



Drunk Driving Defense Law

Michigan Drunk Driving Defense Information

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CALL NOW FOR A FREE
CONFIDENTIAL CONSULTATION

1-866-7NOJAIL
1-866-766-5245



TIPS FOR HIRING A MICHIGAN DRUNK DRIVING ATTORNEY

1. Don't hire an attorney that wants to work out a plea deal before you hire him/her. Since drunk driving laws have become harsher and the various charges have become more difficult to defend, many attorneys really don't try very hard to defend their clients. This is unfortunate since there is often a way to make things substantially better. You have a choice between being well defended or poorly defended. The best attorneys can't say they win all their cases, but you only help a client when you put forth a diligent effort and have both the knowledge and skill required. If your goal is to plead guilty in the first instance, you can do that with the assistance of the prosecutor. The role of the defense attorney is to find a way to defend you if at all possible.

2. Hire the best attorney you can afford. If you are fighting against a possible DUI conviction, this is not the right time to try to save money. A drunk driving conviction will have life long consequences for you. You should not be forced to settle for the cheapest lawyer or a court appointed lawyer if that attorney is too busy to really help you.

3. You can afford a better lawyer than you think. Let's face it; nobody wants to pay out thousands of dollars to fight a drunk driving case. A drunk driving conviction is going to be expensive, and the potential costs for you in the future are significant. Think about the costs associated with being convicted of DUI: fines, court costs, probation fees, classes, increased insurance costs, points on your license, suspended license, restoration fees to the state, etc. It makes sense to accept the fact that being charged with OUI, DUI, OUID, OWI or drunk driving is going to be an unexpected, significant expense. Yet, for most, the cost of having a good attorney is manageable. This may be the time get help from relatives, take out a loan, borrow against a retirement, or find out what the payment options are with the attorney.

4. Ask every potential lawyer these questions:

- How long have you been practicing law?
- How much of your law practice is devoted to criminal defense?
- How many drunk driving cases have you handled?
- Have you ever done a DUI trial?
- Have you ever handled a case like mine?
- Do you have a team of professionals in your office to work on my case?
- Who in your office will be the lead attorney on my case?
- Do you use expert witnesses at trial? For what?
- Are you certified in Field Sobriety Testing?
- Have you ever been sued for legal malpractice?
- Has the State Bar of Michigan ever sanctioned you for misconduct?
- How will you keep me informed about my case?
- Do you have support staff that I can speak with if you are not in the office?
- What is your procedure for getting information from the police and prosecutor?



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- What information will you gather on my behalf?
 - Do you have a “damage control” plan that we can put in place right away?
5. After you interview the attorney, ask yourself these questions:
- Does the attorney have the experience I am looking for?
 - Does the attorney seem to have confidence?
 - Does the attorney seem to understand the law?
 - Does the attorney have a plan on how to defend me?
 - How would this attorney do standing next to me in court?
 - Was the attorney patient with me?
 - Is this someone that will work closely with me?
 - Does the attorney just talk, or is he/she willing to listen?
 - Does the attorney answer my questions well?