

What To Do When Charged With DUI

How To Find The Best Defense Attorney

Being charged with DUI is no laughing matter. If your case is not handled correctly, you could lose your drivers license, go to a trial in which a jury decides your fate and consequently could even spend time in jail.

Driving under the influence is a criminal offense and thus you will need the help and expertise of a criminal defense lawyer.

This report gives valuable information on helping you to get the best lawyer for your situation. (Please remember that some of these guidelines are speaking about criminal laws and defense in general terms, not specific to DUI.)

In this report, you will find an overview of criminal law so you can be better educated. Also included are guidelines as to what to look for in a lawyer so you can make the best decision.

Good luck in finding a great attorney and resolving your case! I hope this report gives you the information you need to make finding a defense attorney less stressful.

To help you find the right attorney for you, please go to <http://www.DUI-Defense-Lawyers.info/findalawyer> to use a free service that will match you with the best lawyer for you. It's simple and it's free.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Criminal Defense Lawyer and DUI Cases	Page 3
Chapter 2: Criminal Law: A Better Understanding to Defend Oneself	Page 5
Chapter 3: Criminal Defense Lawyer: An Overview	Page 7
Chapter 4: Criminal Defense Lawyers Your get out of Jail Card	Page 9
Chapter 5: Ways on Determining a Criminal Defense Lawyer's Competency	Page 11
Chapter 6: Criminal Defense Lawyers and their Expertise	Page 13
Chapter 7: Private or Public Criminal Defense Lawyer	Page 15
Chapter 8: The Ideal Criminal Defense Lawyer	Page 17
Chapter 9: Qualities of a Good Criminal Defense Lawyer	Page 19
Chapter 10: Effective Ways on Selecting an appropriate Criminal Defense Lawyer	Page 21
Chapter 11: Finding a Capable Criminal Defense Lawyer	Page 23
Chapter 12: Hiring the Right Criminal Defense Lawyer	Page 25

Chapter 1

Criminal Defense Lawyer and DUI Cases

Don't drink and drive. It's a very simple rule and yet many people violate it. If you're facing a DUI case, you can still escape from punishment through the help of a capable criminal defense lawyer.

Drinking under liquor influence is a bad thing to do because you're putting yourself in danger and other people in the road. Oftentimes, punishment includes suspension of your driver's license so make sure that you act immediately. If you're brought to jail and you're required to post bail to ensure your freedom, contact your defense lawyer at once.

After being bailed out, it's now time to talk with your lawyer and handle the matter in court together. In the US, DUI cases are divided into 2 cases - the criminal court case and the case under the Department of Motor Vehicles. These cases should be handled within ten days beginning on the date of your arrest.

Like all other criminal court cases, it will start with the arraignment. Most defense lawyers will tell their client to plead 'not guilty' even if they're guilty of the crime. If this is the case, your defense lawyer will have ample time to review all the case facts to establish defense.

There are so many defense strategies that the lawyer can use to prove your innocence. DUI is not as grave as murder, so try to relax and remember not to commit it next time around.

Most defense lawyers will argue that there is lack of evidence or probably cause when the police stopped your car. By making this argument, evidences to be presented by the police may be suppressed.

Another good argument is the faulty result of the 'blood alcohol test' or BAC. Through this test, the alcohol level in the person's blood can be determined. Unsafe driving can only happen once the individual has reached the maximum limit of the alcohol level. Faulty results may be due to improper administration of the BAC test, improperly maintained test equipments, or your lawyer can also argue that you have a medical health condition which impairs the test's reliability.

The defense lawyer can also attack the witnesses, particularly the officer who arrested you. If the defense can ruin the credibility of the police concerned, then the case will surely favor you. Some witnesses tend to feel uneasy when sitting on the witness stand and if your lawyer is intimidating, the witness may be able to give inconsistent testimonies.

If you're guilty of DUI and your defense lawyer has done everything in his capacity to establish defense but with no luck, you may be advised to accept an agreement for the favorable plea. If you do this, the charges for your DUI case will be reduced.

