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Why It's Important

- The effect of criminal history on finding and keeping a job
- Stable employment is one of the best predictors of post-release success
- Stable employment reduces the chances of reoffending
- Promotes safer communities
- Creates productive, contributing citizens and taxpayers

Factors Associated with Re-Offending

- Stable housing
- The nature of the persons social network and associations
- The offender's attitude and decision making processes
- Substance abuse/use
- Being productively employed

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Other Common Offender Barriers

- Transportation
- Lack of resources (money, clothes, ID, etc.)
- Employment restrictions
- Poor work history
- · Lack of Skills/Education/Training
- Employer attitudes and perceptions

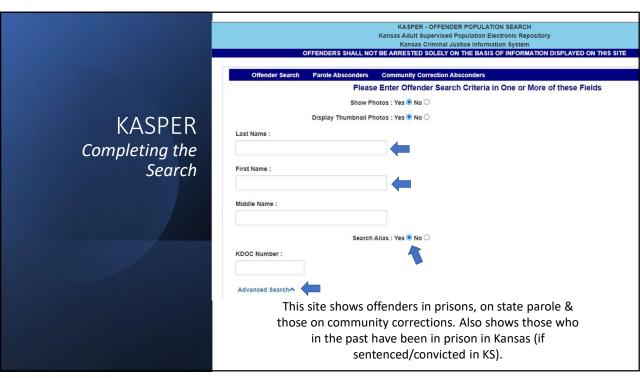
Training Agenda

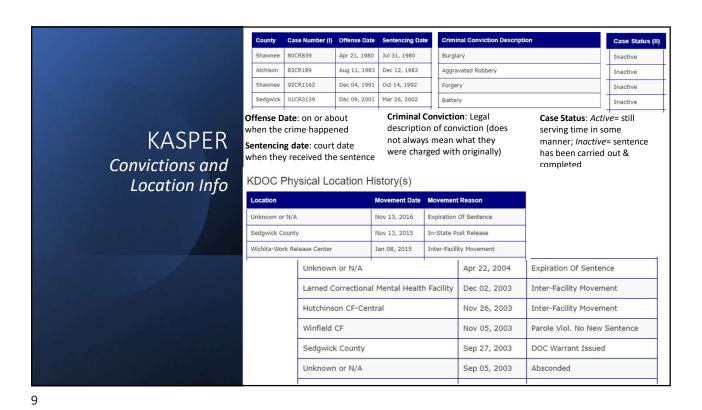
- 1. Websites and Resources
- 2. Tailoring Job Seeker Services
- 3. Interviewing
- 4. Incentive Programs
- 5. Expungement
- 6. Wrapping it up

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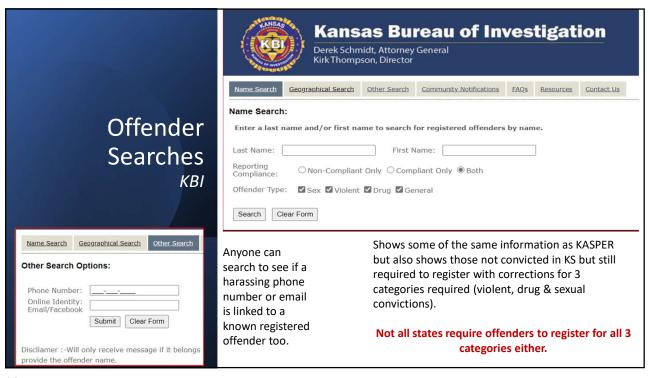


