are attempting to assist you.

See the following pages for list of resources.

A. First Stops

The agencies below provide a range of services and/or, depending on what you need, can refer you to other places.

FIRST-STOP AGENCIES

2-1-1/First Call for Help – is a resource for Sussex County residents, which offers comprehensive information and referrals for human services, health care, government and community resource assistance. Dial 211, which can be accessed from the internet, cell phone or landline, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dial 800-331-7272 for the Homeless Hotline, which addresses emergencies and homeless calls. **FYI:** 211 is multi-lingual and accepts TTY callers.

B. Shelter

Access to most of these shelters can be obtained through the Sussex County Division of Social Services or by contacting the shelter direct. **During normal business hours(8:30-4:30)**

Sussex County Division of Social Services

83 Spring Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
PH# 973-383-3600

If individual or family has no income, they can apply for general assistance (GA) for singles and temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) if they have children. Clients need to call social services for an appointment. Mon-Fri (8:30-4:30)

Samaritan Inn

901 Swartswood Rd
Newton, N.J. 07860
Contact – 973-827-8911

Has apartments that provide short term emergency shelter for families. After hours 973-827-8911 or 877-827-8411 volunteers/staff phone screen and place someone who is homeless in motels until the next day when they can be directed to social services.

Family Promise of Sussex County

Contact – 973-579-1180 www.scihn.org

Provides short term emergency shelter and meals for families and single women only through a network of congregations.

Men's Day Program

Laundry Services, Bag Lunch, Shower, Internet access and support services

Thursday 8:30am to 4:00pm

19 Church St
Newton, N.J. 07860

DASI: Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Intervention Services.

105 Main Street
Newton, N.J. 07860

24- hour help line Collect Calls Accepted 973-875-1211

Provides emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault who are not safe in their own homes.

B. Food

Here are the food pantries and soup kitchens in Sussex County.

Although each agency has been verified, please call to check hours of operation.

Sussex County Division of Social Services

83 Spring Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
973-383-3600

Andover Presbyterian Church

15 Lenape Rd
Andover, N.J. 07821
973-786-5094
Wed and Sat Only 10am – 2pm

Bodi Monastery

67 Lawrence Rd
Lafayette, N.J. 07848
973-940-0711

First Presbyterian Church

5 Wantage Ave
Branchville, N.J. 07826
973-948-3495
Mon, Wed, Thur 10:00am – 12:30pm

Glenwood Baptist Church

1863 County Road 565
PO Box 314
Glenwood, N.J. 07418
908-591-6177 Pastor Jean

Harvest Home Food Company (SCARC)

338 Main Street
Ogdensburg, N.J. 07439
973-827-4076

Harvest House Lunch Program

Sussex Baptist Church

Sussex, N.J.
973-764-8500
Free Lunches Served M-F 11:30am

Holy Counselor Lutheran Church
68 Sand hill Road
Sussex, N.J.07461-4842
973-827-5251

Hopatcong West Side UMC
16 Maxim Drive
Hopatcong, N.J. 07843
973-398-0846
Mon, Tues, Thur. 9:30am – 12:30pm Wed. 10am – noon
Or call for Appt Pastor Jeong

Lafayette Federated Church
180 State Route 15
Lafayette, N.J. 07848
973-383-4461

Manna House
Newton Presbyterian Church
54 High Street, Newton, N.J. 07860
973-579-6517
Open meal/Free Mon. Thru Fri. 11:30am – 12:30pm

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
203 Newton Swartswood Rd
Swartswood, N.J. 07877
973-383-3566
Mon. – Fri. 9am – 2pm Call for Appt.

Pantry Church of The Good Shepherd
200 Route 23
Wantage, N.J. 07461

Partnership for Social Services
Franklin, N.J.
973-827-4702

Salvation Army Food Pantry
Franklin Senior Center
Mon thru Friday 8:30am – 1:00pm
Call Ahead
973-827-2973 or 973 383-6020

Samaritan Inn

Franklin, N.J.
973-827-8911

**Sparta Ecumenical Council Food Pantry
Sparta Presbyterian Church**

32 Main Street
Sparta, N.J.
Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00am to 12:00pm
973-729-6197

Stanhope Methodist Church

2 State Route 103
Netcong, N.J. 07857
973-347-0247
Mon. thru Fri. 9am – 12 noon Call for Appt.

Stanhope Presbyterian Church

100 Main Street
Stanhope, N.J. 07874
973-347-5142
Mon. thru Fri. 9am – 12 noon Call for Appt.

Stockholm United Methodist Church

27 Route 515
Stockholm, N.J. 07460
973-697-6202 call for Appt.

Sussex Help Center

28 Main Street
Sussex, N.J. 07461
973-702-1922
Tues. 6:30 – 7:30pm, Wed. 9 -11am, Fri. 4-5pm Sat. 9 – 10am

St Thomas Episcopal Church

307 State Route 94
Vernon, N.J. 07462
973-764-7506
Friday 10am - noon

Vernon United Methodist Church

303 State Route 94
Vernon, N.J. 07462
973-764-3188
Friday 10am – noon call for Appt.

Women Infant Children Program (WIC)

973-579-5155

Pregnant nursing and postpartum women who have children up to the age of 5 who are income eligible can receive nutritious food for themselves and their children including formula. WIC can also assist with health care referrals and immunization information and support for the mothers.

