

#### LAW OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

17TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, PARISH OF LAFOURCHE, STATE OF LOUISIANA

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# Louisiana Code of Criminal Procedure article 893 (" 893 Plea")

Defendant:	Docket No.
Date of Conviction:	Charge:
Probation Period:	

Today, you entered a guilty plea in connection with a felony charge under provisions of La.C.Cr.P. art. 893 which is commonly known as an "893 Plea."

## What is an "893 Plea"?

"893" is simply the code of criminal procedure article that allows for a felony conviction to be expunged after successfully completing probation. So the term "893 plea" simply means you are pleading guilty to a felony with an expungement opportunity. Under article 893, a guilty plea conviction is recorded but a sentence is not imposed. Instead, the offender is placed on probation. The benefits of article 893 can only be used one time during an offender's life.

## **Expungement IS NOT automatic!**

Upon completing the probationary conditions, the probationer can petition the court to set aside and the conviction and having the prosecution dismissed. Then the probationer may procedure with expungement of the conviction. If no action is taken by the probationer, the conviction IS NOT automatically expunged by law.

The Lafourche Parish Clerk of Court's office has self-help expungement forms available online at: <a href="http://www.laclerksofcourt.org/Expungement%20Forms%20Index.htm">http://www.laclerksofcourt.org/Expungement%20Forms%20Index.htm</a>

### **Habitual Offender or statutory enhancements:**

A conviction set aside under article 893 has many of the same civil effects as an acquittal but can be used as a prior conviction for any habitual offender or statutory enhancements available on a new arrest and prosecution.

### **Gun Rights!**

However, the restoration of your civil rights does not extend to gun ownership. An 893 conviction can still be used for state and federal gun prosecutions.