

UPDATE TO THE 925(c) MADE SIMPLE WORKBOOK

925(c) MADE SIMPLE

FINAL RULE + CURRENT DOJ IMPLEMENTATION

What workbook owners need to know now

USE THIS UPDATE WITH YOUR WORKBOOK

This update incorporates the published final rule and DOJ Federal Firearm Rights Restoration implementation instructions. Use it alongside the 925(c) Made Simple workbook.

Federal Register	FR Doc. 2026-16981 91 FR 54054
Rule	28 CFR Part 107 Docket OAG-191 RIN 1105-AB78 AG Order 7109-2026
Published	August 20, 2026
Effective	September 21, 2026
Current program page	Justice.gov/ffrr

KEEP THIS UPDATE WITH YOUR WORKBOOK

Use this update with your workbook. If an instruction here conflicts with a later DOJ instruction or controlling law, follow the later official source.

Prepared for existing workbook owners by 925(c) Made Simple and FedGunRights.com.

This publication is educational information, not legal advice, an application, an approval, or a guarantee of relief.

The Final Rule Is Published - and the Dates Have Changed

The final rule is no longer proposed or pending. It was published in the Federal Register on August 20, 2026 as FR Document 2026-16981, 91 FR 54054. The rule is effective September 21, 2026 and creates new 28 CFR Part 107.

USE DOJ'S ANNOUNCED ROLLOUT DATES

DOJ has announced specific operating dates for application access. Use the announced dates below rather than calculating access dates from the Federal Register publication date.

Current Rollout Schedule

DATE	WHAT IT MEANS
August 20, 2026	Final rule officially published in the Federal Register.
September 21, 2026	The final rule becomes legally effective. The Federal Register states that DOJ will begin soliciting applications from individuals starting on this date.
September 25, 2026	DOJ's current program page says application access opens to invited candidates.
November 4, 2026	DOJ says the application opens to the public for the first 5,000 candidates, first come, first served.
January 4, 2027	DOJ says 500 more public candidates may apply and fee collection begins. The stated application fee is \$30 when it applies.

These rollout dates govern access to the application. They are not decision deadlines. DOJ has not promised a 30-, 75-, 120-, or 180-day decision time.

Authority: 91 FR 54054 (Aug. 20, 2026), DATES section; DOJ Federal Firearm Rights Restoration home page and FAQ.

A Live Invitation-Code Page Now Exists

DOJ has a live page where a person who received an FFRR invitation can enter identifying information and an FFRR applicant code to request access. This does not mean the application

is generally open to the public. Follow the current DOJ rollout instructions for application access.

BOTTOM LINE

Do not confuse a live invitation-access page with a general public opening. Follow the rollout phase that applies to you.

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 2

Who Can Apply - and What “Presumptively Disqualified” Means

DOJ states that an individual who is currently federally prohibited under one or more categories in 18 U.S.C. 922(g) may apply for Federal Firearm Rights Restoration under 18 U.S.C. 925(c). Application eligibility is not the same as a favorable merits determination.

- 18 U.S.C. 922(g)(1): conviction punishable by more than one year, subject to federal definitions and exceptions.
- 922(g)(2): fugitive from justice.
- 922(g)(3): unlawful user of or addicted to a controlled substance.
- 922(g)(4): certain mental-health adjudications or commitments.
- 922(g)(5): certain immigration statuses.
- 922(g)(6): discharge from the Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions.
- 922(g)(7): renunciation of U.S. citizenship.
- 922(g)(8): qualifying domestic-violence restraining order.
- 922(g)(9): misdemeanor crime of domestic violence.

IMPORTANT DISTINCTION

A presumptive disqualifier is not the same thing as saying a person is forbidden from submitting an application. It means DOJ expects denial unless the applicant can show extraordinary circumstances sufficient to overcome the presumption. Some current-status presumptions may be more sensibly addressed by changing or resolving the status first.

Federal restoration does not automatically remove an independent State or Tribal firearm prohibition. A person must separately determine what State or Tribal law requires.

