



WHY YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT CCAP

WHAT IS CCAP?

CCAP is the term most people use when they are talking about Wisconsin's Internet access to state court cases. It is a testament to Wisconsin's commitment to open records and public disclosure. Not only is it available to everyone, it is free too! You can find out if job applicants have a history of drunken driving, if they've been charged with a felony or if they are embroiled in a lawsuit.

But CCAP is not full proof. And what you don't know can hurt you.

CCAP IS VOLUNTARY

CCAP is strictly a voluntary program. Wisconsin does not mandate its use. That means all 72 counties in the state decide what they are going to enter and when they are going to enter it. CCAP does not oversee the data. There is a human element here too. Workers in counties can forget to enter the information or enter it inaccurately.

PORTAGE COUNTY HAS OPTED OUT

Portage County has not joined CCAP. The only records you will find on the system from this county are probate cases. So if a job applicant has committed a crime in Portage you won't know it unless you visit the Clerk of Courts office there.

OLDER CASES ARE NOT THERE

How far back the records go differ by county. And a lot of that has to do with when each of the counties automated their records and joined CCAP. For instance, while Adams County began using CCAP in July of 1992, Outagamie County didn't join until December of 2001. That's almost ten years later!

CONVERTED CASES

That doesn't mean that there hasn't been an attempt to convert the older cases to the CCAP system. But there are problems here too. According to the CCAP website, some old cases have been converted by the individual counties. However, of those converted cases, some do not have complete information.

THESE ARE WISCONSIN CASES ONLY

And of what you do see, you will never find out-of-state court cases on CCAP. Guess who knows that better than anyone else? Criminals.

WHAT ELSE IS MISSING?

Finally you will never find the following on CCAP: bankruptcies, mental commitments, juvenile records or expunged misdemeanors.

**CCAP IS A USEFUL TOOL. BUT IT SHOULD BE ONLY ONE OF MANY IN
YOUR PRE-EMPLOYMENT TOOL BOX.
THAT'S WHERE API SERVICES CAN HELP.**

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