



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS

## CONSUMER DISCLOSURE AND AUTHORIZATION FORM

### Disclosure Regarding Background Investigation

**Stephen F. Austin State University** (the “Company”) may request, for lawful employment purposes, background information about you from a consumer reporting agency in connection with your employment or application for employment (including independent contractor assignments, as applicable). This background information may be obtained in the form of consumer reports and/or investigative consumer reports (commonly known as “background reports”). These background reports may be obtained at any time after receipt of your authorization and, if you are hired or engaged by the Company, throughout your employment or your contract period.

HireRight, Inc., or another consumer reporting agency, will prepare or assemble the background reports for the Company. HireRight, Inc. is located and can be contacted by mail at 5151 California, Irvine, CA 92617, and HireRight can be contacted by phone at (800) 400-2761.

The types of information that may be obtained include, but are not limited to: social security number verifications; address history; credit reports and history; criminal records and history; public court records; driving records; accident history; worker’s compensation claims; bankruptcy filings; educational history verifications (e.g., dates of attendance, degrees obtained); employment history verifications (e.g., dates of employment, salary information, reasons for termination, etc.); personal and professional references checks; professional licensing and certification checks; drug/alcohol testing results, and drug/alcohol history in violation of law and/or company policy; and other information bearing on your character, general reputation, personal characteristics, mode of living and credit standing.

This information may be obtained from private and public record sources, including, as appropriate: government agencies and courthouses; educational institutions; former employers; personal interviews with sources such as neighbors, friends and associates; and other information sources. If the Company should obtain information bearing on your credit worthiness, credit standing or credit capacity for reasons other than as required by law, then the Company will use such credit information to evaluate whether you would present an unacceptable risk of theft or other dishonest behavior in the job for which you are being evaluated.

You may request more information about the nature and scope of any investigative consumer reports by contacting the Company. A summary of your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act is also being provided to you.

## ADDITIONAL STATE LAW NOTICES

If you are a California, Maine, Massachusetts, New York or Washington State applicant, employee or contractor, please also note:

**CALIFORNIA:** Pursuant to section 1786.22 of the California Civil Code, you may view the file maintained on you by HireRight during normal business hours. You may also obtain a copy of this file, upon submitting proper identification and paying the costs of duplication services, by appearing at HireRight's offices in person, during normal business hours and on reasonable notice, or by mail. You may also receive a summary of the file by telephone, upon submitting proper identification. HireRight has trained personnel available to explain your file to you, including any coded information. If you appear in person, you may be accompanied by one other person, provided that person furnishes proper identification.

**MAINE:** You have the right, upon request, to be informed of whether an investigative consumer report was requested, and if one was requested, the name and address of the consumer reporting agency furnishing the report. You may request and receive from the Company, within five business days of our receipt of your request, the name, address and telephone number of the nearest unit designated to handle inquiries for the consumer reporting agency issuing an investigative consumer report concerning you. You also have the right, under Maine law, to request and promptly receive from all such agencies copies of any such reports.

**MASSACHUSETTS:** If we request an investigative consumer report, you have the right, upon written request, to a copy of the report.

**NEW YORK:** You have the right, upon request, to be informed of whether or not a consumer report was requested. If a consumer report is requested, you will be provided with the name and address of the consumer reporting agency furnishing the report. You may inspect and receive a copy of the report by contacting that agency. Attached below is additional information about New York law.

**WASHINGTON STATE:** If the Company requests an investigative consumer report, you have the right, upon written request made within a reasonable period of time after your receipt of this disclosure, to receive from the Company a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of the investigation requested by the Company. You also have the right to request from the consumer reporting agency a written summary of your rights and remedies under the Washington Fair Credit Reporting Act.



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### AUTHORIZATION

I have carefully read and understand this Disclosure and Authorization form and the attached summary of rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act. By my signature below, I consent to the release of consumer reports and investigative consumer reports prepared by a consumer reporting agency, such as HireRight, Inc., to the Company and its designated representatives and agents. I understand that if the Company hires me, my consent will apply, and the Company may obtain reports, throughout my employment.

I also understand that information contained in my job application or otherwise disclosed by me before or during my employment, if any, may be used for the purpose of obtaining consumer reports and/or investigative consumer reports.

By my signature below, I authorize law enforcement agencies, learning institutions (including public and private schools and universities), information service bureaus, credit bureaus, record/data repositories, courts (federal, state and local), motor vehicle records agencies, my past or present employers, the military, and other individuals and sources to furnish any and all information on me that is requested by the consumer reporting agency.