Authority: 28 CFR 107.10, 107.30 and 107.50; DOJ “Who Can Apply” and “Presumptive Disqualifiers.”

The Online Application: Prepare First, Then Start the Clock

DOJ is implementing an electronic application identified as OMB Form 1123-0017. Current DOJ instructions say that once an applicant initiates the e-application, the applicant has 30 days to complete and submit it. If the applicant does not submit a completed e-application within that period, the applicant must start the application process again.

Recommended Sequence

1. Before opening the application, identify every federal disability, possible presumptive disqualifier, and required supporting record.
2. Collect the required court, criminal-history, military, mental-health, domestic-violence, citizenship, prior-relief, and foreign records that apply to your history.
3. Confirm three qualified character references and verify their email addresses before listing them.
4. Enter the e-application only when your rollout phase is open and you are ready to move through the portal.
5. Submit the first part of the application and follow the CJIS email instructions for electronic fingerprints.
6. Complete all remaining application requirements within the 30-day portal window.
7. Monitor the application status page. DOJ specifically warns that applicants are responsible for checking the portal for reference failures and other updates.

SEPARATE 30-DAY RULE AFTER DOJ FINDS A DEFECT

Under 28 CFR 107.20(b), if an application accepted for review fails to identify a disability, is improperly executed, or is otherwise incomplete, DOJ will notify the applicant and allow 30 days to amend and resubmit. Failure to correct it within that period results in the application being treated as abandoned.

Authority: DOJ FAQ; 28 CFR 107.20(b).

Electronic Fingerprints and the Application Fee

Fingerprints

For individual applicants, DOJ currently requires electronic fingerprints through a participating United States Postal Service location. Fingerprints collected anywhere other than the USPS electronic process will not be accepted under the current operating instructions.

1. Submit the first part of the e-application.
2. Wait for the Criminal Justice Information Services email containing your case number, barcode, QR code, and fingerprint instructions.
3. Use the DOJ/CJIS instructions to locate a participating USPS fingerprint site. Not every Post Office provides this service.
4. Bring the CJIS email, a form of payment, and an accepted photo identification document.
5. USPS sends the prints to the FBI. The FBI processes them and places the result into the FFRR application.

DOJ currently lists these accepted identification documents: State-issued driver license, State-issued non-driver identification card, U.S. passport or passport card, and military identification card.

DO NOT GET FINGERPRINT CARDS EARLY

For the current application process, do not obtain paper fingerprint cards in advance. Wait until the e-application generates the required CJIS barcode and QR code, then use the USPS electronic process.

Application fee

The final rule set the application fee at \$30, not the proposed \$20. The fee is non-refundable. DOJ says payment will be electronic through Pay.gov and may be made by ACH bank transfer, credit card, debit card, or PayPal. A waiver or reduction may be requested, and economic hardship or indigency may support such a request.

For rollout timing, DOJ's current home page says fee collection begins January 4, 2027. Treat that as an operating instruction that can change. Confirm the current DOJ page immediately before filing.

The final rule's cost analysis estimated approximately \$50 for fingerprinting, but actual USPS and records charges can differ. Verify current costs before paying.

Authority: DOJ electronic fingerprint instructions; DOJ fee page; 28 CFR 107.40; 91 FR 54054 cost analysis.

Character References: Three Qualified People, Electronic Process

The application requires three character references. Each reference must meet all three DOJ criteria:

- Not related to the applicant by blood or marriage.
- Has known the applicant for at least three years.
- Is not currently prohibited from possessing a firearm under 18 U.S.C. 922(g).

What you provide

- Reference first and last name.
- Working email address.
- How you know the reference.

What happens after submission

DOJ states that selected references will receive an email from Criminal Justice Information Services with a secure link and PIN. The reference may complete the form or decline. If a reference declines, the applicant can update the reference through the status page.

DO NOT RELY ON EMAIL ALERTS ALONE

DOJ warns that the applicant may not receive an email if a reference does not complete the form. The applicant is responsible for monitoring the application status page.