IN NEED OF CLOTHING

Beehive Thrift Shop

Newton, N.J.
973-383-1228

Harvest Home Clothing Company

Ogdensburg Site 973-827-5138
Wantage Site 973-702-8530

Partnership for Social Services

Franklin, N.J.
973-827-4702

Church Mouse Thrift Store

United Methodist Church
Sparta, N.J.
973-729-9121

CALL 211 FOR FURTHER OPTIONS

D: Transportation

Sussex County Transit
973-579-0480 press 1

Medicaid recipients may obtain a list of approved Medicaid transportation providers from the Sussex County Division of Social Services.

Medicaid recipients may be eligible for the “Dollar-A-Day Car Insurance Program”. If you intend to drive places, remember that you **must** have a valid driver’s license and valid auto insurance for any vehicle that you are driving. New Jersey now has a “Dollar-A-Day Car Insurance Program” for low-income individuals who receive Medicaid and want to insure a car registered in their name. It costs **\$360.00** per year if you pay all at once and **\$365.00** if you pay in installments. You cannot get this insurance if your license or registration is revoked or suspended. Other restrictions may apply. For more information contact: 800-652-2471;
<http://www.state.nj.us/dobi/dollaradayqna.htm>.

Transportation for the Disabled

New Jersey Transits Access Link
1-800-955-2321

Please call between 8:30-5:00 Monday-Friday

This service is made available to those citizens that are specifically prevented from using the bus system due to their

disability.

E. Money

Once you are released from custody, you will need a source of income until you can find a job. (see section on “Finding a Job” for job seeking information). **The KDCF does not provide any “gate money,” except for the money you may have in your inmate account. If it is possible to save any money before you are released, you should try to do so.**

Based on need, You may be eligible to get some sort of public assistance (welfare), not everyone qualifies for this. Listed below are some basics on seeking and applying for benefits.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE (WFNJ-GA) AND TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY

FAMILIES (WFNJ-TANF) provide cash benefits, GA for single people and TANF for people who have custody of their children. Both programs will require you to work or actively look for work and both have a five-year lifetime limit. Work First New Jersey also has an Emergency Assistance program that you may qualify for if you are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless: it can pay for things like food, clothing and transportation costs to look for housing, but also utility payments and temporary rental or mortgage payment assistance. Depending on the county you are returning to, you may be able to meet with the social worker at your institution and complete a WFNJ-GA application prior to release. You can contact your social worker for more information.

WFNJ-GA AND WFNJ-TANF

Application sites in Sussex County:

Sussex County Division of Social Services
83 Spring Street
Newton N.J. 07860
973-383-3600

FYI: Please call the local office to verify what the eligibility requirements are for obtaining General Assistance

FOOD STAMPS

You may apply for food stamps while applying for GA/TANF.

If you were convicted after August 22, 1996 of a drug distribution or sales offense, you may still be able to get Food Stamps if you have completed or are enrolled in a licensed drug treatment program, or completed a program in prison and are drug free (**you will be tested**). Same goes for possession

offenses. Please contact the welfare office in Sussex County to inquire.

People Help

Clients have to be referred by an agency in order to access these funds.

People help will assist clients financially with limited funds for an emergency need once in a 12 month period. The funds are mailed directly to the vendor or service. Such needs include utility bill, heating, medical equipment, food, transportation, car repair, propane, ect.

973-729-1745 (leave your name contact information & who referred you and a volunteer from this agency will call you back).

Salvation Army

908-851-9300

F: Veterans Benefits: If you were receiving veteran's benefits, either for disability or a pension, and you were incarcerated for more than 60 days, you will have to get reinstated after you are released. If you were not receiving benefits and you are a veteran, you may be eligible for benefits or for other programs and services, including health care. You can contact the social worker in your institution located in the social services department for assistance. You can also contact the Veteran's Administration for questions about benefits at 800-827-1000; the health benefit number is 877-222-VETS. The 24 hour veteran's mental health hotline is **1-866-VETS-NJ4U**.

The VA Benefit Administration is located at
20 Washington Pl., 3rd Floor Newark
973-645-1441 (regional office).

The Veterans Services Officer for Sussex/ Morris County

Bill Robinson

973-827-4020 or 973-366-0245

Visit this local VA office to reinstate benefits or apply for new programs and services.