By my signature below, I certify the information I provided on this form is true and correct. I agree that this Disclosure and Authorization form in original, faxed, photocopied or electronic (including electronically signed) form will be valid for any reports that may be requested by or on behalf of the Company.

**California, Minnesota or Oklahoma applicants only** – You will be provided with a free copy of any consumer reports or investigative consumer reports obtained on you if you check the box below.

I wish to receive a free copy of the report.

Applicant Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (for ID purposes only) \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

A summary of your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act can be found at <http://www.ftc.gov/credit>

Please return the completed and signed form to Human Resources via fax at (936) 468-1104.

Candidates may also return the form in person to the HR office: Room 201, Austin Building.

**NEW YORK CORRECTION LAW**  
**ARTICLE 23-A**

**LICENSURE AND EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS PREVIOUSLY  
CONVICTED OF ONE OR MORE CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

Section 750. Definitions.

751. Applicability.

752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited.

753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.

754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment.

755. Enforcement.

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§750. Definitions. For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Public agency" means the state or any local subdivision thereof, or any state or local department, agency, board or commission.

(2) "Private employer" means any person, company, corporation, labor organization or association which employs ten or more persons.

(3) "Direct relationship" means that the nature of criminal conduct for which the person was convicted has a direct bearing on his fitness or ability to perform one or more of the duties or responsibilities necessarily related to the license, opportunity, or job in question.

(4) "License" means any certificate, license, permit or grant of permission required by the laws of this state, its political subdivisions or instrumentalities as a condition for the lawful practice of any occupation, employment, trade, vocation, business, or profession. Provided, however, that "license" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include any license or permit to own, possess, carry, or fire any explosive, pistol, handgun, rifle, shotgun, or other firearm.

(5) "Employment" means any occupation, vocation or employment, or any form of vocational or educational training. Provided, however, that "employment" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include membership in any law enforcement agency.

§751. Applicability. The provisions of this article shall apply to any application by any person for a license or employment at any public or private employer, who has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction, and to any license or employment held by any person whose conviction of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction preceded such employment or granting of a license, except where a mandatory forfeiture, disability or bar to employment is imposed by law, and has not been removed by an executive pardon, certificate of relief from disabilities or certificate of good conduct. Nothing in this article shall be construed to affect any right an employer may have with respect to an intentional misrepresentation in connection with an application for employment made by a prospective employee or previously made by a current employee.

§752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited. No application for any license or employment, and no employment or license held by an individual, to which the provisions of this article are applicable, shall be denied or acted upon adversely by reason of the individual's having been previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses, or by reason of a finding of lack of "good moral character" when such finding is based upon the fact that the individual has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses,

unless:

(1) There is a direct relationship between one or more of the previous criminal offenses and the specific license or employment sought or held by the individual; or

(2) the issuance or continuation of the license or the granting or continuation of the employment would involve an unreasonable risk to property or to the safety or welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

§753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.

1. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall consider the following factors:

(a) The public policy of this state, as expressed in this act, to encourage the licensure and employment of persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses.

(b) The specific duties and responsibilities necessarily related to the license or employment sought or held by the person.

(c) The bearing, if any, the criminal offense or offenses for which the person was previously convicted will have on his fitness or ability to perform one or more such duties or responsibilities.

(d) The time which has elapsed since the occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(e) The age of the person at the time of occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(f) The seriousness of the offense or offenses.

(g) Any information produced by the person, or produced on his behalf, in regard to his rehabilitation and good conduct.

(h) The legitimate interest of the public agency or private employer in protecting property, and the safety and welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

2. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall also give consideration to a certificate of relief from disabilities or a certificate of good conduct issued to the applicant, which certificate shall create a presumption of rehabilitation in regard to the offense or offenses specified therein.

§754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment. At the request of any person previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses who has been denied a license or employment, a public agency or private employer shall provide, within thirty days of a request, a written statement setting forth the reasons for such denial.

§755. Enforcement.

1. In relation to actions by public agencies, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by a proceeding brought pursuant to article seventy-eight of the civil practice law and rules.

2. In relation to actions by private employers, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by the division of human rights pursuant to the powers and procedures set forth in article fifteen of the executive law, and, concurrently, by the New York city commission on human rights.