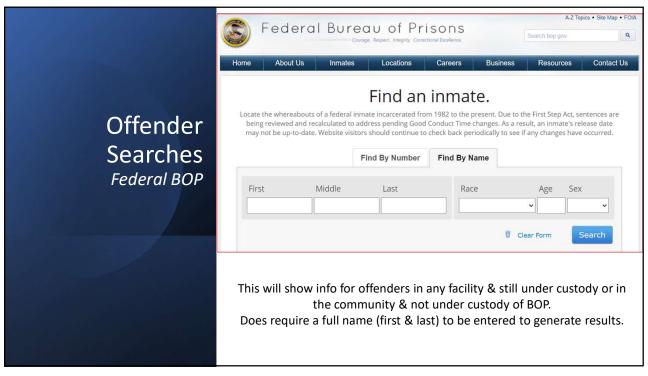
	Offender Websites	
Offender	KASPER (KS Inmate search & locater; shows comm. Corrections info too) Each state typically has their own variation as well, can usually locate by searching online	https://kdocrepository.doc.ks.gov/kasper/
Search Websites	KBI (KS Bureau of Investigation)	https://www.kbi.ks.gov/registeredoffender/Search Offender.aspx
	BOP (Bureau of Prisons for Federal offenders)	https://www.bop.gov/inmateloc
	County Bookings Sites	Most counties have a booking site indicating who i in their detention facility





Completed Programs Representation of programs or classes they **Completion Date** completed while in prison (sometimes will show programs completed on parole) May 03, 2017 Carpentry Oct 03, 2016 Dec 08, 2016 1 El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Fighting Jul 28, 2016 NCCER Core Dec 08, 2016 1 El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Disobeying Orders Intro to Cog - EDCF1 Mar 22, 2011 Oct 19, 2016 2 El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Lying **KASPER** El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Restr Area/Unauthor Presence Oct 19, 2016 3 **Disciplinary Reports** Feb 13, 2016 1 Program and Jun 09, 2015 1 Disciplinary Report Violations of rules in Jun 09, 2015 1 El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Tobacco Contraband Possession facility. General public can Jun 09, 2015 2 El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Taking W/O Permission Info May 12, 2015 2 see & don't know what El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Violation of Published Orders Sep 17, 2014 1 El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central UnAuthzd Use Inmate Telephone they really mean. Again, Jun 16, 2014 1 El Dorado Correctional Fac. - Central Disobeying Orders imaginations can take Oct 05, 2013 1 Lansing Correctional Facility - Central Theft over & be nothing like the Oct 05, 2013 1 Lansing Correctional Facility - Central Threaten or Intim Any Person actual infraction. Aug 14, 2013 1 Lansing Correctional Facility - Central Battery Aug 10, 2013 1 Lansing Correctional Facility - Central Dangerous Contraband Jul 29, 2013 1 Lansing Correctional Facility - Central Arson **EXAMPLE**: Unauthorized use of inmate phone- does NOT mean they smuggled in a phone but probably made a call when it wasn't scheduled <u>Dangerous Contraband-</u> does NOT always mean a weapon but could have been altering a piece of state issued equipment







Resumes and **Applications**

- Significant reason that Justice-Involved clients struggle to find employment
- Helps to minimize references to criminal history and associated terms
- Helps job seeker to make a better 1st impression
- Proven to increase interview opportunities
- Contributes to increased employment & reduced recidivism

Resume

Format

- Assess client's employment history to determine best option
- Functional is usually most appropriate format; emphasize skills not dates

Contact Information

- Appropriate email address & voice mail greeting. Voicemail box full or not set up.
- No physical address, i.e., homeless: Family or friend, UM Open Door)
- No phone number: Ask officer for information about free phone (Lifeline Program), use trusted friend or family number. Google Voice (free phone, text, voicemail)

***Pro Tip:** Discuss client's social media and Google results with them. Employers are checking!

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Resume

Prison Jobs are Real Jobs

- Traditional prison job: "LCF" for Lansing Correctional Facility, or "State of Kansas". Examples: Porter, Grounds Worker
- Private Industry or contractor job: Use name of company. Examples: Aramark, Heatron, Cal-Maine Foods
- Kansas Correctional Industry job: Use "KCI". Examples: Furniture Builder, Print Shop, Graphics & Signs
- If client did not work during incarceration (laidin), make sure they are prepared to explain gap in employment
- Good opportunity to be honest about serving time and discuss what happened
- Utilized time in prison to take self-improvement classes

Sample Resume

John J. Doe

Wichita, KS 67202 ~ 316-555-1234 ~ jjdoe@gmail.com

Summary of Qualifications:

Sanitation

- · Added specified amounts of chemicals to equipment at required times to maintain solution levels and concentrations for proper cleaning
- · Observed cleaning machine operations, gauges, or thermometers, and adjust controls to maintain specified conditions for proper sanitation
- · Used chemicals such as ammonia to deep disinfect all areas and prevent bacteria growth

Packaging

- Used knives, cleavers, meat saws, bandsaws or other equipment to perform meat cutting and trimming
- Weighed meats and tagged containers for weight and contents and packaged for shipment
- . Inspected meat products for defects, bruises or blemishes and removed them along with any excess fat

Team Assembler

- Performed quality checks on products and parts for packaging
 Reviewed work orders and blueprints to ensure work is performed according to specifications
- Rotated through all the tasks required in the balloon production process

Work Experience:

Packaging/Maintenance - Red Barn - Great Bend, KS - 9/2020-6/2021

- Packaging, maintenance, machinery and cleaning to disinfect areas from bacteria build up
- Build-up of floor vacs and use of floor jacks, etc.

Team Assembler/Packaging - Pioneer Balloon - Winfield, KS - 4/2018-8/2019

- Product packaging with accuracy as well and shipping
- Stocked pallets and unloaded material from trucks

dian – State of Kansas – Hutchinson, KS – 2/2016-2/2018

· Comprehensive cleaning and sanitizing of large facilities

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Resumes vs **Applications** Why both are important

FAQs

Why can't I just put "see resume" on the application?

 The application is a legal document that needs to be completed accurately

Why do I need both?

- · Resumes are used as a marketing tool to help showcase the applicants' skills to get to the interview
- · Applications need to state facts about employment history
- Applications could be used for background and/or reference checks

Can I use the same application for every job?

• Generally, no. Each employer has their own application process, most commonly online

Can I use the same resume for every job?

 It's recommended to send a targeted resume tailored for the position being applied for

Applications Do a Review

Consider doing an application review

- "Generic" application
- Review item by item with explanation
- · "Master Application", if needed
- Make sure contact information is complete and professional
- Make sure the information is legible

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Applications The Conviction Question

Tips for answering the conviction questions

- Use generic words like "possession", "nonperson felony", "non-violent felony" or "person felony" if possible and appropriate
- Include the year of conviction on the application when providing the generic explanation
- After providing the basic explanation it's suggested to include "I'm available to discuss in person"
- Instead of using "Got out of prison" or "Went to prison" as the reason for leaving a job consider using "Moved" or "Relocated"
- Do not write: See Resume



Friendly Reminders

- Have someone else proofread both the resume and application
- Neatness counts, make sure it's legible, spelled correctly and isn't repetitive
- Follow the directions and fill in the blanks, use N/A if it doesn't apply to you
- Black or Blue ink for applications, standard fonts for resume such as: Calibri, Arial, Tahoma or Verdana

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Interview Preparation

1st Impressions - Check your 'Self' at the door

- Attitude/Presence
- Body Language
- Eye Contact
- Dress
- Speech/Language

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Interview Preparation 3 Rs Speech

Responsibility, Remorse, Redemption

3 Rs Speech

- Put it on paper
- Mock interview
- Be genuine without unnecessary details

Practice, Practice, Practice

Steps to Discussing your Conviction Record:

Responsibility

Own up to your behavior:

- Statements should begin with "I"
- Do not blame others, be passive, minimize, or deny

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Steps to Discussing your Conviction Record: Remorse

Remorse

Recognize victims:

- Person or property
- Families: yours or theirs
- Community: yours or theirs

Steps to Discussing your Conviction Record: Redemption

Redemption

Program completion

- Community
- Pre/Post-Release

Continuing programs

- Treatment
- Education

Goals

- Forward thinking
- Choices
- Opportunities
- · Learn from mistakes

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Work Opportunity Tax Credit

- The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal government program offering a tax credit to incentivize employers to hire ex-felons and applicants from other groups with work entry barriers
- Provides employers with a credit up to \$2,400 each year for every qualified employee
- Ex-offenders must be hired within one year of their release or the end of their parole or probation
- Employers have 28 days from a qualified employee's start date to submit application for tax credit