The following are some websites that can assist you in looking for information about veteran services:

Federal Veterans Information:

www.va.gov

Info for NJ Veterans:

www.vetsinfo.com

New Jersey Dept of Veterans Affairs: www.state.nj.us/military

New Jersey Veterans Guide:

www.state.nj.us/military/veterans/njguide

VA Home Loans:

www.homeloans.va.gov

Veterans Counseling Service Center:

www.va.gov/rcs/newjersey/html

Be aware that the VA takes considerable time to make decisions. On average, it can take 273 days to process a

new application for benefits.

OTHER BENEFIT PROGRAMS: You may be eligible for other cash benefits, including Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits (if you are seriously disabled and cannot work) call 1-800-772-1213 and the Women's, Infants, Children (WIC) program, which gives food vouchers to low income parents. You can inquire about WIC at the city and county welfare offices.

Taking Care of Yourself: Getting Support

The transition from prison back to society may take some time to get adjusted and we want to provide you with options to lessen the burden. Taking care of your mind and body will be important for your success. Below are a few places that may be of assistance.

Health Care Resources

It is very important that you pay close attention to your health after you are released from custody. Change in your daily routine can cause a certain level of stress. Stress along with any medical condition may worsen if routine monitoring and treatment are not available. Therefore the resources listed below provide information on paying for health care, clinic visits and other resources in Sussex County.

A. Health Care Benefits: Am I eligible?

In New Jersey, the **Medicaid** program provides health care benefits for some low-income people. If you gain custody of children under 18 when you are released, you may qualify if you are; *single, head of house and unemployed, or existing earnings are not enough to support the household* Other eligibility requirements include low-income status, over age 65, blindness, or inability to work due to a disability.

If you are disabled and are applying for SSI, you will also be screened for Medicaid at that time. If you qualify for General Assistance benefits, you will get some very basic health care benefits through Medicaid (Plan G). **Medicaid is a separate program from GA or TANF, so you don't have to be eligible for those benefits to qualify for Medicaid.**

For questions about New Jersey Medicaid, call 1-800-356-1561 or contact Sussex County division of Social Services (973) 383-3600

If you are a veteran, you may be eligible for health care benefits through the **Veteran's Administration**, which provides a "Medical Benefits Package" for enrolled veterans. You may call 877-222-VETS for more information about eligibility and applying for benefits.

Easter Seals New Jersey provides information, referrals and loans of medical equipment (including

wheelchairs) to people in need. For information call the number provided for the State of New Jersey 732-257-6662.

B. General HealthCare Providers

Even if you do not have Medicaid or other health insurance and benefits, Sussex County has clinics that provide Primary health care at low cost, sliding scale or free service. They are listed below. Most hospitals have charity care, for which you can inquire about during a hospital emergency room visit.

Newton Health Clinic

Medical and Dental
67 High Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
PH # 973-400-8432
Fax# 973-579-2021

Neighborhood Health Center

Medical, Dental, Primary health care and substance abuse
238 Spring Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
973-383-7001

Zufall Health

Medical, Dental, Primary Health
238 Spring Street Suite A
Newton, N.J. 07860
973-862-6650

NJ Prescription Assistance Program

1-888-793-6765

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

1-888-477-2669

Sussex County Division of Social Services

973-383-3600

Sussex County Division of Senior Services(PAAD)

973-579-0555

S.C. Prescriptions Savings Program

1-800-633-0037

Together RX Access

1-800-444-4106

United Way of Northern NJ (discount Prescription cards)

973-579-3040

F. MENTAL HEALTH /SUBSTANCE ABUSE RESOURCES

FYI: Drug addiction can be fatal to your health, not to mention illegal and can result in jail time. In order to be successful in society seeking services for a drug or alcohol addiction will be necessary. Many of the health clinics, support centers and other resources listed in this guide can help refer you to treatment that most fit your needs. Listed below are some of Sussex County's treatment resources and each of these will also help with referrals if they can not help you. If you want treatment, you should also ask your parole officer for help — beds in treatment facilities are hard to come by, and they can help get you in. There are Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) support group meetings all over Sussex County. To find a meeting near you, call 866-920-1212 (for AA) or 800-992-0401 (for NA).

FYI: Each county has a mental health administrator. When you call this person they will provide you with the names and phone numbers closest to your area to provide services that fit your needs.

The Mental Health Administrator Office for Sussex County:
(973) 940-5200 ext. 1381

Center for Mental Health

973-383-1533

24 Hour EMERGENCY 973-383-0973

Project Self Sufficiency (family Success Center, ect.)

973-940-3500

Center for Prevention and Counseling

973-383-4787

Mon. – Fri. 7:00am to 7:00pm Sat. by Appt.

