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IN THE MATTER OF THE :
SEALING OF THE : SWORN STATEMENT
CRIMINAL RECORDS OF :
[PETITIONER] : NYSID:
: DOB: [DATE OF BIRTH]

I, [Petitioner], of full age, being duly sworn according to law, upon this oath depose and say:

1. I am the Petitioner in the matter seeking to have my criminal record sealed.
2. On [Date], I was arrested in [County]. I pleaded guilty to Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree and was sentenced to five years probation in [Month and Year]. Based on my good conduct, on [Date], the court terminated my probation early after I had served a little less than three years. I do not have any other convictions.
3. My offense occurred more than [XX] years ago, when I was a 21-year-old college student. I attempted to purchase items using a credit card I knew had been forged. I was given the card by a counterfeiter, who would pay me for the items I purchased.
4. Upon my arrest, I immediately cooperated with law enforcement without the assistance of an attorney. I agreed to be part of a sting operation and set up a meeting with the credit card counterfeiter, which led to his arrest. As a result of my cooperation, I was not sentenced to jail or prison time.
5. I deeply regret my involvement in such a scheme. As I have matured, I have learned just how harmful counterfeit credit cards can be to the victims. I wish I could reverse the harm that I caused to innocent credit cardholders and will always be sorry for my actions.
6. Since my conviction, I have worked hard to better myself, stay out of trouble, and become a productive member of society. I am currently a [Job Title] for [Company] where I live in [State], which provides a great income.
7. Although I am proud of the life I have built since my conviction, I believe my record is still hindering my ability to fully move forward. Professionally, I have advanced as far as I can. Due to my felony conviction, I am ineligible for promotion to [Job Title]. Whenever I hear about

better job opportunities, I know I will be rejected because of my record. My application for a professional license was also denied due to my conviction.

8. My record has caused personal problems as well. I was expelled from college, and over the years, I have been denied housing because my background checks show a felony conviction. I am not able to hunt or engage in target practice, either.
9. I accept full responsibility for my offense and the consequences that followed. However, I would like the chance to continue proving that I have grown far beyond my past mistakes. Although I do not have any children, I have two godchildren with whom I am very close. I am committed to being a great role model for them and making positive contributions to society.
10. I seek to have my records sealed so that I can continue working towards my full potential, without the shame and stigma of my conviction holding me back. I believe sealing my records will better allow me to pursue opportunities, secure housing, and lead a productive life. For these reasons, I respectfully request that this Honorable Court grant my application for record sealing.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true and are made of my own free will. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Signed: _____
[Petitioner]

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

_____ day of _____, 2021

(notary)