What references are asked to affirm

- The applicant has not committed a crime within the past five years, other than qualifying traffic, parking, minor infractions, or petty offenses not involving force or violence.
- The applicant is not an unlawful user of or addicted to a controlled substance as defined for the program.
- The applicant does not regularly abuse alcohol, prescription drugs, or other intoxicants.
- The applicant is not currently suffering from a mental-health condition that would impair judgment or behavior.
- The applicant is a person of good character and has a good reputation in the community.
- During the past five years, the applicant has not attempted or threatened unlawful violence and has not threatened or attempted suicide, whether or not authorities were notified.

- The applicant would not pose a danger to self, family members, intimate partners, or public safety if permitted to possess a firearm.

BEST PREPARATION PRACTICE

Identify four or five possible references now, but submit only three when the portal asks. Confirm eligibility, willingness, personal knowledge, and current email addresses. Do not coach anyone to give an inaccurate answer.

Authority: DOJ Character References page; 28 CFR 107.10(g)(13).

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 6

Required Records: Build the File Before You Open the Portal

DOJ instructs applicants to provide true digital copies of court and government records. Under the final rule, a required record may be a certified genuine record or a reliable/true copy provided by the court, government entity, or official source. DOJ currently supports JPG, JPEG, PNG, BMP, DOC, DOCX, TXT, PDF, XLS, and XLSX uploads.

Required for all individual applicants

- A list of all crimes, conduct, or statuses causing the federal firearm disability or disabilities.
- Authorization permitting background-information review.
- Electronic fingerprints through the current DOJ/USPS process.
- State criminal records covering the last 25 years, or since age 18, whichever period is shorter, for each place the applicant lived and for any other place the applicant was arrested. If a statewide report is unavailable, locality records may be used.
- Three qualified character references.
- The applicant's required affirmations and truthful disclosure.

If an official record cannot be obtained

If a required record is unavailable for reasons outside the applicant's control, the final rule allows a sworn statement describing the missing record's contents and the applicant's efforts to obtain it. Preserve request receipts, clerk letters, agency emails, no-record certifications, and other proof of diligent efforts.

DO NOT SIMPLY WRITE "RECORD UNAVAILABLE"

Explain what the record would show, what happened in the underlying matter, what the final disposition was, where you requested the record, when you requested it, and why the official source cannot provide it.

Foreign-language records

Provide an English translation and a translator certification of completeness and accuracy. DOJ's required-documents page also calls for a translator certification of competence.

Authority: 28 CFR 107.10(d)-(g); DOJ Required Documents page.

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Special Document Tracks

State or Federal felony conviction

- Charging document on which you were convicted, such as the indictment or complaint.
- Judgment of conviction.
- Official record showing the date you completed the final requirement of the sentence, such as supervision, restitution, or community service.
- If applicable: plea agreement, factual basis for plea, and presentence report or other sentencing-aid document.

Mental-health commitment or adjudication

- Commitment or adjudication order.
- Medical records stating the diagnosis that caused the commitment or adjudication.
- Current certification from a licensed mental-health professional stating that the condition no longer exists or has been successfully treated/stably managed such that the applicant is unlikely to be a danger to self or others.
- If applicable: petition that sought commitment/adjudication and an order demonstrating restoration of mental competency or rights.

Military conviction or dishonorable discharge

- DD Form 214, DD Form 214-1, and/or DD Form 215 as applicable.
- If applicable: DD Form 458 charge sheet, judgment of the court, and certificate of completion of appellate review.

Veterans and recent military service

DOJ separately requires DD Form 214/214-1/215 from a veteran who served within the last 25 years or since age 18, whichever is shorter, even when military service itself did not create the firearm disability.

Renunciation of citizenship

- Formal renunciation of nationality.

- Explanation of why citizenship was renounced.

