

# SPECIAL REPORT

# THE 10 MYTHS OF DEFENDING YOUR CRIMINAL CASE

You're about to discover the little-known strategies that can save you from needless heartaches and protect your future.

*By John Razumich*





# THE 10 MYTHS OF DEFENDING YOUR CRIMINAL CASE

You have been charged with a crime and you don't know which way to turn. You are afraid and worried. When you are charged with a crime, there are many consequences that could threaten your future, even beyond the immediate worry of jail time and a large fine.

It's important for you to act quickly. Contact an experienced and skilled criminal defense attorney as soon as possible.

To help you get clear about your options, let's take a look at 10 common myths.

## NOTES

# **MYTH NUMBER 1:**

## **I DON'T NEED AN ATTORNEY; I CAN HANDLE THIS CLAIM ON MY OWN**

From the very beginning of your situation, legal representation can arrange for bail and negotiate favorable terms for your release. An experienced criminal defense attorney can also ensure that you are being treated well by law enforcement and that the rules of evidence are followed thoroughly.

While hiring an attorney for a criminal charge is not mandatory, you could be risking your future trying to work through this alone. Understanding the intricate procedures involved during court proceedings can be challenging. Your defense attorney can apply years of experience and offer the best outcome for you possible.

Or maybe you just want to ask someone what your rights are?

If you have been charged with a crime, you have choices.

# **MYTH NUMBER 2:**

## **THE ONLY WORK A CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY DOES IS IN COURT**

If you have been arrested or charged with a crime, it's likely you are frightened, worried about your future and concerned about money. Trying to save money by not hiring an attorney could cost you far more in the end.

Most of the work a criminal defense attorney does is spent outside of trial. The criminal defense attorney spends many hours preparing for the trial for each hour spent in trial. A good criminal defense attorney will spend a great deal of time reading police reports, interviewing witnesses, doing legal research, writing motions, going to crime scenes, viewing evidence at police stations, sending subpoenas among many other tasks.

# MYTH NUMBER 3:

## ALL CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS ARE EQUAL

***Criminal law is a complicated practice. The laws are changing all of the time***

These changing laws—particularly from state to state—make it hard for people to know his or her rights. I run across people all the time that have pre-conceived notions about what the laws are, but they find out they are vastly different than they thought.

Not all lawyers perform all of the work necessary to aggressively defend his or her client in every case. A skilled criminal defense attorney will not compromise any professional standards and will take every action possible to best serve his or her client.

# **MYTH NUMBER 4:**

## **THE MOST EXPENSIVE CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS ARE THE BEST**

There are many well-meaning people who don't always know the facts. You may have been told that you have to hire the attorneys who drive fancy cars, wear expensive suits to be sure you will be served best. In fact, a co-worker or family member may be telling you incorrect information.

When interviewing a criminal defense lawyer, you should find out in detail what work the lawyer will do to defend the case:

- Will he go to the crime scene?
- Are there legal issues he will research?
- Will he interview witnesses?
- How often does he go to trial?
- When was the last time he tried a case like yours?
- Does he view the case as complex or simple? Why?
- Is the lawyer smart?



- Is the lawyer Motivated?
- Is the lawyer well educated in this area of law?
- Is the lawyer experienced in this area of law?

Ask these questions before factoring in price.

# MYTH NUMBER 5:

## ONCE YOU'VE BEEN ARRESTED, CHARGES ARE A SURE THING

Perhaps you were in the wrong place at the wrong time and were arrested. Awaiting the close of the investigation can be a torturous timeframe. Hiring a criminal defense attorney is a wise decision right now.

A criminal defense attorney can deal with the substantive issues of a crime involving his or her client before charges are ever filed. ***In fact, a criminal defense attorney may also be able to stop charges from ever being filed.***

# **MYTH NUMBER 6:**

## **I THINK MY RIGHTS WERE VIOLATED BUT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT**

You have been arrested and you are sure your rights were violated through the process. You are sure it won't matter in the long run and you can just plead guilty and get it over with.

A violation of the Fourth or Fifth Amendment could result in evidence being inadmissible at trial. Accordingly, a criminal defense attorney will spend significant time reviewing all documentation to determine if the case can be won on Constitutional grounds.

Time is not on your side. You will want to speak to an attorney right away.

# MYTH NUMBER 7:

## I KNOW I'M INNOCENT SO I CAN SPEAK ON MY OWN BEHALF

Innocent until proven guilty. It's important that you know this statement does not protect you at all. In fact, you have likely been already convicted long before you ever enter the trial.

***You can be setting yourself up for real trouble by expecting to speak on your own behalf in court.***

You may do jail time or be fined if you let the law speak for itself without being represented.

# **MYTH NUMBER 8:**

## **JUDGES DO NOT LIKE WHEN YOU HIRE A DEFENSE ATTORNEY AND WILL OFFER LESS LENIENCY WHEN YOU DO**

The complexity of the law can present many confusing challenges.

In most cases, a judge can become more frustrated with a defendant who is unable to follow the court rules or is not properly prepared.

Overall, judges prefer when a defendant hires a defense attorney. Less time is wasted explaining procedures and the judge will be able to move through the process more quickly. He or she will be less frustrated by having to point out things and define terms to the defendant.

# **MYTH NUMBER 9:**

## **CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS WILL NEVER TELL YOU WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT TO PAY FOR REPRESENTATION**

You have been told that when you hire a criminal defense attorney, you will never know how much you will pay.

It's true, representation can be costly.

You can receive the answers you need by just asking some simple questions.

- Do you charge a flat fee or are your fees hourly?
- If you charge by the hour, what is your rate?
- Will I have to pay a retainer fee and if so, how does that work? I
- If you charge a flat fee, what does it include and what doesn't it include?
- Is it refundable?
- Do I have to pay it all up front?
- What are my expected expenses outside of the attorney fee?

Can you provide an estimate for them?

# **MYTH NUMBER 10:**

## **YOU CAN'T ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CASE AFTER YOU'VE HIRED YOUR CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY**

Your case will be managed in one of several ways after you have hired a criminal defense attorney.

When you are hiring an attorney, be sure to ask if anyone else will be working on your case and if so, ask to meet them. Ask for the business card for all of the staff who will have contact with your case so that you can easily follow up with questions by email.

# FINAL THOUGHTS

Thank you for taking the time to read this special report. It was our intention in providing you good information that you can use to make a more informed decision.

There is no way that we could answer every question or cover every situation in this special report. The best way for you to get the most accurate information concerning your unique situation is to make an appointment today with my office.

You are under no obligation during this appointment and we can talk about your unique situation and help you determine the next step together.

Give my office a call today at **(317)526-1453**

Remove the stress, worry and doubt and speak to us today. You will be glad you did.



# NOTES

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FIGHTING FOR YOU.**

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