Clients who wish to continue the trial despite the advice of the defense lawyer to accept such agreement mentioned above will only suffer the consequences. The accused can incur a permanent criminal record which will be attached to him for the rest of his life.

Make sure that you hire a criminal defense lawyer who is an expert in handling DUI cases. Criminal cases vary and so you really need to get a good one. If you don't want to be charged with DUI, never drive when you're already drunk. Preventing DUI cases is still the best so that you won't incur any legal costs.

Chapter 2

Criminal Law: A Better Understanding to Defend Oneself

Knowledge is the only weapon you have when it comes to defending oneself, verbally. If one has a better understanding regarding criminal law, then he or she has the advantage of being intact with crimes that will put one's life in jeopardy. In order to be defended, one must first know the basics of criminal law. Criminal law is a part of law which regulates investigation about a particular case, establish appropriate punishment, define crimes committed, and prosecute people who are accused.

Criminal law has both substantive law and criminal procedure. Both regulate enforcement and implementation of substantive criminal law. Substantive law defines punishment and crime. You are expected to be punished in accordance with the crime that was done. Example, if you are found guilty of murder, then a murderer's punishment will be set on you. Criminal procedure, on the other hand, is primarily concerned with the different legal rules that should be followed and steps which one must take in order to prosecute, investigate, convict, apprehend, charge, and even give punishments to individuals who are accused of violating certain laws. Technically, criminal procedures describe how things should be properly conducted.

One of the main purposes of criminal law is protecting the public from any form of harm which may inflict punishment on the people who did something wrong or even threatening to the lives of others. There are varying aims regarding harm protection in criminal law. It might be bodily injury that resulted to unhealthy complications, physical harm, immorality, damage or loss of property, government danger, and disturbance to the peace and order of the public. Any form of conduct that has the cause for disturbance or was not successful in causing it is reason enough to be constituted as a crime.

Both criminal and civil law has a certain common system which responds to the harmful acts that are committed by different individuals. Although it is expected that for every kind of law, a corresponding response is reserved. If a person has already committed a crime against the public, and has become a pertinent injury to the society, then the case would be prosecuted as a kind of criminal case. If one is convicted or is found guilty, he or she should be penalized through criminal law by imprisonment, a fine or even death. There are cases wherein the person has invoked both civil and criminal crime.

There are theories wherein criminal punishment is are set. These theories tend to explain and justify the different goals of criminal law which includes:

- Deterrence
- Rehabilitation
- Retribution
- Restraint
- Restoration

There will be circumstances wherein overlapping of punishments happens. That is why punishment tends to promote a conflict and goal.

To find out more about a crime, a criminal defense lawyer handles the case. Once everything is set, outcome of the trial can be found in different sources like the criminal division, asking the clerk, and getting copies. The internet is also a good source of information though it may cost you. If you wanted copies more than one, then request it to the court although if you wanted to get the bulk, you must be able to afford.

In every state, there are specific general guidelines that must be followed therefore do not expect that rules and regulations are the same.

Chapter 3

Criminal Defense Lawyer: An Overview

Criminal defense lawyers are people who specialize in defending individuals and different companies that are charged with offenses or criminal conduct. Technically, there are several areas that criminal defense lawyers are involved with. They deal with how the crime has concerned the person or case that they are presented with. Generally, defendants with criminal cases are given with the opportunity to have the presumption of being innocent until the prosecutors have proven that every important element of the crime committed was beyond reasonable doubt.

Majority of heinous crimes in the United States are brought up to juries of about 12 people sitting inside the court whenever hearings are ongoing. The jury brings about unanimous decisions with their verdict which all comes down to either being acquitted or convicted with the said crime. "Hung jury" happens when there is splitting of decisions occur. When this happens, a retrial will be made. Lawyers focused on criminal cases are bound to actively in pursuit to their client's welfare and cause all throughout the stages of the prosecution.

