

# eCourts Expungement System – Release Notes External 05/01/2024

# eCourts Expungement System Enhancements

New	The Case Representation tile has been added to the Expungement home page. County and Central Public Defenders, and Private Attorneys can associate and substitute themselves to expungement cases. For more information, click <a href="here">here</a> .		
New	If a case already has an attorney of record and the case is not associated to the logged in attorney's firm, a new attorney can file a <b>Substitution of attorney</b> . For more information, click <a href="here">here</a> .		
New	Attorney of Record is now being set when a petition is initiated and submitted by Private Attorney, County and Central Public Defender. For more information, click <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a>		
New	County and Central Public Defender's will receive an email notification when they file an expungement, when a petition is returned, and other various events about the case. For more information, click <a href="https://example.com/here/">here</a> .		
Enhanced	Self-represented litigants will now retain their submitted expungement petitions once returned by the Prosecutor, unless they consent to allow the County Public Defender to represent them on the expungement case. For more information, click <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a>		
Enhanced	There are two new optional fields for the In Progress workbasket column display. Users will now be able to view the "Filer" and "OPD Consent" as columns on the workbasket. Also, you can now view Attorney of Record information on the Additional Details modal. For more information, click <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> .		



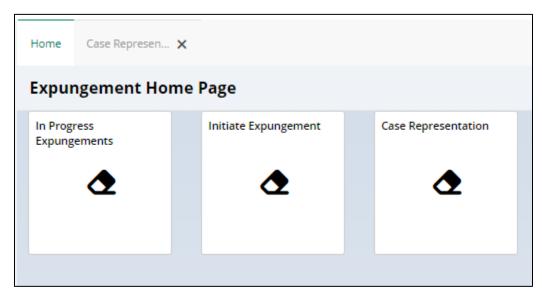
If a proposed amended order is initiated on a granted Clean Slate or Regular Expungement petition, you can now change the Expungement Type from Clean Slate to Regular and vice-versa. For more information, click <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

#### Attorneys Can Now Associate Themselves to an Expungement Case

The Case Representation tile has been added to the Expungement home page. Here, County and Central Public Defenders and private attorneys can associate themselves or members of their firm/office to an expungement case. You can add/update the attorney of record for cases in the following statuses:

- Pending Prosecutor Review
- Pending Petitioner Response
- Revised Petition Prosecutor Review
- Awaiting Judicial Decision
- Order Granted
- Amended Order Prosecutor Review
- Amended Order Petition Response
- Amended Order Judicial Decision
- Amended Order Granted

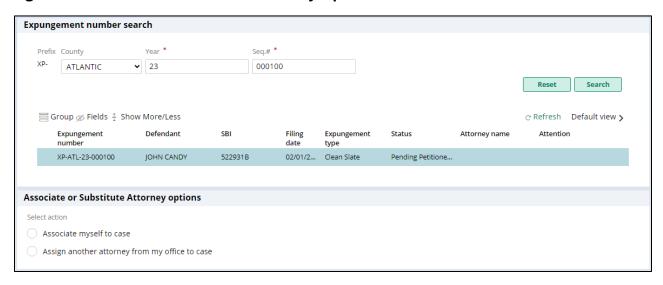
Figure 1. New Case Representation Tile



Once the Attorney clicks on Case Representation and searches a case, if that case does not have an attorney associated, they will see two options:

- Associate myself to case
- Assign another attorney from my office to case.

**Figure 2. Associate or Substitute Attorney Options** 



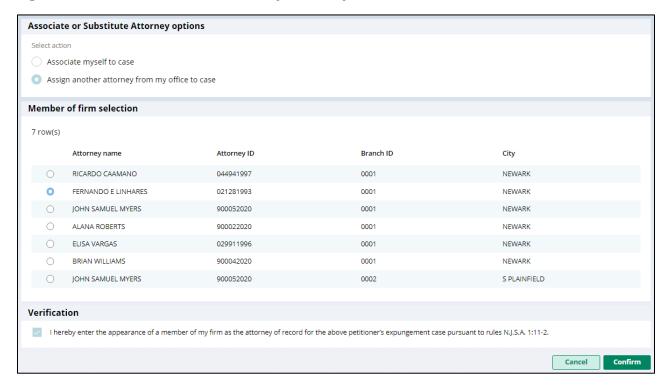
When selecting "Associate myself to case," verification text displays.

**Figure 3. Associate Self Options** 



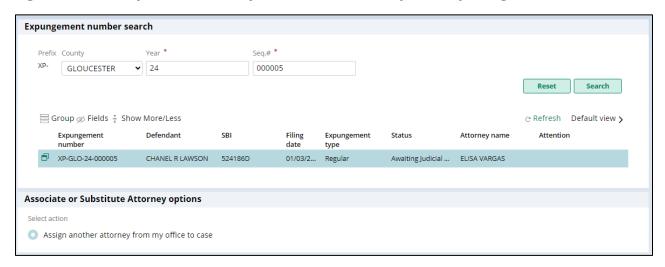
When selecting "Assign another attorney from my office to case," a list of attorneys that match the Attorney's office ID displays. Once an attorney is selected, the verification text appears, and the user will be able to confirm selection.

