

## **Can I be denied housing if I have a criminal record?**

Yes, but you may appeal a decision if you can provide proof that you have turned your life around. For more information, visit the Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries' "[Massachusetts Law About Criminal Records](#)" page.

Please be aware that:

- State and Federal housing must follow regulations in their screening of CORI.
- The Housing Authority must give you an opportunity to explain your circumstances.
- Private landlords do not have to offer you an opportunity to explain your circumstances. \*\*It is illegal for a landlord to ask you to get your CORI and give him/her a copy.
- Anyone may access your CORI under the following circumstances.
- If you were convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for 5 or more years.
- If you are presently or were recently in prison, incarcerated under a sentence.
- If you are presently under probation or parole.