

Hiring an Attorney FAQ's

Answers to common questions about hiring an attorney from McCormick & Murphy.

Based on Hire Attorney by McCormick and Murphy

Q: What is the first step when I need to hire an attorney?

A: The first step is to schedule a consultation. This allows you to discuss your case with an attorney and determine if they are the right fit for your needs.

Q: What should I bring to my first attorney consultation?

A: Bring any documents related to your case, such as police reports, medical records, or correspondence. This will help the attorney understand the details of your situation.

Q: How much does an initial consultation cost?

A: Many attorneys offer a free initial consultation. This allows you to get advice and assess the attorney's suitability without upfront cost.

Q: What types of cases do you handle?

A: McCormick & Murphy handles a variety of cases, including personal injury, criminal defense, and family law. Specific areas are detailed on their website.

Q: What happens after the initial consultation?

A: If both parties agree to move forward, you will typically sign a retainer agreement. This outlines the scope of representation and fees.

Q: How are attorney fees structured?

A: Fees can be structured in various ways, including hourly rates, flat fees, or contingency fees, depending on the case type. The retainer agreement will specify the fee structure.

Q: What is a contingency fee?

A: A contingency fee means the attorney's fee is a percentage of the settlement or award. You only pay attorney fees if you win your case.

Q: Will I be charged if I don't win my case?

A: With a contingency fee arrangement, you generally do not pay attorney fees if the case is unsuccessful. However, it's crucial to review your specific retainer agreement.

Q: How do I communicate with my attorney?

A: Communication channels typically include phone calls, emails, and scheduled meetings. Your attorney will establish preferred methods of contact.

Q: How long does a legal case typically take?

A: The duration of a legal case varies greatly depending on its complexity, court schedules, and the willingness of parties to settle. Your attorney can provide an estimated timeline.

Q: What is attorney-client privilege?

A: Attorney-client privilege protects confidential communications between you and your attorney. This ensures you can speak freely and honestly.

Q: Can I change attorneys if I'm not satisfied?

A: Yes, you generally have the right to change attorneys. You should discuss the process and any implications with your current attorney and a potential new one.

Resources & Further Reading

Related guides for these FAQs:

■ Hiring an Attorney Checklist

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260706-65ee7b/mccormick-and-murphy/Checklist/hiring-an-attorney-checklist.pdf>

■ Hiring an Attorney Action Sheet

<https://storage.googleapis.com/mccormick-and-murphy-checklists-20260706-14eb7c/mccormick-and-murphy/Action%20Sheet/hire-attorney-action-sheet.pdf>

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