

Being arrested for domestic violence can be a trying situation. Especially if either you are not guilty or there are complicated circumstances.

A domestic violence arrest can be damaging to your reputation and can have serious negative consequences.

However, there are steps you can take to help you in your defense to fight the charges.

There can be various circumstances that can lead to a domestic violence arrest. Having a reasonable defense attorney can help in either a false accusation or to get your charges reduced.

If you live in Nevada and need help with a domestic violence arrest, the Rosenblum Law Firm team can help. You need a reasonable attorney who is knowledgeable about the law and will help you fight the charges.

The following checklist can help you if you are arrested for domestic violence in the state of Nevada.

Don't Take Any Initial Deals Offered to You

If you get arrested for domestic violence, you will likely be alone and scared. Chances are the prosecutor will offer you an early deal because the prosecutor sees you as an easy win for the State. Don't be tempted!

After you are first arrested and charged is not the time to make any decisions that can cause you to have a blemish on your record.

Instead, you will likely be released from jail and will be out of custody. This allows you time to contact a good criminal defense attorney who can review your case and talk about options.

The good news? Most prosecutors will not change their offer because you want to take some time to think about it. Chances are, the offer that was made to you while you were alone and in jail, will still be on the table once you've been released and had the chance to talk to a lawyer.

Keep in mind that while the first offer may be tempting, even taking a deferred sentence can have lasting impacts on your employment and future. The attorneys at the Rosenblum Allen Law Firm can help you navigate this part of the process and help get you the best deal possible.

Follow the Rules of the Domestic Violence Protection Order

You will likely be ordered to have no contact with the alleged victim for at least seven days. Make sure you follow the order to the letter.

Any contact with the victim can count as a violation and mean another charge. If you violate the no contact order, you can be re-arrested and have another charge to fight.

These orders are often broken either unintentionally or as part of the other party wishing to cause more problems. They may try to call and meet up after you are released from jail. All it takes is for your spouse or partner to report the contact and show you answered the phone for you to be re-arrested.

Even if you feel remorseful and want to send them a simple "I love you" text, this will count as contact. Even if you feel sorry for the incident or miss your partner, wait until the order expires before attempting to contact them.

There can be some exceptions to this order. These include meeting for counseling or parental exchange of children. Your attorney can help to request these events be excluded from a no-contact order.

Have Pictures Taken of Any Injuries

Have another party take pictures of any injuries you sustained during the alleged event. Do not rely on any photos law enforcement take. You want to make sure the photos show both your face and the injuries as well as day and time stamps.

Self-defense is a reasonable defense in a domestic violence allegation. Any evidence you can collect to prove your innocence and get your charges dropped can only help you.

Do Not Talk to Anyone About the Events Leading to Your Arrest

Any conversation you have in jail is recorded. This includes audio recordings of phone calls and videos of visitors.

Prosecutors review these recordings to find any incriminating evidence. They will look for anything you say about the case and try to use it against you. Any person you speak to can be called by the prosecutor and asked to make statements about your conversations.

Some discussions are protected by the law if there is a privilege. This includes any conversation you have with your attorney, which can not be admitted in court.

Also, be mindful of posting anything on your social media about the case. Even if you are upset and want to get support from friends and family, that is not how to do it. And definitely, do not respond to anything that your accuser, their friends, or family may post. These can come back to haunt you.

Even if you want to vent to someone about the situation, save it for your attorney or a therapist.

Reflect and Ask Some Hard Questions

Once the protection order expires, you are allowed to contact your spouse or partner. You can choose to live together or go your separate ways.

If you choose to continue the relationship, it is good to seek couples counseling and continue counseling during the pending case. If you can create a healthy relationship and environment for you and your partner to forgive and move on, then do so.

If not, then you will likely need to end the relationship. Do not put yourself in a situation where

another charge could be possible.

If you do end the relationship, do so gracefully. Do not say or do anything to antagonize your accuser. This can also help your case, as it shows the prosecutor you are taking steps to avoid reoffending.

Also, you should take a look at the issues that led up to the event. If anger is an issue, look to taking anger management classes and therapy to work through those issues.

One positive step is to take domestic violence classes without being ordered to do so by the court. This again will show the judge you are working on making positive steps.

If drugs or alcohol were a factor in your arrest, seek counseling for these problems. Programs such as NA and AA are positive steps, as well as inpatient or outpatient treatment. Often, time spent at inpatient facilities can count to time served on a jail sentence.

Mental health issues can also be a contributing factor in domestic violence incidents. Provide any documentation of any mental health issues such as PTSD that you may suffer from that might have contributed to the event.

Your attorney can help you to navigate these steps of the process. They can help you seek counseling, treatment, and documentation for these contributing factors in your case.

Save All Communication Surrounding the Alleged Incident

Any evidence that can help your case is valuable. This can include social media posts, text messages, or phone calls.

You can request any business or home video security cameras that can prove what happened on the day of the incident.

You will need all the evidence for you and your attorney that you can find. Do not delete or throw away anything.

Figure Out What to Do with Your Firearms

If you own any firearms and ammunition, you need to get rid of them. If you are convicted of Domestic Violence, you will not be allowed to keep them in your home.

You can get rid of your firearms by using a federally licensed arms dealer or transferring ownership to a licensed arms dealer. You can also turn your firearms into law enforcement for safekeeping until your case is resolved.

Once the firearms are out of your possession and control, you will need to provide the court documentation.

File a Request for Discovery

"Discovery" is the term for all the documents that the prosecution will use against you. You and your attorney are allowed to review these documents before trial.

These documents include reports, photos, recordings, video, test results, and other documents generated by the government used during your arrest.

Your defense attorney can help you in obtaining discovery for your case.

Hire an Investigator

You should have an investigator question the alleged victim as well as any witnesses. Key witness statements can be either helpful or hurtful to your case. The investigator's finding can help you and your attorney to plan your defense.

Prepare for Your Trial

You need to organize and prepare your evidence to present at the trial. You should have multiple copies of documents and identify all witnesses that you want to bring to trial.

For witnesses, you should prepare questions and issue subpoenas for them to appear at trial.

In addition to preparing your documents and subpoenaing witnesses, you can motion to limit evidence the prosecutor wants to use against you. This can protect you against surprise evidence being presented at trial. These types of motions can be tricky to get granted but can be worth attempting.

If You Get Convicted

Even with the best attorney, you may still face a conviction for domestic violence.

If convicted, you should fight for the lightest sentence possible. Any positive steps you have made can help in this and you should be prepared to offer proof at the time of sentencing.

Have documentation that you have been taking classes or seeking treatment to fix the things that caused the domestic violence incident and give those to the prosecutor before your sentencing hearing. Other documents that might help reduce your sentence include proof of employment and community service. All of these documents should be presented to the Court.

Begin serving your sentence right away. Any delays can result in a warrant for your arrest and further charges.

As you complete parts of your sentence, make sure you file any documents with the court. Show proof of completing classes and community service, as well as receipts for fines, fees, and costs. If you are required to go to treatment, provide proof of completion.

Avoid Any Further Arrests

One of the most important ways to show the court you have learned your lesson and have made positive changes is not getting arrested again.

Avoid situations and behaviors that led to your previous conviction. If you find yourself falling back into bad habits, seek counseling or treatment.

Seek the Help of a Good Attorney

If you face a Domestic Violence charge, you should not go it alone.

The attorneys at the Rosenblum Allen Law Firm can help you through the process and trial. Experienced domestic violence defense attorneys can put their knowledge to work for you to help you get the best results in your situation.