A lot of lawyers based in the United States are being employed by different government entities and are usually referred to as being public defenders. Oftentimes, public defenders are those who are fresh grads from law school and wanted to seek instant courtroom experience although there are still older, and more experienced defenders who remained being a public defender and consider it as a lifetime oath. There are also private lawyers who retain their being a defendant to clients.

Working through criminal defense tend to be intimidating on the part of other lawyers due to the specter of clients going in jail for quite some time or others being subjected to unworthy capital punishment. Because of this fact and some other factors, criminal defense lawyers can be referred to as the golden standard of defending criminal cases.

Going through Criminal Law

Penal or criminal law is known to be the body which provides sanctions and punishments for any kind of legal offenses. Processing of criminal justice starts with an alleged crime. An allegation is a form of accusation which the complainant made or stated. Indictment or a sort of information needs to be filed to

court in order to make certain changes which are eventually brought by a jury. According to the 5th Amendment, cases must first be seen by the Federal Grand Jury most especially if the crime is against the United States government. For every state, there are procedures that must be followed.

The following are the crimes which are under criminal law statutes:

- Counterfeiting or forgery
- Child abuse
- Drugs
- Appellate Law
- Homicide or murder
- Government and healthcare fraud
- Bribery
- Tax evasion
- Theft

There are several criminal laws that Congress passes for the legislative body. Every state has their own agreement of criminal laws which follow Federal Statutes. Causal punishment and crime severity are determined by laws set forth within a state. That is why, if you are in need for any kind of legal representation involving an alleged crime, never allow yourself to punish someone by bare hands.

Because of the difficulty in interpreting the criminal code, it is most appropriate that you first seek advise with a competent criminal defense lawyer for him or he to handle the case.

Chapter 4

Criminal Defense Lawyers: Your Get Out of Jail Card

If you or any family member is facing a serious criminal offense, getting a criminal defense lawyer is essential. Having a competent individual to defend you will somehow ease your burden. To ordinary individuals, the legal process is very complicated but with the help of a defense lawyer, the entire process is simplified. The client will be protected from the time the warrant is issued until such time when they need to make an appeal after being convicted.

There is a great difference between charges being dropped and that of getting a sentence in jail. If you hire a competent, experienced, and qualified defense lawyer, you have a high chance of being acquitted from your criminal case.

Defense lawyers handle different kinds of areas which often include domestic violence, drug crimes, traffic violations, probation offenses, parole, juvenile crimes, and white-collar crimes. Lawyers who handle drug crimes deal with different charges such as manufacture, possession, substance abuse (e.g. marijuana and narcotics), and distribution.

When you're looking for a defense attorney, there are several factors to consider. A fresh law graduate is not as competent as compared to lawyers who have handled many criminal cases all throughout his career. An experienced lawyer is a good choice especially if he has positive records in the past. Try to inquire how many cases the lawyer has handled and how many cases he was able to win in the past; that way, you can get a clear picture of how the lawyer performs.

Some lawyers have not even handled any trial in court and so they tend to be less confident when they are already out in the battlefield. Lawyers who are not confident with the judicial process are definitely not a good choice because he can't defend you effectively.

When looking for competent and good defense lawyers, you must choose the one with reliable certification. Since defense lawyers specialize in different fields or areas, you have to ensure that you hire a defense lawyer who has handled related criminal cases in the past. For instance, if you're facing a domestic violence case, don't hire a lawyer which specializes in drug crimes. Domestic violence and drug crimes are very

different from each other although there are times when the domestic violence is associated with the drug abuse; but this is not the case all the time.

You have to set an appointment with the lawyer so that you can meet with him personally. By doing so, you can assess the situation. There are times when you don't feel comfortable with a certain individual. If this is how you feel, try to look for another lawyer whom you're comfortable to talk with and entrust your deepest secrets. Try to inquire about the rates charged by the lawyer. Some lawyers charge flat fees while others charge hourly rates. This is a very important factor because hiring a lawyer can cost you huge money over the long run.

Once you find the best lawyer in your area, you have to tell all the details of the case to your defense attorney. Do not hide something from your lawyer because this can negatively affect the case.

