

Domestic violence is a severe charge and can affect your professional and personal life. It can also affect your relationship with your children, family, and friends.

There are several things you need to do if facing domestic violence charges. It would be best if you built an excellent defense to fight these charges. You also need to avoid doing things that may harm your case.

A skilled defense attorney, such as the team at The Rosenblum Allen Law Firm, can help. Our team has the experience and know-how to help you fight domestic violence charges. We will work to get you the best results in your case.

Our domestic violence defense checklist will provide you with valuable tips and information. This advice will help you build a strong case in your defense.

## *Do's and Don'ts*

First, list things you should and shouldn't do regarding your domestic violence case. These quick tips can save you time, money, and long-term stress.

- Don't take the offer given at your first appearance. Talk to an attorney before accepting any deals. You may be able to negotiate a better deal or prove your innocence in court.
- Follow any protective order. Any contact with your accuser can work against you. Any contact with the alleged victim should be through your attorney.
- Prove self-defense. Self-defense can be your best defense against domestic violence accusations. Have someone take pictures of any injuries. If you can show proof of defensive wounds, you may get charges dropped.
- Don't talk to anyone other than your attorney about the details of your case. You do not want anything on record that can put you in a bad light. While you may want to vent, any conversation documentation can get used as evidence.
- Ask some questions about yourself and your relationship. You will need to do a lot of soul-searching when facing domestic violence charges. If you have lifestyle issues that have led to your predicament, you must address them. Also, determine if your relationship has a future or is in your best interest to move on.
- Be kind to the alleged victim. Do not be aggressive or confrontational. Remember, your accuser has the upper hand in any domestic violence case. You want to put yourself in as good a light as possible for the prosecution.
- Work on any issues that led to your allegations. If substance abuse issues led to your domestic violence arrest, seek counseling. If you have anger issues, take anger management classes. Any effort to show you are making positive improvements will help your case.
- Document any mental health issues. This record should include both you and your accuser. In the case of a false accusation, the mental state of your accuser is a critical consideration.

- Get rid of any firearms. You should find somewhere to store guns or ammunition during an ongoing case. If you get convicted, you cannot have guns or ammunition. You can either store or sell them with a licensed firearms dealer.

## *Gather Evidence*

The first thing you need to do is gather evidence in your defense. This information includes documents and statements from others that can help your case. Your attorney can help you determine what evidence will help your case.

- Significant evidence you should gather includes:
  - Witness statements
  - Emails
  - Text messages
  - Photos and videos of injuries or acts of violence
  - Social media posts or messages

Your lawyer can gather this evidence on your behalf. Not only will this be efficient, but it can keep you from violating a restraining order.

## *Prepare for Your Hearing*

Once you have your evidence gathered, you should prepare for your hearing. Work with your attorney to ensure everything is ready to go.

- If you have witnesses, make sure they are present and prepared to testify on your behalf.
- Ensure any photos and videos are properly authenticated and ready to present

## *Child Custody*

You may have guided visitations with your children during a domestic violence hearing. In most cases, once charges get dismissed, you will regain custody. But, while a case is pending, you may be the noncustodial parent.

Remember to follow a few things if you have children with your accuser. Follow any court orders, as violating them will only harm your case.

- Work out a visitation schedule with the other parent.
- Make sure you are on time for pick up and drop off with your children.

- If a restraining order is in place, do not make unsupervised contact with your accuser.
- If they do not follow the rules of your custodial agreement, make sure to document it.

Your partner cannot keep you from seeing your children. If they violate the court order, this can work in your favor. But, the court can determine visitation is not in the child's best interest. Do not let them use your children against you.

## *Is There a Temporary Protection Order (TPO)?*

Either party can request a temporary protection order (TPO). Both parties must follow the details of the TPO. You will often have a hearing after the original TPO gets issued. This inquiry is to determine if it needs to get extended and if there are child custody issues.

- Some questions to consider for a TPO include the following:
- What was the cause of the temporary protection order?
- Is there a history of domestic violence?
- Are you married?
- Do you have children together? How many and what ages?
- Should the TPO get extended? Why?
- What are the custodial plans and visitation schedule?
- Is there a need for a child or spousal support?
- Does the offending party have access to firearms?

These are all critical questions you should go over with your attorney ahead of time. Some of these issues can get addressed in mediation. Domestic violence charges are a factor in a divorce hearing.

## *Get Help From a Professional Domestic Violence Attorney*

If you face domestic violence charges, do not go to court alone. Domestic violence law is very complicated. It would help if you had someone familiar with the facets of the law which would fight for your rights.

The Rosenblum Allen Law Firm team has the experience you need to help fight your charges. If you are in the Las Vegas area, call the Rosenblum Law Firm at (702) 433-2289. We will work with you to get the best results in your domestic violence case.

Give us a call at (702) 433-2889 or email us at [staff@rosenblumlawlv.com](mailto:staff@rosenblumlawlv.com) with any questions.