

Get a copy of criminal record

When requesting a copy of your criminal history, it is important to know that there are both official and unofficial versions. The official state and national reports are provided by state and federal bureaus of investigation, and the unofficial reports are provided by private background check companies. Most of the information in this guide covers how to understand and deal with your official criminal history report.

1. **State of Georgia:**

In Georgia, official criminal history information is kept and distributed by the Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) the state agency that keeps criminal history record information. GCIC is a division of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI). You can get a copy of your official GCIC criminal history record from most law enforcement agencies for a fee.

2. **National:**

The official national criminal history is kept and distributed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through the Interstate Identification Index (III). Georgia criminal records information is pulled from GCIC's database. This national report, known as the "III Report" is only available to the individual and to a specific list of employers and agencies. For a list of Georgia statuses that grant access to the III Report, please go to:

<http://gciweb.gbi.state.ga.us/document/public-law-92-544-authorizing-statuses>.

3. **Unofficial Sources:**

Many private companies provide background checks for a fee. The information these companies have on file may differ from the information contained in your official criminal history report.

These companies operate websites that allow you to request a copy of your unofficial criminal history.

- See more at: <http://www.gjp.org/programs/criminal-records>