You'll never know what the prosecution is going to throw at you and if your criminal defense lawyer knows everything, you don't have to be afraid to be in court.

Chapter 5

Ways on Determining a Criminal Defense Lawyer's Competency

One of these days, your life will completely depend on the saving skills of your criminal defense lawyer. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that you assess the competency level of your attorney before hiring him or her to represent you in court. During times when funds are very much limited, you have to find someone who knows the twists and turns of criminal laws and will not cost you that much. Following the simple criteria on how to review credentials of your lawyer will help you attaining the right mind and attitude in choosing the best. If you don't need an attorney at this very moment, someone you know might need it or you might get into big trouble in the near future.

Usually, public defenders or criminal defense lawyers are given on the day of arrest. This is mandatory although a bit unfair. Why? If you have no funds of affording a high-priced attorney, then chances are left with appointed public defenders who might just be one of those newly college grads wanting to gain more experience. If that's the case, then your life is in jeopardy. On the other hand, not all cases handled by novice public defenders fail; some are able to successfully make it through.

Assuming you have been accused of a certain crime that you refuse to accept. You pleaded "not guilty". After the arraignment, it is mandatory that you meet with your attorney and discuss matters at hand. As expected, your public defender will meet with you during arraignment and on trial day. Depending on the severity of the crime being accused, you are expected to get consultations with your attorney. Never bargain when in contact with such circumstances. Prosecutors will try to get quick conviction in order to avoid any trial and prevent you from finding out that the case filed against you is insufficient enough to even be tackled in court.

During meetings with you attorney, it is important that he or she provides you a copy of every section that you are charged with. Review every piece of element which was charged to you. Further review the section where penalties are written in order for you to have an idea on what to get if you get convicted.

Make sure that your lawyer reviews thoroughly the prosecutor's point of discovery prior to changing your mind of plea or even before accepting any kind of bargain plea offered by the

prosecutor's side. A reliable attorney should know how to discuss the elements presented in the crime and how to deal with the documented evidence which the prosecutor have or doesn't have. One of the vital areas wherein an accused is saved from being convicted is thorough investigation of the evidence put up by the opposing side. This is a great leap on winning a criminal case.

To be able to survive courtroom proceedings, your attorney must know every bits and pieces of court rules and most especially the guidelines involved on what is being alleged to you. Several times, public defense attorney only waits for the prosecutor to convey the punishment in store for the accused. And because of public defenders fail to recognize this mistake, their clients get sentenced not indicated in the sentenced guidelines which is quite alarming.

You have to take full note of these important pointers in order to identify the appropriate criminal defense lawyer.

Chapter 6

Criminal Defense Lawyers and their Expertise

Lawyers have different fields of specialization. Even those who belong to the criminal defense field still have their own expertise because of the different range of criminal cases are covered. Criminal defense lawyers are professionals who provide the essential legal services to the accused. When an individual is accused of a crime, he is still innocent unless otherwise proven guilty.

When you hire a defense lawyer, you can expect that your lawyer will argue certain points based on the various sections of the law. It is expected that the defense lawyer will do his best to defend his client from being convicted; whether the client is guilty or innocent. And this may be the reason why some people call lawyers as the 'great pretenders' in the world.

Defense lawyers are further classified into sections depending on the criminal cases they are handling like rape, murder, sex crimes, theft, kidnapping, domestic violence, etc. In behalf of the accused, the defense lawyer will argue with the trial court and provide the necessary legal services to their clients.

At present, there is an increasing number of crimes all over the world. Because of this, the demand for defense lawyers is also increasing. Lawyers charge different rates and fees depending on their popularity, successfulness, and fame. However, most defense lawyers charge affordable price especially if the people in their area have limited resources.

Being a criminal defense lawyer is not easy because it is an all around job. Lawyers should know how to analyze, inspect, and examine criminal cases. Because of this wide responsibility, very few defense lawyers become successful in their chosen fields.

