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MIDDLESEX VICINAGE  
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**Middlesex Vicinage to Conduct Criminal Record Expungement Workshop**

New Brunswick, NJ – Attorneys from the Middlesex County Office of the Public Defender as well as the Middlesex County Bar Association will present information at an expungement workshop for people who would like to learn more about expunging a criminal conviction. Hosted by Middlesex Vicinage Ombudsman Sylvia L. O'Connor, the workshop will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 24 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Middlesex County College, 140 New Street, New Brunswick.

First Assistant Public Defender Richard Barker holds a law degree from Rutgers School of Law—Camden. He is the 2007 recipient of the Middlesex County Bar Association Criminal Trial Attorney of the Year Award. Geoffrey C. Arlen and Daniel Epstein, founding partners at Epstein Arlen LLC, practice criminal and civil law at two locations, in Hillsborough and Edison. Renee Anthony, a solo practitioner whose concentrations include civil litigation and criminal defense, also serves as the municipal public defender in Piscataway.

An arrest or conviction record often is revealed when a person applies for a job, school or military service. The purpose of New Jersey's expungement law is to give a person who has either one or very few convictions a "fresh start." The law also provides for the removal of records of arrests where the arrest did not end in a conviction.

The workshop will provide participants with information about who is eligible for expungement, which types of convictions can and cannot be expunged, how an expungement is filed, and what happens at the expungement hearing. Forms and instructions will be provided to participants who wish to file as self-represented litigants.

The workshop is free of charge and is open to all Middlesex County residents. Participants are asked to call Sylvia L. O'Connor at 732-981-3371 to reserve a seat as space is limited. Light refreshments will be served.

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