When Records Restrict

Trace how a court record can affect access to services.

TOT.C.10.2.E "social credit system to monitor the population, denial of access to schools, travel, banks, and other state institutions,"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline how officials record or share information, circle the services that may be affected, and number the steps from a court order to a possible travel limit.

A Court List Beyond the Courtroom

1. Imagine a person who has the means to pay a debt but refuses after a Chinese court orders payment. In China, courts can place people who fail to comply with certain judgments on a public list of untrustworthy judgment debtors. Officials record identifying information and the reason for listing, then share the list with other government agencies and some businesses. This is one part of China's social credit system, a collection of policies for tracking compliance with laws and rules. It is not a single nationwide score assigned to every person for every action.

2. A person on the list may face limits beyond the courtroom. Courts may restrict listed debtors from buying plane tickets or certain train tickets, limiting travel. Rules also prohibit these debtors from paying for their children to attend expensive private schools. The restriction targets a parent's high-cost spending, but the child may feel its effects. Lenders can check public lists when deciding whether to offer loans. That does not mean every listed person is barred from having a bank account. In each case, information gathered for a court judgment can affect access to a service.

3. Public schools are not generally closed to the children of listed debtors, and restrictions vary by rule and place. The system combines records held by courts and government offices rather than watching everyone through one device. Supporters say sharing records can help enforce court orders that would otherwise be ignored. Critics warn that public listing may expose private information and that restrictions may hurt family members or make it harder to earn money to pay a debt. To judge a policy, ask who records the information, who uses it, which service is affected, and how errors can be corrected.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How can information about an unpaid court-ordered debt reach organizations beyond the court?

2. Trace the steps from refusing to obey a court payment order to a possible travel limit.

3. How might a restriction involving private schools affect someone other than the listed debtor?

4. How might the list affect a bank loan decision, and what banking ban does the passage say it does not create?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A city proposes posting the names of people who ignore court orders and blocking them from a public job-training program. In four or five sentences, explain how the record could lead to a restriction, identify one possible harm, and propose one safeguard.

When Records Restrict

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline how officials record or share information, circle the services that may be affected, and number the steps from a court order to a possible travel limit. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How can information about an unpaid court-ordered debt reach organizations beyond the court?	**Officials put identifying information and the reason for listing on a public list, then share it with agencies and some businesses.**
2	Trace the steps from refusing to obey a court payment order to a possible travel limit.	**A person who refuses to pay despite having the means may be placed on the court list. The court may then restrict that person from buying plane tickets or certain train tickets.**
3	How might a restriction involving private schools affect someone other than the listed debtor?	**A listed parent cannot pay for a child to attend an expensive private school, so the child may be affected.**
4	How might the list affect a bank loan decision, and what banking ban does the passage say it does not create?	**A lender can check the list when deciding whether to offer a loan. Listing does not bar every listed person from having a bank account.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The city would record a person's failure to obey a court order and post the name publicly. Program staff could check that list and deny the person a place in training. Losing access to training might make it harder for the person to find work and meet the court's order. Before denying access, the city should let the person challenge an incorrect listing.

Accept answers that accurately connect a recorded court violation to a specific restriction. For Your Turn, the safeguard should address a plausible problem with the proposed rule.