Some lawyers practice their profession individually but there are also those who serve in groups. Arguments made in the courtroom may vary even if the case is the same since the laws and statutes vary among states. When you're facing a criminal case, it is advised that you get a defense lawyer from your state. That way, your lawyer will be more familiarized with the local and state penal laws.

Perhaps now you already know the importance of getting a criminal defense lawyer no matter how small the crime is. If you're facing a dilemma because you're charged of a criminal offense, don't lose hope. When the arrest warrant is issued and you get arrested, call your lawyer immediately. If you don't have one, try to find a good defense lawyer. If you can't afford to pay for a lawyer, the government can give you one. You can't face the courts without a defense lawyer because that is not acceptable.

The internet is widely available these days and so you can easily search for experienced and qualified defense lawyers. Determine their field of expertise so that you can get the right lawyer to handle your particular case.

You need to consider some things aside from the lawyer's field of expertise. You have to check their backgrounds including the total number of cases handled and the number of successful ones. Try to inquire about the rates and fees charged by the lawyer. It would be best to choose a lawyer which charges a flat rate so that you can also save on your legal costs.

Criminal defense lawyers are very important. Their presence can't be neglected in court proceedings especially if the lawyer you find is very confident, experienced, and intimidating.

Chapter 7

Private or Public Criminal Defense Lawyer

If you're facing a legal dilemma at present, will you go for a private or a public criminal defense lawyer? Individuals who can't afford to hire private defense lawyers are hesitant to seek legal help from public defense lawyers because they think that their case will be 'sold out'.

Many people distrust public lawyers because and they often find themselves spending a lot of money on private defense lawyers.

There is very little difference between the services of a public and private criminal defense lawyers. Paying huge money for legal services does not ensure you of a quality representation in court. As long as the individual is able to finish a degree in law and passed the board examinations that person is already qualified to provide legal service. Most new law graduates who are not hired as public defenders turn to private law firms to get a job. In fact, the best lawyers are the public defenders.

When hiring a private defense lawyer, you have to conduct thorough research and some background checks. You need to choose your defense lawyer wisely. You're free to choose your lawyer but it will entail some work, time, and huge money on your part. Most private lawyers charge hourly rates which can get very expensive over the long run. Beware of private lawyers who don't have a specialization.

This refers to defense lawyers who handle different kinds of criminal cases. For instance, right now, he's working on a domestic violence case and his next case is about drug abuse. If the private defense lawyer works on different kinds of criminal cases, his services will not be very efficient.

Public lawyers gain lots of experience because of the heavy caseloads. In most cases, public defenders have supervisors and colleagues who are willing to answer some of their questions if they are not very familiar with a certain legal concern. If you seek legal help from public defenders, you will surely be able to get a lawyer who specializes in your particular case. Criminal cases vary. You can find domestic violence cases, drug abuse, traffic violations, and a lot more.

A good defense lawyer specializes in only one particular case. Being an all around criminal defense lawyer may be good but very

few are successful in it. A lawyer can only achieve expertise, respect, and reputation if they focus in only one type of criminal case.

The public defense lawyers also gain lots of trial experience because cases can still lead to other trials. Indigent individuals can also take advantage of free legal services but only after a thorough evaluation of their status and lifestyle. In most cases, public defenders charge minimal fees which are very affordable. When choosing a public defender, beware of the so called 'dump trucks'. These are the lawyers who tend to give public lawyers a bad image and name. There are even times when these lawyers work with the prosecutors to ensure a guilty plea from their client.

As you can see, private and public criminal defense lawyers have their own advantages and disadvantages. It is up to the individual to choose between the two. If you can't afford for private legal service, then you will end up with public defenders.

In any case, you have to ensure that you can work comfortably with your lawyer and that you can trust him.

Chapter 8

The Ideal Criminal Defense Lawyer

In the legal industry, criminal cases are among the very important aspects. The life of the accused depends on the capability of the criminal defense lawyer to argue with the prosecution. The defense lawyer should also have a convincing power to get a favorable verdict from the jury. How can you find an ideal defense lawyer these days?