N.A.M.I. Sussex

973-214-0632

Partnership for Social Services

973-827-4702

Saint Clare's Intensive Family Support Services

973-702-2741

PerformCare (children and adolescents)

1-877-652-7624

Substance Abuse

Center for Prevention and Counseling

Provides alcohol and drug evaluations, counseling (including adult intensive out patient treatment) life skills counseling, anger management services, early intervention counseling, treatment referral, intervention, information and prevention programs to adolescents, adults and families. Offers up to date free listing about 12 step meetings in the county. Services available Mon. – Fri. 7:00am to 9:00pm Sat. By Appt.
973-383-4787 www.centerforprevention.org

Sunrise House

Has funding from the County of Sussex to assist indigent clients of Sussex County for inpatient, detoxification and outpatient counseling treatment.
973-383-6300

Freedom House

Operates both a men's and woman's half way house program(women have to have children, although they do not have to be with them currently to apply for the program.
908-537-6043

Newton Medical Center

Provides outpatient substance abuse counseling, and group counseling.
973-579-8675

Saint Clare's

Provides detoxification and residential substance abuse treatment.
973-316-1896

Capitol Care

Provides treatment for substance abuse and also for mental health.
973-426-1440

Partnership for Social Services

Provides counseling for substance abuse issues
973-827-4702

H. Free/Low Cost Eyeglasses and Eye care

New Eyes for the Needy

549 Millburn Avenue Short Hills NJ 07078
973-376-4903
Fax: 973-376-3807
Monday-Thursday 9-4 Friday 9-12

American Council of the Blind of New Jersey

21 Island Drive
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

National Federation of the Blind of New Jersey

69 Prospect Place
Belleville, NJ 07109
(973) 450-3030

USEYEPLAN.COM is a Discount Preferred Provider

Network (DPPN). Unlike vision insurance our plan has no waiting periods, no limitations or exclusions, no annual/lifetime maximums, and no claim forms. Simply visit a

USVISIONPLAN.COM Provider, show your member card, and pay the adjusted bill.

Finding a Job:

Employment Assistance and Training Programs

Getting a job is usually one of the most important necessities when released from jail. Not everyone can obtain employment immediately, sometimes things like getting drug treatment, dealing with your housing, health or family situation may come first. For most people, though, finding work is the first step to getting back on your feet. It will be very challenging to get a job once you have been in prison, but it is not impossible, and you need to be persistent and patient. Below are some pointers on job searching, and information about resources that can help you find a job or get training for the job you want.

A. Things to Know Before You Start Your Job Search

Be Prepared: It is essential that you are organized, and have all records of previous employment available when beginning a job search. A resume is the smartest thing you can create. If you are unsure of how to do so, you may go to your local Employment Office and seek assistance. Not only will employers want to know your work history, they will inquire of accurate dates that you were employed with the company. Knowing this information is vital to ensuring employment. Employers will not be interested in hearing that you do not remember dates or addresses for your work history. If an employer decides to hire you he will also need your identification so make sure that is readily available.

Presentation: Look as neat, clean and organized as possible, no matter what the job is. Be polite and respectful, even when people are not polite and respectful to you, and many won't be. Making the person you want to help you or hire you mad won't get you the job you want.

Talking About Your Criminal Record:

Never omit or falsify a document that asks you specifically if you have a criminal record. The application may ask you to give details to the nature of your crime and it may not. Chances are a criminal background check will be administered prior to employment and lying will cost you the job.

IT'S A JOB FOR RIGHT NOW,

IT'S NOT THE REST OF YOUR LIFE

When you are first starting out, especially if you've been out of the job market for a while, or have never had a job, you need to build a work history, and, of course, you need to make some money. Take whatever job you can get for now — it doesn't have to be the exact job you want, or what you eventually want to be doing. Do this job well —even if it's not a great job — and it can help you get a better one in the future. **One year of good job performance will make your criminal record matter less.**

B. Help with Job Search and Job Training: Resources

The following are good places to start in looking for a job

Sussex County One Stops

Workforce Learning Links

Location:

7 Hampton House Road
Sussex County Mall Route 206
Newton, N.J. 07860

C. Legal Restrictions on Employment and Protections Against Discrimination

If you are interested in getting a job and building a career in a particular area, you should make sure that it isn't one that is forbidden to someone with the kind of criminal conviction that you have on your record. There are about 22 categories of jobs in New Jersey that exclude people with convictions (which conviction it varies by job). These include: aircraft/airport employees; paid public school employees, school bus drivers and school crossing guards; bank employees; bartenders and waiters in establishments where liquor is served; housing authority and municipal police and parking enforcement officers; New Jersey Turnpike Authority employees; liquor retail, wholesale, manufacturing or distributing employees; paid firefighters; child care center employees; community residences for individuals with developmental disabilities. A much larger number of jobs require that you disclose your

criminal record, and that employers perform background checks; some of these, however, also require that employers consider evidence of rehabilitation. These include most jobs in the health care and counseling fields (including drug and alcohol counseling) and social workers.