Misdemeanor crime of domestic violence

- Charging document.
- Underlying investigative reports.
- Document showing the victim's relationship to the applicant.
- Judgment of conviction.
- Official proof of completion of the final requirement of the sentence.
- If applicable: record showing the conviction was rendered nugatory or civil rights were restored, even if federal firearm restrictions remain.
- If applicable: police reports involving domestic violence from the original arrest to the present.

Prior pardon, expungement, set-aside, or rights-restoration effort

- Copy of the prior application.
- Any decision on that application, if one exists.

Foreign records

Foreign criminal, medical, military, and post-conviction records may be required when equivalent events occurred outside the United States. Foreign residence and arrest records are also required for the applicable 25-year/age-18 lookback period.

Authority: DOJ Required Documents page; 28 CFR 107.10(g)(4)-(12).

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 8

Presumptive Disqualifiers: The Final Structure

DOJ identifies five broad categories: current-status, permanent/no-expiration, 10-year, 5-year, and reapplication presumptions. A presumption means denial is expected unless extraordinary circumstances overcome it. The Attorney General may look at the underlying facts, not merely the offense label.

Permanent / no-expiration presumption

Absent extraordinary circumstances, a felony involving the following conduct can create a continuing presumption regardless of how much time has passed:

- Death of another person; rape, sexual abuse, or sexual assault; human trafficking; kidnapping.
- Intimate-partner or domestic violence; burglary; robbery; extortion; carjacking; arson.
- Violent racketeering or gang-related offenses; maiming; assault; battery; stalking.
- Escape or rescue of a person in custody; terrorism; witness tampering.

- Another felony in which a firearm was brandished or discharged or an explosive was used.
- Attempt, solicitation, conspiracy, or aiding/abetting the listed conduct; and conduct the Attorney General determines is the same as or similar to the listed conduct.

10-year presumption

Absent extraordinary circumstances, the following can be presumptively disqualifying until the applicable 10-year period has run:

- Drug trafficking, including manufacture, sale/distribution, import/export, possession with intent, and related attempt/conspiracy/solicitation/aiding conduct.
- Threats of violence.
- Manufacture, possession, transfer, or use of explosives.
- Certain firearm- or ammunition-related conduct under federal law.
- Possessing or discharging a firearm or other weapon on school property.
- Animal abuse.
- A misdemeanor crime of domestic violence, subject to the rule's reset provisions.

MCDV RESET RULE

During the 10-year period following an MCDV conviction or service of any part of the sentence, certain new 922(g) disabilities or arrests can reset the period. The rule includes exceptions for a judicial finding that no misconduct occurred or a dismissal on the merits in specified circumstances.

5-year presumption

- Any other felony not captured by the permanent or 10-year categories, when the conviction or service of any part of the sentence falls within the preceding five years.
- Other assault, battery, stalking, or threatened act of violence within the applicable five-year period.

Current-status presumption

- Awaiting sentencing; incarcerated or serving any part of a sentence; or currently in a diversion or other program in place of conviction.
- Fugitive status.
- Certain immigration statuses identified in the rule.
- Qualifying restraining/protective order status.
- Current unlawful use of or addiction to a controlled substance as defined for this program, subject to the rule's marijuana-only exception to this particular presumption.

- Current sex-offender registration requirement based on an offense that caused a firearm disability.

MARIJUANA-ONLY LANGUAGE IS NARROW

The rule excludes a person whose only unlawful controlled-substance use or addiction is marijuana from this specific status-based presumptive-disqualification definition. Do not read that as a general statement that marijuana use is lawful for every purpose under federal firearms law.

Authority: 28 CFR 107.50; DOJ Presumptive Disqualifiers page.

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 9

Mental-Health Relief, Reapplications, and Fraud

922(g)(4) mental-health applicants

A person currently disabled under 18 U.S.C. 922(g)(4) may apply federally. But the final rule strongly favors use of an available State, territorial, or Federal department/agency relief-from-disability program first.

- If an applicable relief program exists and the person is eligible but has not applied, or the alternative-program application is still pending, the FFRR application is presumptively denied absent extraordinary circumstances.
- If the alternative program denied relief, the federal application is also presumptively denied absent extraordinary circumstances.
- If a qualifying program already granted relief that ends the federal 922(g)(4) disability, the person may no longer need FFRR relief for that disability.