An ideal lawyer should be knowledgeable. He should not focus mainly on the penal laws but they should also know and understand all the case's significant details. The lawyer must be able to reveal some of the case's essentials to the jury in order to prove that the prosecution is wrong. If the lawyer's client is innocent, the more there is a need to prove the innocence of the individual to prevent injustice.

One can only say that the lawyer is ideal if he or she performs all the legal duties well which can include the following:

1. Arrange for the release of his client (if the police has already served their warrant and brought the accused to the police station).
2. To ensure justice prevails
3. Take the required actions when preparing legal papers and in complying with the procedures
4. Gives his client the appropriate advice
5. Recommends to his client the best option or alternative to take in order to escape punishment and get justice
6. Informs his clients about the legal rights and other legal options

If the defense lawyer has duties or obligations, then he or she will need the following qualities to become an ideal criminal defense lawyer:

1. Qualified and licensed criminal defense lawyer with adequate experiences that are related to your current criminal case

2. Ardent about ensuring justice, sincere, honest, and is eager to protect his client's rights
3. Confident in court to daunt or intimidate the prosecution
4. A good actor especially in front of the jury
5. Understand police work
6. Capable of conducting investigations and in examining facts and clues related to the case
7. Understands the law's hidden facets to come up with surprises in court
8. Posses good reputation
9. Extremely intelligent and fairly deals with clients
10. Optimistic and accepts no defeat
11. Adventurous and seek or develop new strategies for the good of the criminal case

Now that you know the responsibilities or duties and the ideal qualities of the defense lawyer, you will not find it hard to search for the best lawyer in your area. Keep in mind that laws vary from one state to another and so it would be best to hire a local defense lawyer.

You can also benefit a lot from hiring a local lawyer. You can contact your defense lawyer easily and you can even visit his office personally for an appointment. You will get personalized legal service and you can carry out all the legal matters with ease. Criminal defense lawyers are essential when you're charged of a certain crime. You can't defend yourself alone in court because the court of law won't allow it.

Search for the experienced criminal defense lawyer in your area now. It can take some time before you find a good lawyer but it can make a big difference. With a competent lawyer, you can be a free man again. If you don't want to end up in prison, be wise in choosing your defense lawyer and look for the qualities mentioned above.

Chapter 9

Qualities of a Good Criminal Defense Lawyer

When you're involved in a certain criminal case, you're in serious trouble and you will need a good criminal defense lawyer. It is very important for criminal defense lawyers to possess good qualities so that they will be able to defend the accused and at the same time, ensure just treatment of the law.

A good lawyer who handles criminal cases should be well-versed with the laws and they should know how to comprehend with the case's intricacies. There are times when the accused has been framed and therefore, he or she is innocent. The task of the criminal defense lawyer is really difficult because he should prove to the jury that the prosecution is wrong by highlighting brass attacks. By doing so, his client will be given justice.

How will you know if the criminal defense lawyer is among the best in the legal field? Finding out about a certain lawyer's reputation is easy these days through the use of the internet. Try to talk with unconnected sources so that you will find out his ratings. You need to set an appointment so that you can at least tell if you're comfortable in his presence and that you can tell him your deepest secrets. In every criminal case, the accused should confide all his secrets and knowledge so that the lawyer can make the necessary defense plan.

Whether the crime is small or big, you will need a competent defense lawyer. Through the lawyer's help, you can be released for the time being and he will take care of all the papers and handle the legal procedures. If you can't afford to pay for the services of the defense lawyer, the state is obliged to provide you with a lawyer who will defend you in your case.