FYI: If you are going to begin training in a particular field, make sure you find out from the training course whether there are any restrictions that will keep you from getting a job.

Protections for Licensed Occupations: If you are not

absolutely barred from a position because of your conviction, New Jersey law says that you cannot be denied a professional license simply because of your conviction unless the crime for which you were convicted relates to the occupation you want to enter. If the licensing board or agency wants to deny you a license because the crime is related to the occupation, they have to explain, in writing, that they have considered certain factors like the seriousness of the crime, the circumstances of the crime, the date and your age when convicted, whether the crime was an isolated or repeated event, social conditions, and evidence of rehabilitation. You can ask your parole officer about applying for a “certificate of rehabilitation,” which can be used in your license application.

D. Benefits for Employers Who Hire People With Criminal Records

As you look for a job you can tell employers that the federal government has programs to support employers who hire people coming out of prison.

FYI: Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC): With the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, your employer may be able to save up to \$4800 the first year you are hired. Make sure to inform your potential employer of this benefit.

For questions regarding WOTC, please call 609-292-5525 or 1-800-792-8881

Federal Bonding Program: Provides bonding “or insurance coverage” for employers who hire individuals with criminal histories who are otherwise qualified but cannot gain employment due to their criminal backgrounds. Please contact your local one stop for more information.

7 Hampton House Road
Sussex County Mall Route 206
Newton N.J. 07860
973-383-2775 Monday thru Friday 8:30am -4:30pm

E. Opening a Checking or Savings Account

After you’ve gotten a source of income, you may want to open a checking or savings account. A checking account is a great idea because many jobs provide direct deposit, and your check is automatically deposited into your account on payday. Using checks to pay for your bills is also cheaper than using money orders. To open a checking account you usually need a picture I.D. (driver’s license or non-driver state I.D.), proof of

address, birth certificate, and a social security card. You can also request a debit card with your account, which you can use just like a credit card (as long as you have the money in your account already). You can get a debit card for either a checking account, or a savings account, but with a savings account you can earn interest on the money you've saved. Fees for these accounts will vary depending on the type of account and bank. Many banks now offer free checking.

F. Public Libraries

Your local public library can be a good resource for your job search. Public computers provide internet access (and help using the computer), job and course listings, and other local directories. Libraries also often carry the government forms mentioned in this guide, and librarians can help you find other information that you need.

LIBRARIES

Main Public Library

125 Morris Turnpike
Newton, N.J. 07860
Phone: (973) 948-3660
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:30am a.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Thursday, Friday, 8:30am. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm

Dennis Branch

101 Main Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
Phone: 973-383-4810
Monday noon - 8:00pm
Tuesday – Friday 9:00am 5:00pm
Saturday Closed

Franklin Branch

103 Main Street
Franklin, N.J. 07416
Phone: 973-827-6555
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday noon – 8:00pm
Saturday Closed

Louise Childs Branch

21 Sparta Road
Stanhope, N.J. 07874
Phone: 973-770-1000
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday noon – 8:00pm
Saturday – 9:00am – 1:00pm

Sussex Wantage Branch

69 Route 639

Wantage, N.J. 07461

Phone: 973-875-3940

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm

Thursday noon – 8:00pm

Saturday – 9:00am – 5:00pm

Reconnecting with Family

As you prepare to come home, you may be thinking about reuniting with family members, including those you may not have seen for a long time. You may be excited to see your Kids, your spouse, your parents, and others who are part of Your family, and while most will be glad to see you home, others may be reluctant. All kinds of issues can come up, and you may need some help solving some of the problems that arise. This section provides some information and resources to help solve these issues.

Hotlines For Family Services Resources**NJ Child Abuse/ Neglect Hotline:**

1(877)NJABUSE (652-2873)

Child Care Hotline:

1(800) 332-9227

NJ Child Support Hotline:

1 (877) NJKIDS- 1 (655-4371)

Division of Family Development:

1(800) 792-9773

NJ Division of Youth and Family Services:

1 (800) 331-DYFS (3937)

Family Health Line:

1 (800) 328-3838

Family Help Line (for stressed parents):

1 (800) THE KIDS (843-2537)

National Domestic Violence Hotline:

1(800) 799-7233

NJ Domestic Violence Hotline:

1(800) 572-7223

Parents Anonymous:

1(800) 843-5437

A. Family Counseling Resources

Sussex County Division of Social Services

83 Spring Street
Newton, N.J. 07860
973-383-3600

Saint Clare's Health Services

Intensive Family Support Services
191 Woodport Road, Suite 202
Sparta, N.J. 07871

Family Partners of Morris & Sussex Counties

Warm Line telephone support for family members and caregivers information and referrals.
www.familypartnersms.org
973-940-3194

Behavioral Healthcare, LLC

18 Church St., 2nd Floor, Newton, NJ 07860
973-940-0116
Individual and group psychotherapy for children, families and adults suffering with mental illness and/ or substance abuse.