ANALYZE THE SOURCE OF THE DISABILITY BEFORE FILING

Identify the court, State, territory, Federal agency, or department that imposed the mental-health disability; determine whether that entity has an available relief program; and determine whether the person is eligible, pending, denied, or already granted relief.

Reapplications after denial

A denial based on a permanent presumptive disqualifier can create a continuing presumption against later applications. Other denials can create a five-year reapplication presumption, with rule-specific exceptions. If a time-limited or status-based presumption caused the denial, DOJ advises waiting until the relevant presumption expires or the status changes before reapplying.

Fraud or intentional omission

A grant is void if it was procured through a willfully false material statement or willful withholding of requested information. Full and accurate disclosure is essential.

Authority: 28 CFR 107.60, 107.70, 107.80; DOJ FAQ and 922(g)(4) relief page.

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 10

Applicant Affirmations and DOJ Review

Prepare for the applicant affirmations

The final application requires the applicant to affirm under penalty of perjury that the information provided is true and correct and to address conduct bearing on safety, character, substance use, mental health, threats, violence, suicide risk, and other required disclosures. The reference process contains overlapping safety and character affirmations.

DISCLOSURE RULE FOR WORKBOOK USERS

Do not omit a matter merely because it is old, dismissed, sealed, expunged, pardoned, set aside, embarrassing, or seems unrelated. The rule and DOJ pages require disclosure of information and records that may extend beyond convictions, and DOJ may investigate beyond the documents you submit.

What the Attorney General may consider

- All criminal history, including arrests, charges, alternative dispositions, dismissals, and convictions.
- The seriousness and underlying facts of prior conduct, including victim-impact information.
- Conduct underlying charges dismissed in exchange for a guilty plea.
- Conduct while incarcerated and compliance with supervision and financial penalties.
- Time since sentence completion and behavior during that period.
- Past or present controlled-substance use.
- Restraining or protection orders and threats.
- Mental health, including relevant treatment and behavior.
- Information from local law enforcement after DOJ sends CLEO notice.
- Other relevant individualized circumstances, including whether denial would infringe the applicant's Second Amendment rights.

CLEO notification

The final rule removed the applicant's obligation to notify a Chief Law Enforcement Officer. DOJ intends to send the notification itself to the CLEO in the ZIP Code where the applicant currently resides. The CLEO may provide input but is not required to respond and does not hold a veto over the application.

DO NOT MAIL YOUR OWN CLEO NOTICE

Unless DOJ later changes its instructions, the applicant should not independently send a CLEO notice. DOJ handles the notification under the final rule.

Authority: 28 CFR 107.20; 91 FR 54054 discussion of CLEO notification.

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 11

Decision, Scope of Relief, and What Happens Next

The statutory standard remains individualized. The Attorney General may grant relief only when satisfied that the circumstances regarding the disability, and the applicant's record and reputation, show that the applicant is not likely to act in a manner dangerous to public safety and that granting relief would not be contrary to the public interest.

Possible outcomes described by DOJ

- **Grant:** DOJ issues a favorable decision. The FBI updates NICS; DOJ says an RPIN may be issued; and the person's name and grant date are published in the Federal Register.
- **Denial:** DOJ cannot make the findings required for relief. The applicant may seek judicial review in the U.S. district court for the district where the applicant resides. Reapplication rules may apply.
- **Indeterminate:** DOJ lacks enough information to grant or deny. A new application should include meaningful additional information.
- **No Action:** the application is administratively closed without a merits decision, such as after withdrawal, failure to respond, death, or another administrative reason.

A FEDERAL GRANT IS LIMITED

A grant relieves the identified federal firearm disability or disabilities. It is not an expungement, pardon, sealing order, finding of innocence, or automatic restoration of State or Tribal firearm rights. It also does not protect against a new disability arising from future conduct.