These are the qualities of a good and competent criminal defense lawyer:

- Knows the various criminal laws and well-qualified
- Passionate about protecting his client's rights to promote justice
- Intimidating, confident, and bold during court proceedings
- A good lawyer is also a great actor who possesses emoting skills so that he will gain the jury's favor

- Should have effective convincing powers and prove his client's despair or innocence
- Has won many similar cases
- Can stand up in front of the judge with confidence and is not intimidated easily especially by the prosecution.
- Understand police work; able to find out facts and clues to the case
- Knows the law's hidden facets in order to spring unexpected surprises when the prosecution least expects it
- Honest and fair in all his dealings
- Knows how to deal with various kinds of individuals like other lawyers, police, and detectives

It's quite ordinary for lawyers to receive threats when they're handling a big case. You need to find a lawyer who is not easily threatened and one who doesn't accept defeat. Make sure that you choose a lawyer who is adventurous and is passionate about all kinds of legal matters.

Criminal defense lawyer is vital in every criminal case. If you're in need of a defense lawyer, you have to ensure that he possesses all or most of the qualities mentioned earlier. Check their backgrounds to find out about his past performances in court.

Finding a competent and good defense lawyer should be your priority in every criminal case you're facing.

Chapter 10

Effective Ways on Selecting an appropriate Criminal Defense Lawyer

One of the biggest mistakes that people do when being accused of a crime is that they fail to get a lawyer who would fit the job - criminal defense lawyer. This is most applicable to those being accused of a crime that was not their doing. Criminal defense lawyers are those who are all set to put up a good fight in making a stand just to prove your innocence in front of a judge and the jury. In order to get the most out of your case, you have to: first, find the most fitting lawyer and second, should be within your paying capacity.

In order to help you figure out the most appropriate criminal lawyer for your case, no matter how serious charges against you are, here are some effective ways on picking out the best lawyers in town.

Consult different sources

One of the major reliable sources to start your search is to consult locally, the bar association in your area. You will get ideas on who should be appropriate for a specific case. You will hear recommendations from different personalities on who are qualified in defending people against crimes committed. Make compilations on potential lawyers. If this is not enough for you, you drop by the Internet and check for law firms who have several recommendations regarding criminal law.

Select from the list provided

When you are already finish gathering probable choices for criminal lawyer, it's time have a word with each lawyer. Contact every attorney on your list. Through phone contact, you'll be able to get your first impression because of how they approach people. It's more like a phone interview only a bit informal. Professional and courteous lawyers will have even a glitch of time to listen to what you will say and react regarding your problem. On the other hand, hustlers, who have only the idea on making things worse, will usually ask you to meet them in order to charge you for the visit.

Ask the cost

This is the most grievous part of finding for an attorney because some would just bring in the cost like they have no concern for their client. Before agreeing to your contract, make sure to ask about the credentials of the attorney, cost of his services and most importantly, how many cases were successful at his expense. Generally, if the lawyer has a good track record and made it good during his college days, and if he or she belongs to one of the most prestigious law firm in town, then the cost will be overwhelming. Sometimes, no matter how affordable it is, selecting an attorney based on court appointment is not advisable.

Choose

Before coming up with a decision, make sure that the one you have in mind has good credentials and is successful in the field of defending the innocent. You must also have a good feel for the lawyer that you have chosen otherwise trust will be difficult to build and will make your meetings and sessions uneasy for the both of you. Remember, this person must have what it takes to represent you in any court.

An attorney who works for the interest of his or her client is considered as one of the best. That is how criminal defense lawyers are selected.

Chapter 11

Finding a Capable Criminal Defense Lawyer

No man is an island and that is definitely true. You can't stand alone especially if you're facing a criminal case. There is nothing wrong in seeking a helping hand. If you don't have a competent defense lawyer, you might end up in jail even if you're innocent. The legal process is complex and it will be easier to understand them if you have a good defense lawyer.

The law states that an accused is still innocent until he is proven guilty. For the defense lawyers, their primary objective is to prevent the conviction of their clients, whether the client is guilty or innocent. Only the defense lawyer knows this fact and with their guidance, the accused can make a guilty or innocent plea. Hiring a local defense lawyer is your best alternative because you can easily schedule an appointment with the lawyer at any time, when needed. Laws differ from one state to another and so hiring a local lawyer is a good choice because he will be more familiar with the local laws related to the crime.