Bridgeway Rehabilitation Services

93 Stickles Pond Road, Newton, NJ 07860
973-383-8670
The Community Support Team provides wellness and recovery services including Partial Care, Supported Employment, Supportive Housing, Integrated Case Management and Homeless Outreach to persons with serious psychiatric illnesses. Coordinated services provide linkage, referral, skill building, illness management, support and advocacy.

Partnership for Social Services

48 Wyker Road, Franklin, NJ 07416
973-827-4702
Individual counseling for children, adolescents and adults. Couples therapy, family therapy, group therapy for adults and young adults, in-home therapy for elderly and families.

Capitol Care www.capitol-care.org

185 Route 183, Stanhope, NJ 07874
973-426-1440 (main) / 426-1447 (intake)
Services to adults with psychiatric, substance abuse and developmental disabilities, including

individual supportive counseling, addictions group therapy, creative arts group therapy, psycho-educational groups, recreation activities, case management, symptom identification and management, wellness and recovery groups.

Newton Medical Center for Mental Health

175 High Street, Newton, N.J. 07860

973-383-1533 www.nmhnj.org

Psychotherapy, substance abuse counseling, and psychiatric evaluation and support for children, adults, families and seniors.

Acute Partial Hospitalization/Intensive Outpatient Program 973-579-8681

Offering group therapy, medication evaluation and education, skills building groups, individual and family therapy, case management and co-occurring groups.

First Step Program

888-247-1400

Intensive outpatient integrated treatment for adults with co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders. Services include group and individual counseling, family counseling, medication management and drug testing.

Center for Prevention and Counseling

61 Spring Street, 3rd Floor, Newton, NJ 07860

973-383-4787

www.centerforprevention.org

Offers a range of services for those with substance abuse and co-occurring disorders as well as family members. Individual and group treatment based on client needs.

Programs include early intervention, outpatient, and intensive outpatient. Provides services to adolescents and adults.

Interventions tailored to meet clients where they are, ensuring success in achieving lasting change.

Project Self Sufficiency

127 Mill Street, Newton, NJ 07860

973-940-3500

www.projectsellsufficiency.org

Behavioral health, career counseling, crisis intervention, divorce dissolution, employment services, grief/loss, group therapy, parenting issues, relationship issues, stress

management , tutoring, volunteer program to women, men, families and single parents.

Sunrise House

PO Box 600 Lafayette, NJ 07848

973-383-6300

or 800-LET-LIVE

www.sunrisehouse.com

Medical detoxification, adult rehabilitation, Mother and Me residential treatment, outpatient substance abuse services, family program and halfway houses for women and men.

NewBridge Services, Inc. *www.newbridge.org*

Knoll Place, Suite 104, 70 Sparta Ave., Sparta, NJ 07871

973-316-9333

services@newbridge.org

Provides outpatient psychiatric and counseling services to children, adolescents and adults

B. Child Custody and Visitation

Establishing visitation and gaining custody of your children once you are released is not an overnight procedure. If you had custody of your kids at the time you were incarcerated, and no family was able to take care of them, they may have been placed in foster care. If this is the case, and you do not know your child's case manager's name or number, contact the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), at 800-531-1091. You will have to make an appointment with the case manager for an interview. They may not be willing to give you information over the phone. You'll be asked a series of questions in order to assess when and if you will be given visitation rights, so that you may reestablish your relationship with the child and hopefully gain custody again. This is just a quick overview of what to do and what you can expect.

***FYI:** If you were convicted of any violent or sexual offenses against children, you may be unable to live with or regain custody of your children.*

Listed below is the office for DYFS in your area. Please contact the office that applies to your location.

Sussex County Location - #466

20 East Clinton Street

Newton, NJ 07860

973-383-8400

800-392-2654

Fax: 973-579-3213

Manager - Melissa Latronica

C. Getting and Paying Child Support

Whether you have custody of your children on your own when you get out, and need help from an absent “non-custodial” parent, or you do not have custody of kids who need your support, child support payments will be an important part of your life after you are released. Some basic information is included below, as far as enforcing a child support order.

Child support, custody and visitation issues are very complicated, and if you can get a lawyer, you should. Contact the Legal Services of New Jersey hotline, from 9:00 am - 4:30 pm, at 888-576-5529, From jail, you can contact the Prisoner’s Self Help Legal Clinic, P.O. Box 768 Newark, NJ 07101.

