

# CERTIFICATE OF REHABILITATION and PARDON RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

The granting of a certificate of rehabilitation (CR) or a pardon restores to the applicant some of the rights of citizenship which were forfeited as a result of a felony conviction.

## CERTIFICATE OF REHABILITATION

### **DOES:**

- Relieve specified sex offenders of further duty to register.  
(Pen. Code § 290.5, as amended 7-8-96)
- Enhance an ex-felon's potential for becoming licensed by state boards.  
(Pen. Code § 4853.)
- Serve as an official document to demonstrate an ex-felon's rehabilitation, which could enhance employment possibilities.
- Serve as an automatic application for a pardon.

### **DOES NOT:**

- Erase the felony conviction or seal the criminal record.  
(Pen. Code § 4852.17)
- Prevent the offense from being considered as a prior conviction if the person is later convicted of a new offense.
- Allow an ex-felon to answer on employment applications that he/she has no record of conviction.
- Give an ex-felon the right to vote -- this right is automatically restored after termination from probation or discharge from parole.

## GOVERNOR'S PARDON

### **DOES:**

- Allow an ex-felon to serve on a trial jury.  
(Code Civ. Proc. § 203, subd.(a)(5))
- Allow restoration of firearm right, with federal approval, to specified offenders **if** granted a full and unconditional pardon, **unless** the conviction was for a felony involving the use of a dangerous weapon.  
(Pen. Code § 4854.)
- Allow an ex-felon to be considered for appointment as a county probation officer or state parole agent, but not to any other peace officer positions.  
(Gov. Code §1029)
- Allow specified sex offenders still required to register after obtaining a CR to be relieved of duty to register if granted a **full** pardon.  
(Pen. Code § 290.5, as amended 7-8-96.)

### **DOES NOT:**

- Seal or erase the record of conviction.  
(Pen. Code § 4852.17)
- Prevent the pardoned offense from being considered as a prior conviction if the person is later convicted of a new offense.
- Allow a pardoned person to answer on employment applications that he/she has no record of conviction.
- Restore ability to own a firearm to ex-felons convicted of any offense involving the use of a dangerous weapon.  
(Pen. Code § 4854)
- Pardon convictions from another state, or federal convictions.