Being a good defense lawyer is not just about getting good education. It's also about being able to handle the pressure inside the courtroom during trials and knowing how to deal with different kinds of individuals with confidence.

Criminal cases can include robbery, homicide, assaults, kidnapping, drug offense, sexual offense, DUI, traffic crime, vehicular manslaughter, and many other crimes. Lawyers have different field of specializations and a criminal defense lawyer should know how to handle various kinds of criminal cases. Still, it would be best to choose a lawyer who previously handled similar criminal cases. That way, you can be sure that the lawyer is already well-versed with the court proceedings.

It is very important that you check the services provided by the lawyer. It's a good idea to find a defense lawyer who covers the case completely. This will include police and prosecutor contacts, details of your arrest, all the criminal charges, posting bails, and the possibility of getting acquitted. The lawyer should be by your side in the entire case process and most especially, during the proclamation of the sentence.

Once you're arrested for a certain crime, contact your defense lawyer at once. Some individuals have their own defense lawyers

but most people do not. They will only search for a defense lawyer when they need them. There are also those who can't afford to pay for the services of defense lawyers because of their limited resources. There are public defense lawyers who can handle cases for the needy.

If you can afford to hire your very own personal defense lawyer, then find the best one in your area. It's a very good idea to ask for referrals because the person you asked may be referring a friend or a close business associate. Try to conduct your own search for the best and experienced defense lawyers in your area.

That way, you can get unbiased opinions. You will be able to choose a good defense lawyer who you can trust with all the details of the case. Conducting a background investigation is a must so that you can assess the potentials of the defense lawyer.

So you see, finding a capable criminal defense lawyer is a must and it's not a very easy task. You need to exert effort, time, and money.

Chapter 12

Hiring the Right Criminal Defense Lawyer

Penal or criminal law refers to the rules which administer the punishments for several legal offenses. This is enforced by the government and it also varies from each state. States follow their own procedures in dealing with the committed offenses, but all the states give punishment when the accused is proven to have failed in complying with the law. The said punishments can be simple to moderate but there also times when the courts give severe ones like execution. If you're facing a criminal case at present, you will need to hire a knowledgeable criminal defense lawyer.

The criminal lawyer's task is to defend the accused, his client. The accused can't represent himself in the courts and if he can't afford to pay for his personal defense lawyer, the state will assign one to him. Being an expert in criminal defense takes a lot of work, experience, and knowledge. You can't become a proficient lawyer overnight. Even if you're a law graduate, that doesn't make you one of the best in the legal field. You must be able to find a defense lawyer who understands your feelings, the situation you're facing, and will inform you of the possible options in order to carry on with the case.

You have to examine several aspects when hiring a defense lawyer. One of these aspects is experience. It is very important that you find a defense lawyer who is already experienced in dealing with the case you're involved in. Oftentimes, the number of cases handled is not very important and you need to focus your attention to the lawyer's winning records.

If the lawyer is quite successful in most of the criminal cases he handled in the past, this means that he can adapt to the changing views and moods of the society. Experienced lawyers have already seen different kinds of outcomes in the cases they handled and they learned from their past experiences. As years past, the lawyer gains a lot of knowledge which he can use to resolve current criminal cases. It will be easier for them to bring out viewpoints and ideas to their client's advantage.

If you can find an experienced defense lawyer, he will also possess respect and confidence. The ideas of the lawyer are presented more effectively if he is confident in the courtroom. A lawyer who is respected by the judges, fellow lawyers, and the community is also an efficient individual, in and out of the

court. He will be able to get favorable rulings and even win the crucial motions.

Make sure that the defense lawyer cares for you and is not just after the money you're going to pay. It would also be good if you can inquire about the fees charged by the defense lawyer. You see, some lawyers charge flat fees from the start to the end of the case while others charge hourly rates. You also have to ensure that the lawyer is around whenever you need him and should be easily reached.

Not all defense lawyers are passionate about their work. Try to assess if you're comfortable with the lawyer so that you can tell him all the details of your case; if you feel uneasy, try to look for another lawyer in your area. A bit of research on the internet can help.