Getting and Enforcing a Child Support Order

If you have custody of your children, and want financial support from the non-custodial parent, you can apply for child support

Sussex County Family Intake Unit
Sussex County Judicial Complex
43-47 High Street
Newton, N.J. 07860

Paying Child Support

If you have kids that you did not have custody of before you went to jail, there may be a child support order requiring you to pay a certain amount every month for their support. Even if you did not go to court — if, for example, the parent with custody filed for the order while you were incarcerated — the court can still order you to pay child support. The amount you pay in child support is tied to your income, and if the court does not know your income, they will assume you are working 40 hours a week at minimum wage. Child support payments are usually taken out of your paycheck. If you have not paid at all or missed payments, you will owe “arrear.” Unless you got a modification of your child support order when you went into prison (see below), the amount of arrears that you owe will have continued to grow while you were inside. When you come out, and get a job, they can begin to take out not just the monthly amount you owe for child support, but more money to pay back the arrears (up to 65% of your pay in total). They may also suspend your driver’s license.

D. Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Resources

The following places provide counseling, support and shelter

or referrals to shelter in domestic violence situations. You can also call these 24 hour hotlines:

DASI: Domestic Abuse & Sexual Assault Intervention Services.

105 Main Street

Newton, N.J. 07860

24- hour help line Collect Calls Accepted 973-875-1211

Provides emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault who are not safe in their own homes.

**New Jersey Coalition for Battered Women:
(800)-572-SAFE.**

**Domestic Abuse Hotline for Men and Women:
(888) 7HELPLINE (1-888-743-5754)**

Getting More Education

Although getting more education may not be part of your short term plans, it certainly should be something to think about for the future, especially if you do not have a high school diploma or a GED.

**A. High School Diploma/GED
Certificate/High School Equivalency
Degree (HSED)/Vocational School
Certificates**

It is very important to keep records of any degrees and certificates of completion and work-related licenses that have earned. Before you are released, you can write to the school or agency where you earned your degree or certificate to obtain a copy. Once you have a copy in your possession, this should be kept in your strong box.

FYI: If you earned your GED while incarcerated please call the Education Department of the institution you were in to obtain a copy.

You can also request your GED transcript or diploma verification from the New Jersey Department of Education completed your diploma in a traditional setting.

providing you

You will have to fill out a GED Information Request Form. Please call 609-777-1050 for further assistance.

You may ask that it be sent to you; or you may pick up the form at a local testing center (which you can do after you are released); by downloading the form from the website <http://www.state.nj.us/njded/students/ged/ged7.htm>; or by writing to: GED Testing Program, Bureau of Adult Education and Family Literacy, New Jersey Department of Education, PO Box 500, Trenton, NJ 08625.

Your chances of getting a job that pays a living wage, and of moving forward in a career will improve with more education, and not having the high school diploma or GED will simply

lock you out from a lot of opportunities.

B. GED Classes

The places in Sussex County below offer classes to help you prepare for the GED exam. Call for exact times and procedures. Many locations offer classes at low cost or no cost. For more information, contact the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Workforce Readiness & Literacy at (609) 943-5921. Call individual programs for information on classes offered, fees and/or time schedules.

GED Testing Center

Sussex County Community College

One College Hill Rd.
Newton, N.J. 07860
973-300-2109

Literacy Volunteers of Sussex County

PO Box 453
Newton, N.J. 07860
973-300-9444

Sussex County Technical School

105 North Church Road
Sparta, N.J. 07871
973-383-6700 ext. 286

Can I Get Financial Aid?

To pay for this, you will probably try to get some financial aid. If you are applying for any federal financial aid programs after release (such as Pell Grants, Perkins Loans, Federal Family Education Loans, etc.), you are not restricted unless you have a drug-related offense. For possession offenses, a first offense means one year of ineligibility (after your conviction), a second offense, two years, and third offense means you are “indefinitely” ineligible, which to the government means permanently ineligible. For a sales or distribution crime, a first offense has two years of ineligibility, a second offense makes it permanent. Private financial aid or loan programs may not have any restrictions.

Other Things You Need to Know

A. Getting Legal Assistance

To get assistance with civil (not criminal) cases, you can contact the toll free hotline for **Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ)**, which provides information and referrals, **888-576-5529**. For local Sussex County legal services please contact the

office located nearest to you.

Sussex County Legal Services

18 Church St. #200
Newton, N.J. 07860
(973) 383-7400

B. Checking and Correcting Your Criminal Record (“rap sheet”)

Since employers, landlords and others will be performing criminal background checks and getting copies of your criminal record, it is important that you know what is on it, and that it is accurate. You should also be prepared to answer any questions about your background.

FYI: Background checks are now only done electronically.

You may contact State Police Headquarters to inquire how to correct your criminal record. The address is listed below.

