



5 Ways to Help Your Criminal Defense Attorney



If you have been charged with a crime, it is important to assist your attorney, and to not weaken your case, by following these suggestions:

- **Don't talk to police.** Even if you believe you have a great explanation for the alleged crime, you should let your attorney do the talking.
- **Don't talk to others.** Just as you shouldn't discuss the details of your case with police, you also shouldn't discuss details with your friends, family members, or anyone else.
- **Tell the truth.** Remember that your attorney is your advocate. To help your lawyer, you will want to be upfront and divulge all the facts.
- **Ask questions.** The attorney-client relationship is a two-way street and you should ask your attorney plenty of questions.
- **Maintain contact.** You should maintain regular contact with your lawyer.

Benefits and Disadvantages of Cooperating With Prosecutors

If you have been arrested and charged with a crime, prosecutors may urge you to cooperate with them. They may urge you with promises of favorable deals or they may simply threaten you.

There is no simple answer as to whether you should cooperate with prosecutors. In some cases, it may make sense to cooperate, while in other situations, you will not want to cooperate. However, regardless of the circumstances, you will want to work with an attorney before talking to prosecutors.

Generally, the advantages of cooperating with a prosecutor include that you may work together on a favorable plea deal. This is typically a good idea if you are a first-time offender or face insignificant charges.

However, the disadvantages of cooperating with a prosecutor are that you may not have an opportunity to fully offer your defense or place the full burden of proving your guilt on the prosecutor.



When You Need to Contact a Criminal Defense Attorney

If you have been arrested for a crime, you will want to work with an experienced criminal defense attorney. The risks of representing yourself are too high as you could face serious penalties including monetary fines, jail time, and a permanent mark on your record.



Generally, you should contact a criminal defense attorney as soon as you are charged with a crime. You should be given your rights including the right to counsel. You should not overlook this right as an experienced defense attorney may mean the difference between your freedom and getting locked up. Some ways that an attorney can help include:

- Negotiating favorable plea deals with the prosecutor.
- Alluaging any fears by explaining to you the complex steps of the criminal justice process.
- Advocates for your case before a judge and jury.
- Research possible options and defenses to your case.