Figure 4. Associate Another Attorney from my office to case



If another attorney from your firm is already assigned to a petition, another attorney from your firm can be assigned to that petition. In this case, the only option that will appear is the Assign another attorney from my office to case. The selection options appear as well as the verification and confirm button.

Figure 5. Attorney Association Options when Attorney already Assigned



When a selection is made and you click "Confirm," you'll navigate back to the Confirmation screen and will have the option to add another attorney or close the tile. A case jacket entry

is added to the case jacket and an email notification is sent as well. For amending orders, on the Attorney of Record, or anyone from their firm, will be able to amend that order.

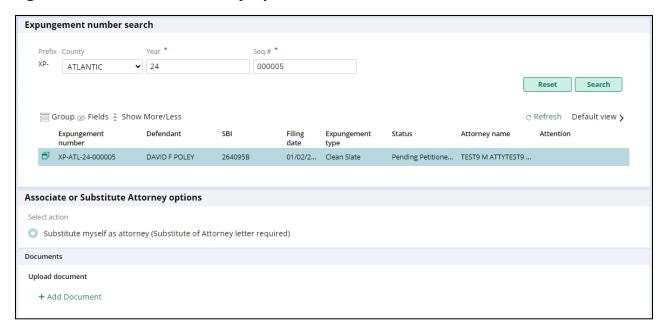
**Figure 6. Attorney Association Completion notice** 



## Substitution of Attorney Process Using the Case Representation Tile

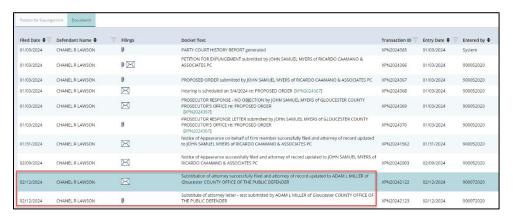
If a case already has an attorney of record and the case is not associated to the logged in attorney's firm, a new attorney can be added to the case by clicking on **Substitute myself as attorney**. A substitute of attorney letter is required to be uploaded.

Figure 7. Substitute of Attorney Options

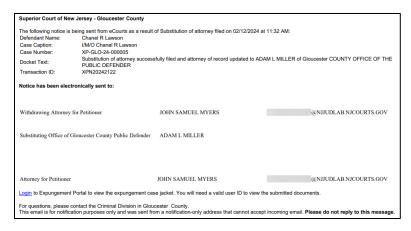


Once the document is uploaded, click "Confirm" and you'll navigate back to the Confirmation screen and will have the option to add another attorney or close the tile. A case jacket entry is added to the case jacket. An email notification is sent as well.

#### **Figure 8. Docket Text Entry**



#### **Figure 9. Notification Email**





#### Attorney of Record Is Set When an Expungement Case is Submitted

The Attorney of Record will be set once a new petition is submitted except for Self-Represented Litigant's (Pro Se) submitted petitions. You can view the Attorney of Record on the Additional Details Modal.

Figure 10. Additional Details Modal



(Back)

## County and Central Public Defender Notification Emails

County and Central Public Defenders will receive an email when they file an expungement, when a petition is returned, and various events about the case. Notification emails will be stored in the Case Jacket to review. The following are the events that trigger an email notification:

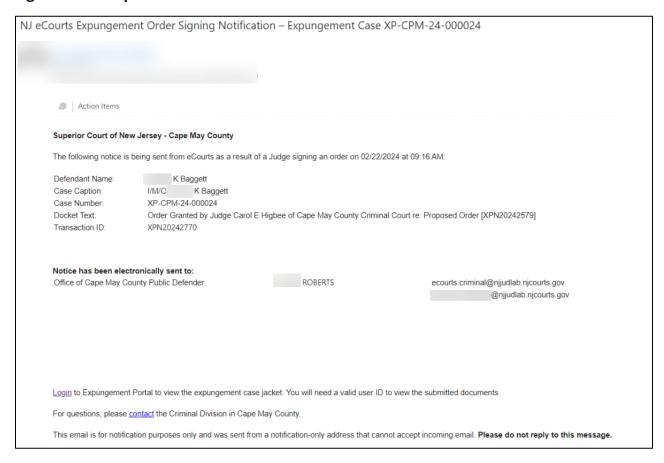
- Expungement Petition Filed or Revised
- Amended Expungement Petition is Filed or Revised
- Prosecutor submits a response to the Petition or an Amended Proposed Order
- Prosecutor returns the Petition to the Petitioner or an Amended Proposed Order
- Court Staff/Judge provides a Judicial Decision
- Court Staff/Judge provides a Granted Judicial Decision for Amended Order
- A Petition is Withdrawn
- Court Staff modifies the case status from "Pending Prosecutor review" to "Pending Petitioner Response"
- Court Staff modifies the case status from "Revised Petition Prosecutor Review" to "Pending Petitioner Response"
- Hearing Date Scheduled

Figure 11. Notification Text Entry on Case Jacket



An email is sent to you as well.

