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Remarks 11/22/21 Criminal Records Review Committee

In order to protect the press and public's constitutional right to report and publish information that is lawfully obtained, newsworthy and true, the committee may want to consider:

- Adding a paragraph similar to Michigan that states, "An entity is not liable for damages or subject to criminal penalties under this section for reporting a public record of conviction that has been set-aside by court order or operation of law, if that record was available as a public record on the date of the report." (Recognizing it would be a civil penalty in Maine).
- Adding a provision to allow the press and public to petition to review records for a legitimate public interest after the record is sealed through this process
- Including a statement that it is not a violation of this statute to report or publish information that is already in the public domain