

**THINK  
ABOUT IT  
FIRST**

A stylized line art illustration of two people in profile, facing each other as if in conversation. The person on the left is wearing a collared shirt, and the person on the right is wearing a cap and glasses. The lines are simple and dark blue against the background.

**NE**

**Strategies for Youth**

CONNECTING COPS & KIDS®

## **IF YOU'VE BEEN ARRESTED:**

- Police may have your photo on file.
- Your school may be told of your arrest, which could result in your suspension or expulsion.
- You have the right to remain silent and to an attorney before answering questions while in custody, even if you have not been arrested.
  - If you have been stopped by the police and are not free to leave after giving your name and address, you are in “custody” and have the right to remain silent and have a lawyer provided to you.

## **GETTING A RECORD COULD MEAN:**

- Losing public housing for yourself AND your family.
- Not being able to serve in the military.
- Putting your immigration status at risk.
- Not being able to own a firearm.
- Paying fines and other legal costs.
- Delaying getting or losing your driver's permit/license.
- Not working in daycare or summer camps.

## REMEMBER:

- At age 18, you go to adult court.
- A *Finding of True* means the Juvenile Court (or County Court sitting as a Juvenile Court) finds that you committed the offense.
- **Don't** say you've been "convicted" if allegations against you are "found to be true."

## GETTING YOUR RECORD SEALED:

- Under 17: if you are eligible, you (or your parent/guardian) can request that the court seal your record.
- Over 17: if you are eligible, the court will initiate record sealing proceedings.
- **You are likely eligible to have your record sealed if:**
  - the case was not filed, or was dismissed.
  - you successfully completed pre-trial diversion or mediation.
  - the case was for a misdemeanor in County Court.
  - you successfully completed probation after a misdemeanor or felony in Juvenile Court (but not if the case was transferred to adult court).

- **The forms to seal your Juvenile Record from Juvenile Court and County Court are each available at:**  
<https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/self-help/8872/motion-seal-juvenile-criminal-record>