

**EXPLANATION OF EFFECT OF GOVERNOR REYNOLDS’
EXECUTIVE ORDER REGARDING FELONY CONVICTIONS**
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To be Eligible for Restoration of Voting Rights a Person Must Have –

Discharged his or her sentence, which means that the person must have completed any and all of the following:

- (1) Term of confinement;
- (2) Parole;
- (3) Probation;
- (4) Other supervised release for all felony convictions; and
- (5) Completion of any special sentence imposed under Iowa Code Chapter 903B.

If the person meets the above requirements of the discharge of the person’s sentence, restoration shall apply to convictions in other states or in federal court, to the extent that the conviction resulted in the forfeiture of citizenship rights in Iowa.

Governor Reynolds’ Executive Order Does Not do the Following –

The Executive Order signed by Governor Reynolds does not do the following:

- (1) Restore the rights of persons convicted of a felony with respect to firearms under Iowa Code Chapter 724;
- (2) Constitute a pardon;
- (3) Relieve an individual from paying fines, costs, restitution, or other monetary obligations associated with the criminal conviction;
- (4) Act as a bar to greater penalties for second offenses, subsequent convictions, or conviction as a habitual offender; and
- (5) Does not restore rights of citizenship in another jurisdiction unless the other jurisdiction requires restoration of citizenship rights in Iowa due the person’ felony conviction in Iowa.

Governor Reynolds’ Executive Order Does Not Apply to –

Individuals who have been convicted of violations of Iowa Code Chapter 707, which contains provisions related to homicide and related crimes.

Effect of Governor Reynolds’ Executive Order on Rights –

If a person has fully discharged his or her sentence, the person is eligible to vote and run for public office.

Effective Date –

The Executive Order is effective on August 6, 2020 for any person who has met the requirements for restoration of rights, and the Governor will continue to apply the Executive Order on a daily basis to those who subsequently meet the requirements for restoration of rights after August 6, 2020.

How Rights are Restored –

The Iowa Department of Corrections shall provide the Iowa Secretary of State the necessary records to update the database of disqualified persons to reflect the restoration of rights under Governor Reynolds' Executive Order.

The Iowa Department of Corrections will update the list of the persons who have discharged their sentences or completed their probation or parole on a weekly basis.

Under the Governor's Executive Order, it appears, then, that persons who have met the requirements for restoration of their rights do not have to take any affirmative action prior to exercising those rights.

However, affected individuals may want to check with the Iowa Department of Corrections or the Clerk of Court in which the individual was convicted to confirm that the individual has discharged his or her sentence.