DOJ has not set a fixed decision deadline. Review time may vary with volume, case complexity, investigation, record availability, partner-agency responses, and the applicant's responsiveness.

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 12

Pre-Application Action Plan

Complete now

- ☐ Keep this update with your workbook and use it for the final-rule and DOJ implementation instructions covered here.
- ☐ Identify every possible 922(g) disability and every possible presumptive disqualifier before spending money on records or filing.
- ☐ For each relevant conviction, obtain official proof of the date the final sentence requirement was completed.
- ☐ Order State criminal-history records for the required residence and arrest jurisdictions covering the applicable 25-year/age-18 period.
- ☐ Request charging instruments, judgments, plea/sentencing materials, and other required special-track records.
- ☐ Collect applicable mental-health, military, MCDV, citizenship, prior-relief, and foreign records.
- ☐ Document diligent efforts when an official record cannot be obtained.
- ☐ Identify at least four possible character references; confirm which three satisfy DOJ's requirements and can respond electronically.
- ☐ Create a secure digital folder with clear filenames and preserve the official copies received from courts and agencies.
- ☐ Budget for record costs, USPS fingerprinting, and the \$30 fee when fee collection applies; monitor waiver/reduction instructions if needed.
- ☐ Monitor Justice.gov/ffrr and FedGunAlert.com for changes before beginning the portal.

Wait for DOJ instructions

- ☐ Do not obtain fingerprints before submitting the first part of the e-application and receiving the CJIS barcode/QR code.
- ☐ Do not mail paper fingerprint cards to ATF, DOJ, or the Office of the Pardon Attorney unless official instructions later direct you to do so.
- ☐ Do not send your own CLEO notice.
- ☐ Do not have character references sign homemade substitute affidavits for the current electronic process.
- ☐ Do not calculate application-access dates from the Federal Register publication date; use DOJ's announced rollout dates.

☐ Do not assume federal relief removes an independent State or Tribal firearm prohibition.

WHY PREPARATION STILL MATTERS

The first announced general-public phase is limited to 5,000 candidates on a first-come, first-served basis, and the e-application carries a 30-day completion window once started. Organized records reduce avoidable delay when access opens.

WORKBOOK UPDATE • SECTION 13

Official Sources and Customer Resources

Use official sources to confirm the rule, rollout dates, fees, fingerprint instructions, required records, and portal procedures immediately before filing. The official Federal Register rule and current DOJ instructions control over this educational update.

- [Federal Register final rule - FR Doc. 2026-16981, 91 FR 54054](#)
- [DOJ Federal Firearm Rights Restoration home page](#)
- [DOJ program rule and plain-language summary](#)
- [DOJ application process](#)
- [DOJ who can apply](#)
- [DOJ presumptive disqualifiers](#)
- [DOJ required documents](#)
- [DOJ electronic fingerprint instructions](#)
- [DOJ character references](#)
- [DOJ fee, waiver, and reduction](#)
- [DOJ FAQ](#)
- [DOJ final decision and next steps](#)
- [DOJ 922\(g\)\(4\) mental-health relief information](#)

Keeping the Workbook Current

This update is designed to be used with the 925(c) Made Simple workbook as DOJ implements the Federal Firearm Rights Restoration program.

Because the program is in active rollout, DOJ can change portal access, payment timing, procedures, or supporting instructions without changing the core final rule. Check the DOJ program page before acting.

Customer resources

Federal gun-rights eligibility information: <https://FedGunRights.com>

Federal gun-rights alerts: <https://FedGunAlert.com>

925(c) Made Simple workbook resources: <https://Legal-Gangsta.com/shop-1>

Educational disclaimer

This publication is for educational and informational purposes only. It reflects an understanding of publicly available law and agency instructions. It is not legal advice, does not create an attorney-client relationship, and does not represent the views, endorsement, or approval of the U.S. Department of Justice, the FBI, ATF, USPS, or any other government entity. Laws, rules, fees, portal procedures, and agency instructions may change. Verify current official instructions and consult a qualified attorney for legal advice about an individual case.

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