For additional information and application instructions:

https://www.kansascommerce.gov/program/taxes-and-financing/wotc/

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Federal Bonding Program

- The Federal Bonding program provides individual fidelity bonds to employers for job applicants who are or may be denied coverage by commercial carriers
- \$5000 free fidelity bond coverage for first 6 months of employment for the job applicant (renewable at commercial rates)
- Insures the employer for any type of stealing by theft, forgery, larceny or embezzlement by the employee
- Free to both the employer and employee
- Effective day applicant starts work

Federal Bonding Program

Requirements for Coverage

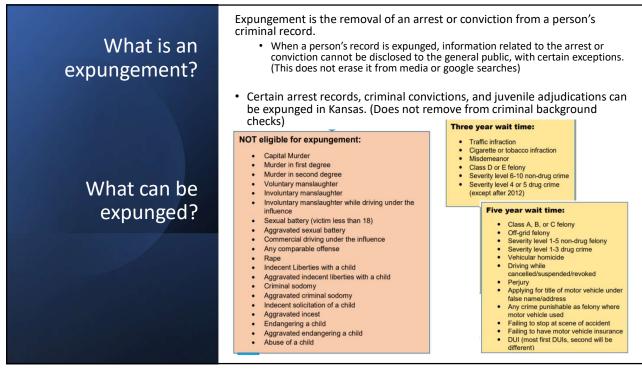
- · Firm job offer, and employer requires bonding
- · Full-time work with an hourly wage
- · Permanent job (at least 6 months)
- · Not self-employed
- · Legal working age

Contact one of the following for Fidelity Bond:

- · Local Workforce Center
- · Ashla Stowe, Federal Bonding Program Manager,, KS Dept of Commerce in Topeka

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Expungement
Resources

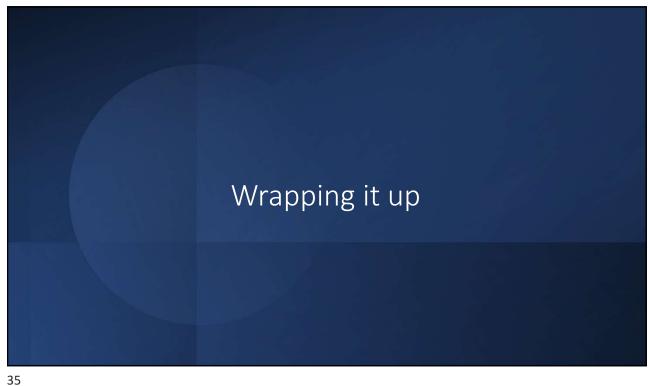
Kansas Legal Services
https://www.kansaslegalservices.org
by phone 800-723-6953

Kansas Judicial Council
http://www.kansasjudicialcouncil.org/legalforms/expungement-adult

Sedgwick County
https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/district-attorney/forms/

City of Wichita
https://www.wichita.gov/Court/MunicipalCourtDocuments

https://www.wichita.gov/Court/Pages/CourtProcesses.aspx



Preparation for Meeting with Customers

As you would do with any customer, feel empowered to:

- Create boundaries: Feel comfortable enforcing them so the meeting is focused on task at hand
- Clear expectations: Stay respectful but firm with your expectations of that task at hand
- Be honest: Encourage customer to be positive, break-down "the wall". Provide them with honest information, so they don't feel like they're getting the run around.
- If you feel uncomfortable excuse yourself for a moment and contact Security and/or your Supervisor(s).

Overview: What Have We Learned

- Ask them if they are aware of what's on offender websites & social media in general, have they looked themselves up? If not do so with them. This will also help you know if their 3R speech needs some work.
- Help them to understand how both negatives & positives on websites can be viewed by employers. Tie back into importance of 3R's & interviewing preparation as well as being aware of verbal/non-verbal cues (presentation of themselves to others both in person & on forms of paper).
- Help them realize they have more knowledge of the justice system than the general public regarding convictions & DR's & the circumstances surrounding those.
- Remember you are a member of the general public so your thoughts & understanding about information online can help the offender realize how others might perceive them. You are here to help them with a leg up on a new start.

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