*Para información en español, visite [www.ftc.gov/credit](http://www.ftc.gov/credit) o escribe a la FTC Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A 600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20580*

## **A SUMMARY OF YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT**

The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Here is a summary of your major rights under the FCRA. **For more information, including information about additional rights, go to [www.ftc.gov/credit](http://www.ftc.gov/credit) or write to: Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20580.**

- ❑ **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.** Anyone who uses a credit report or another type of consumer report to deny your application for credit, insurance, or employment – or to take another adverse action against you – must tell you, and must give you the name, address, and phone number of the agency that provided the information.
- ❑ **You have the right to know what is in your file.** You may request and obtain all the information about you in the files of a consumer reporting agency (your “file disclosure”). You will be required to provide proper identification, which may include your Social Security number. In many cases, the disclosure will be free. You are entitled to a free file disclosure if:
  - ❑ a person has taken adverse action against you because of information in your credit report;
  - ❑ you are the victim of identity theft and place a fraud alert in your file;
  - ❑ your file contains inaccurate information as a result of fraud;
  - ❑ you are on public assistance;
  - ❑ you are unemployed but expect to apply for employment within 60 days.

In addition, by September 2005 all consumers will be entitled to one free disclosure every 12 months upon request from each nationwide credit bureau and from nationwide specialty consumer reporting agencies. See [www.ftc.gov/credit](http://www.ftc.gov/credit) for additional information.

- ❑ **You have the right to ask for a credit score.** Credit scores are numerical summaries of your credit-worthiness based on information from credit bureaus. You may request a credit score from consumer reporting agencies that create scores or distribute scores used in residential real property loans, but you will have to pay for it. In some mortgage transactions, you will receive credit score information for free from the mortgage lender.
- ❑ **You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.** If you identify information in your file that is incomplete or inaccurate, and report it to the consumer reporting agency, the agency must investigate unless your dispute is frivolous. See [www.ftc.gov/credit](http://www.ftc.gov/credit) for an explanation of dispute procedures.
- ❑ **Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.** Inaccurate, incomplete or unverifiable information must be removed or corrected, usually within 30 days. However, a consumer agency may continue to report information it has verified as accurate.

- ❑ **Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.** In most cases, a consumer reporting agency may not report negative information that is more than seven years old, or bankruptcies that are more than 10 years old.
- ❑ **Access to your file is limited.** A consumer reporting agency may provide information about you only to people with a valid need – usually to consider an application with a creditor, insurer, employer, landlord, or other business. The FCRA specifies those with a valid need for access.
- ❑ **You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.** A consumer reporting agency may not give out information about you to your employer, or a potential employer, without your written consent given to the employer. Written consent generally is not required in the trucking industry. For more information, go to [www.ftc.gov/credit](http://www.ftc.gov/credit).
- ❑ **You may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.** Unsolicited “prescreened” offers for credit and insurance must include a toll-free phone number you can call if you choose to remove your name and address from the lists these offers are based on. You may opt-out with the nationwide credit bureaus at 1-888-567-8688.
- ❑ **You may seek damages from violators.** If a consumer reporting agency, or, in some cases, a user of consumer reports or a furnisher of information to a consumer reporting agency violates the FCRA, you may be able to sue in state or federal court.
- ❑ **Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.** For more information, visit [www.ftc.gov/credit](http://www.ftc.gov/credit).

**States may enforce the FCRA, and many states have their own consumer reporting laws. In some cases, you may have more rights under state law. For more information, contact your state or local consumer protection agency or your state Attorney General. Federal enforcers are:**

TYPE OF BUSINESS:	PLEASE CONTACT:
Consumer reporting agencies, creditors and others not listed below	Federal Trade Commission: Consumer Response Center – FCRA Washington, DC 20580 1-877-382-4357
National banks, federal branches/agencies of foreign banks (word “National” or initials “N.A.” appear in or after bank’s name)	Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Compliance Management, Mail Stop 6-6 Washington, DC 20219 800-613-6743
Federal Reserve System member banks (except national banks, and federal branches/agencies of foreign banks)	Federal Reserve Board Division of Consumer & Community Affairs Washington, DC 20551 202-452-3693
Savings associations and federally chartered savings banks (word “Federal” or initials “F.S.B.” appear in federal institution’s name)	Office of Thrift Supervision Consumer Complaints Washington, DC 20552 800-842-6929
Federal credit unions (words “Federal Credit Union” appear in institution’s name)	National Credit Union Administration 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314 703-519-4600
State-chartered banks that are not members of the Federal Reserve System	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Consumer Response Center 2345 Grand Avenue, Suite 100 Kansas City, MO 64108-2638 1-877-275-3342
Air, surface, or rail common carriers regulated by former Civil Aeronautics Board or Interstate Commerce Commission	Department of Transportation, Office of Financial Management Washington, DC 20590 202-366-1306
Activities subject to the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921	Department of Agriculture Office of Deputy Administrator- GIPSA Washington, DC 20250 202-720-7051