

When Must You Hire an Attorney?

All serious legal issues should be handled by an experienced attorney.

Legal matters range from simple traffic violations to criminal charges involving time in prison. While most people are comfortable enough managing a speeding ticket without the help of an attorney, they also know that serious issues like criminal charges, lawsuits, product liability, bodily injury, etc. require a mastery of the law in order to bring about a successful outcome. With any matter involving an interpretation of the law, always hire an experienced attorney to represent you.

Here are just a few of the conditions (scenarios) in which the services of an experienced attorney will end up saving you time, money and needless stress:

You Could Go To Jail

If you are charged with a crime, including domestic violence, tax fraud, or even some motor vehicle offenses (such as driving under the influence, vehicular homicide, or so many unpaid parking tickets that an arrest warrant has been issued), hire an attorney.

You Could Lose A Great Deal of Money

If you stand to lose a great deal of money in a lawsuit, find a lawyer.

Your Opponent Already Has an Attorney

If your opponent has already engaged an attorney, you will begin any legal confrontation with a disadvantage.

Bodily Injury Is Involved

If someone has been injured in an automobile accident, bitten by a dog, or suffered an accident on your property, the services of an attorney are essential. Other situations include injuries resulting from the use of a defective product or significant illnesses attributable to certain pharmaceutical products.

You Are In A Complicated Divorce

Anytime a divorce is at the core of a problem - especially with disagreements over assets or custody of children, you will need an attorney's expertise.

You Need To Administer The Estate Of Someone Who Died

In situations involving complex estates, a probate lawyer can provide great assistance.

You Want To Do Comprehensive Estate Planning

Although many individuals can prepare a simple will, power of attorney, living will, or even a basic living trust without hiring an attorney, it's wise to seek legal advice if the estate is sizeable or if there are complex tax issues.

You Are Adopting A Child

Adopting a child is an important matter, and an attorney will assure things are done right.

A Contract Is Needed

It is essential that you understand the terms of any contract you are asked to sign. If you don't understand the terms, or how to prepare a contract, consult a lawyer.

Complex Business Matters

If you need a complex business organization (multiple entities), have complex tax matters, need to file for a patent, or become involved in litigation, hire a lawyer.