State Section of Identification
Records and Identification Bureau
New Jersey State Police
P.O. Box 7068
West Trenton, NJ 08628
1-609-882-2000 ext 6425
1-609-530-4856 fax

C. Expungement: Cleaning Up Your Criminal Record

You may have heard about expungement as one way to clean up your criminal record as you get some distance from your old arrests and convictions. Unfortunately, expungement is fairly limited in New Jersey. You can expunge any arrest that did not lead to a conviction at any point. You can expunge “disorderly persons offenses,” which are low level offenses in New Jersey, after 5 years, and most municipal ordinance offenses after 2 years. Convictions for “indictable offenses” (felonies), can be expunged 10 years from the date of conviction, payment of any fine, satisfactory completion of probation or parole or release from incarceration, but whichever is latest. The most serious of these offenses, such as murder, kidnapping, aggravated sexual assault, robbery, arson, perjury and distribution, sale or possession with intent to distribute of controlled dangerous substances (drugs), **can never be expunged**. Expungement is a broader remedy for offenses committed as a juvenile. Legal Services of New Jersey has published a guide to cleaning up your record through expungement.

To obtain a copy of the book, call 888-576-5529, or go to the LSNJ website, where you can download it for free:

<http://www.lsnj.org/english/crime/municipalcourt/clearingyou>

[rrecord.cfm](#).

D. Checking and Correcting Your Credit Record

While New Jersey allows employers to look at your criminal record, many employers — and others like landlords and mortgage companies — will use a credit report instead of or in addition to the state's records. Credit records are maintained by private companies and generally have information about your debts, your history of paying bills and other financial matters, but may also have information about your criminal record. The information may not be correct, and the law does offer you some protections. For example, if an employer uses a credit record to deny you a job, they have to tell you this, and give you the name, address and phone number of the agency that provided the report, and the agency must give you a copy of that information on your request. They cannot charge you money for that request if the employer used the report to deny you a job. If the records of the credit agency contain incorrect information, they must investigate and correct inaccurate information.

You can get ahead of the curve by getting a copy of your credit record and making sure there isn't any incorrect information on it. New Jersey residents are allowed one free credit report each year. Three companies that provide this service are:

Equifax Information Systems, LLC.:

Write to them at P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA, 30374, or call 800-685-1111. By mail, be sure to include your full name, current address, Social Security number, and most recent former address for file-matching purposes.

Transunion Personal Credit Report:

PO Box 1000, Chester PA 19022
Call 800-888-4213.

Experian:

PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013
Call 800-397-3742.

E. Voting Rights

New Jersey law does not allow you to vote while you are in jail, or while you are on probation or parole for an indictable offense (disorderly persons offenses don't disqualify you). **Once you have completed your parole or probation term, you may register to vote.** Make sure that you are registered in the county in which you reside.

Applications for registration can be obtained from Social Services prior to release. Also you may apply with the

Division of Elections, the Commissioners of Registration office in the County where you live or from your Municipal Clerk once you are released. Registration forms are also available in various State agencies and at Division of Motor Vehicle offices and can be obtained while transacting agency business. If you are not sure, you can visit http://www.state.nj.us/lps/elections/vote_doe.html. You will be able to download a voter's registration form and mail it in. This site also explains who can register to vote and where you can register.

F. Registration of Sexual Offenders (Megan's Law)

Sex offenders are required to register with the police under Megan's Law. Offenses include: aggravated sexual assault; sexual assault; aggravated criminal sexual contact; endangering the welfare of a child by engaging in sexual conduct which would impair or debauch the morals of the child; luring or enticing and, if the victim were a minor and the offender not a parent, kidnapping; criminal restraint and false imprisonment and promoting prostitution of a child under 18. **You will be registered prior to release, but must re-register your home address at least 10 days prior to any move with the law enforcement agency with which you were registered when released.** You will also need to verify your address annually or every 90 days if you are a repetitive and compulsive offender.

The Plan

Your first weeks out after leaving jail can be overwhelming. This section is set up to help you get organized and keep yourself on track towards your goals. First, think about what those goals are — what do you want or need to get done in your first week out? In your first month out? Where do you want to be in six months? There are lots of things that other people need you to do — your parole officer, for example, and your family — but you also need to think about what you expect from yourself.

Places to stay

**Appointments to make? Doctors? Job help?
Employers? Applying for Benefits?**

People I need to see or call:

Who? _____
Who? _____
Who? _____

NOTES:

I.D. Checklist

Documents Have? Need?

- Strong Box _____
- Social Security Card _____
- Birth Certificate _____
- County I.D. _____
- Driver's License _____
- Non-driver's I.D. _____
- Certificate of Naturalization _____
- Green Card _____
- Military Discharge Papers _____
- Passport _____
- High School Diploma
Or GED Certificate _____
- Prison Release Papers _____

Notes: _____

My Contacts:

Important Names and Phone Numbers

Parole Officer: _____

Parole Number: _____

Parole Office: _____

Address: _____