

# A Comprehensive Guide for Expats to Obtain a Police Record in Lebanon



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## I. Introduction:

As an expatriate who has worked in Lebanon in the past and is now residing outside of the country, you may be required to provide a police record from Lebanon.

A police record, also known as a Clearance Certificate or Criminal Record Certificate (Sijil Adli سجل عدلي in Arabic), is an official document that confirms your criminal history or lack thereof during your time in Lebanon.

This document is often requested by immigration authorities, prospective employers, or other institutions when you are applying for residency permits, work visas, marriage, or even changing jobs in Lebanon or other countries.

It serves as proof of your good conduct and can significantly impact your eligibility for various opportunities.

This guide aims to provide you with a comprehensive overview of the process involved in obtaining a police record in Lebanon, including the required documents, steps, and tips to streamline the application process.

## II. How to Apply for a Police Record:

As an expat residing outside of Lebanon, you may initiate the process through the nearest Lebanese Embassy/Consulate in the country of your residence by submitting a request for obtaining a police record.

However, it's essential to be aware that obtaining the police record through the Embassy/Consulate can be a time-consuming process, often taking between 7 to 8 months, and there may be difficulties such as documents getting lost or delayed in the bureaucratic process.

For a smoother and more efficient experience, it is recommended to engage a reliable representative or law firm in Lebanon to process the police record on your behalf.

Our Law Firm offers this type of service, ensuring a faster and hassle-free application process.

The following developments are related to the process of obtaining the Police record from Lebanon by engaging our office.

### III. Required Documents and Information:

To successfully obtain a police record in Lebanon, you will need to prepare the following documents:

#### 1- A Power of Attorney (POA):

The POA is a document that authorizes us to obtain the police record on your behalf. Our team will provide you with the template of the POA to be executed when you engage our services.

The POA must be legalized by the Lebanese consulate in the place of your residency.

To locate the nearest Lebanese Consulate to you, you can use this link: <https://www.embassypages.com/lebanon>.

If there is no Lebanese consulate in the country of your residency, you have two options for legalizing the POA:

Option 1: Legalize the POA at the Lebanese Embassy/Consulate in the nearest neighbouring country to your place of residence.

Option 2: If the country of your residency has a consulate in Lebanon, execute the POA in your country of residency and legalize it by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of that country.

2- Copy of any official document mentioning your mother's name if it is not mentioned on your passport (birth certificate, marriage certificate, etc.)

3- Copy of your passport page showing your full name.

4- The detailed address where you would like to receive the police record after execution.

## V. Application Process:

Upon receiving the above documents, we proceed as follows:

1. Certify the original POA at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lebanon.
2. Translate the passport and the birth certificate by a sworn translator.
3. Apply to obtain the police certificate on your behalf.
4. Follow up with the Internal Security Office (ISO) until obtaining the police record.
5. Translate it into English by a sworn translator.
6. Certify it by the official authorities in Lebanon (Public notary, Ministry of Justice, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs).
7. Legalize it at the relevant consulate.
8. Send the Police clearance to you at the designated address.

## VI. Time of the Process:

The approximate time for obtaining a Police record in Lebanon is between 5 to 10 working days from the day of receiving the documents.

The total cost and fees of the procedure depend on the purpose of usage and the country where it will be sent and used.

If you would like to proceed with obtaining a police record or if you require additional information, please feel free to send your query to: [info@fakhrylawfirm.com](mailto:info@fakhrylawfirm.com).

Our team will be happy to assist you.

## VII. HOW TO EXPUNGE YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD IN LEBANON

If you have a criminal background on your police record, it can be cleared by obtaining a rehabilitation judicial judgment, in conformity with Article 159 of the Lebanese Penal Code, which states that:

Any person convicted of a felony or a misdemeanour may be granted rehabilitation by a judicial decision if the following conditions are met:

1. Seven years must have elapsed in the case of a felony, and three years in the case of a misdemeanour, since the completion of the sentence and any associated precautionary custodial measures, or since their expiration with the passage of time.

If the penalty imposed was the loss of civil rights, the period starts from the day the judgment became final, and in the case of an additional penalty of imprisonment, it starts from the day the sentence expired.

If the penalty imposed was a fine, the period starts from the day of payment or the expiration of the substitute term of imprisonment.

If the convicted person is a recidivist in the legal sense or has previously been granted rehabilitation, the period will be doubled.

2. The person must not have been subsequently sentenced to a criminal or misdemeanour penalty. Any subsequent sentence for either of these penalties will interrupt the rehabilitation period.
3. Civil obligations imposed in the sentence must have been executed, extinguished, or have lapsed, or the convicted person must prove that they were unable to fulfill those obligations. A bankrupt person must prove that they have settled the debt, including interest and costs, or that they have been exempted from payment.
4. It must be evident from prison records and investigations into the conduct of the convicted person after their release that they have genuinely been reformed.

We can assist in clearing your police record

Please contact us via email : [info@fakhrylawfirm.com](mailto:info@fakhrylawfirm.com).