



## HOW MUCH BAIL WILL I HAVE TO PAY?

If you have been arrested for a crime, you may be placed into custody. However, because you are innocent until proven guilty, you may typically be released from custody upon paying bail.

The amount of bail that an individual has to pay for a suspected crime varies. Some factors that a judge may consider at a bail hearing to set your bail amount include:

- **Type of crime.** The more serious the crime, the likely higher bail amount.
- **Criminal record.** Repeat offenders may face a higher bail amount than a first-time suspect.
- **Flight risk.** The more likely you are to flee, the higher the bail amount. The purpose of bail is to ensure you stick around for the hearing.
- **Danger.** If you pose a danger to the community upon release, such as to the victim, the bail amount will be higher.

## TOP 5 THINGS TO DO AFTER AN ARREST

There are certain steps that follow almost every arrest. Here is a look at the top five steps you should do following an arrest:

- **Ask for a lawyer.** Your attorney can help defend your rights and advocate for your case.
- **Go through booking.** Following the arrest, you will have to go through booking. At the booking phase, your fingerprints and mug shot will be taken along with other procedural steps.
- **Pay bail.** In most cases, you will have an opportunity to pay bail and be released from custody.
- **Arraignment.** If you are charged with a crime, you will have to make an appearance before a judge. At the arraignment hearing, you will hear the charges brought against you and you will enter a plea.
- **Defend your case.** Your attorney will argue your defense before a judge and jury.



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AN ARRAIGNMENT

The arraignment is the first courtroom proceeding of many that you will face following an arrest and criminal charge. At the arraignment, you will be called before a judge and the following steps will normally be taken:

- Criminal charges against you will be formally read.
- Judge will ask whether you have an attorney or need a court-appointed attorney.
- You will have an opportunity to make a guilty or not guilty plea.
- Bail determination may be made or you may be released on your own recognizance.
- Future court dates will be set.

You should know that at the arraignment hearing, the criminal law judge will not be making any determination as to guilt or innocence. The hearing is purely preliminary. However, you will still have the right to have a criminal defense attorney present at the hearing.

