



OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK
7660 North State St
Lowville, NY 13367
P: 315-376-5333
F: 315-376-3768

Jake Moser
Lewis County Clerk
clerk@lewiscountyny.gov
JoAnn Walters
Deputy County Clerk
joannwalters@lewiscountyny.gov

October 7, 2026

RE: Upcoming Restrictions on Public Access to Criminal Case Documents – Effective November 2026

To All Interested Parties:

This notice is issued to inform the public, legal community, and all relevant stakeholders of forthcoming procedural changes within the Lewis County Clerk's Office concerning public access to criminal case records. These changes are being implemented in accordance with the requirements and operational impacts of New York State's Clean Slate Act (CPL §160.57).

Beginning **November 1, 2026**, the Lewis County Clerk's Office will **restrict public access to all document images** associated with criminal case files. This includes scanned filings, attachments, and other related materials. The purpose of this change is to ensure compliance with statewide procedures related to the sealing of eligible convictions under the Clean Slate Act, which mandates the removal of qualifying criminal records from public visibility after statutory waiting periods.

While document images will no longer be viewable by the general public, **limited index information will remain accessible**, including the defendant's name and general case reference details. This partial visibility exists solely to allow individuals to determine whether a record may exist and whether additional steps are appropriate.

Effective November 1, 2026 **members of the public will be required to submit a request directly to the Clerk's Office** if they wish to review any criminal case document to confirm whether such record is restricted or subject to Clean Slate sealing procedures. Access to documents will be granted only when legally permissible and in accordance with state sealing laws and confidentiality protections. These searches will be subject to five dollars per name for each consecutive two-year period searched. (NYS CVP §8020(g))

These adjustments reflect our ongoing commitment to balancing transparency with the obligations imposed by statewide criminal justice reforms. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we implement these changes.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jake Moser", is written over a faint, larger blue ink signature.

Jake Moser
Lewis County Clerk

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