#### Figure 12. Sample Notification Email Order Granted Email



#### Self-Represented Litigant's (Pro Se) Process Flow Updates

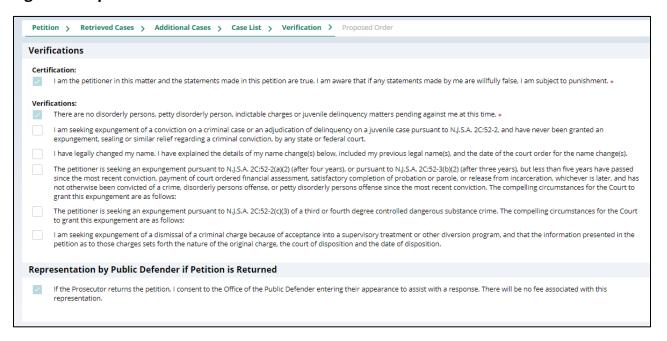
Self-represented litigants will now retain their submitted expungement petitions once returned by the Prosecutor, unless they consent to allow the County Public Defender to represent them on the expungement case. If a prosecutor returns the petition, the self-represented litigant will see the 'Open' button enabled and be able to work on the petition.

Figure 11. Pro Se will now see Open button in green.



On the Verification screen, a self-represented litigant will be able to select an option consenting to allow County Public Defender to handle the expungement petition if the petition is returned by the Prosecutor. By selecting the checkbox, the County Public Defender can assign themselves to the case if the petition is returned.

Figure 12. Updated Verification Screen



If the petition is returned, email notifications are sent to the corresponding County Public Defender's generic email as well as the self-represented litigant with the consent, either yes or no, and contact information so the County Public Defender can contact the user regarding their expungement petition.

# Figure 13. Email notification received for returned Pro Se initiated petition

Superior Court of New Jersey - Gloucester County					
The following notice is being sent from eCourts as a result of Prosecutor Response on 02/12/2024 at 11:12 AM:  Defendant Name: Edward M Morrison  Case Caption: I/M/O Edward M Morrison  Case Number: XP-GLO-24-000017					
Docket Text:	Petition for Expungement returned by John Samuel Myers of Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office re: Petition for Expungement [ XPN20242108]				
Transaction ID:	XPN20242112				
Notice has been electronically sent to:					
Office of Gloucester County Public Defender		ADAM L MILLER			
Petitioner		Prose	@gmail.com		
The following is OPD consent and Pro Se contact information:					
OPD Consent: Name: Phone Number: Email: Address:	Yes EDWARD M MORRISON  @gmail.com  123 Prose Lane, Testing, NJ, 123451234 United States				
Login to Expungement Portal to view the expungement case jacket. You will need a valid user ID to view the submitted documents.					
For questions, please contact the Criminal Division in Gloucester County.  This email is for notification purposes only and was sent from a notification-only address that cannot accept incoming email. Please do not reply to this message.					

#### *In Progress Workbasket Updates*

There are two new optional fields for the In Progress workbasket column display. Users will now be able to view the "Filer" and "OPD Consent" as columns on the workbasket.

Figure 14. New Workbasket Fields

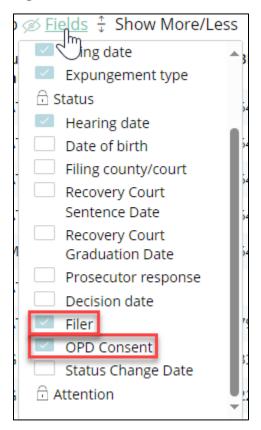


Figure 15. Fields added to the Columns of the Workbasket



Users will also be able to view the Attorney of Record by clicking on the Additional Details modal. The Attorney of record will be blank (if Pro Se Initiated and retained by Pro Se).

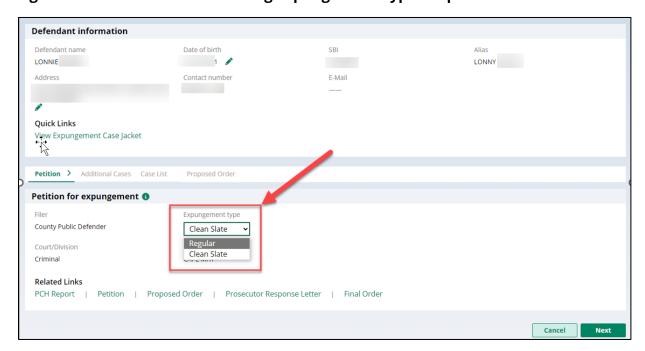
Figure 16. New Attorney of Record details on Additional Details Modal



## Amended Order Clean Slate and Regular Expungements

If a proposed amended order is initiated on a granted Clean Slate or Regular Expungement petition, you can now change the Expungement Type from Clean Slate to Regular and viceversa.

Figure 18. Amended Order showing Expungement Type Dropdown.



When the proposed amended order is submitted with updated Expungement Type, a case jacket entry is added indicating the change.

Figure 19. Docket Text entry showing Expungement Type change.

