



What Are Attorney-Client Privileges?

You have the right to total privacy between you and your criminal defense lawyer

Attorney-client confidentiality, also referred to as attorney-client privilege, is one of the pillars of practicing criminal defense law in America. If there's no attorney-client privilege, then it will be hard for lawyers to work with clients. The client may not feel comfortable revealing private information about their actions or circumstances - information that could be critical to a case.

Let's examine these important ethics and confidentiality.

The Fundamentals of Privilege in Criminal Cases

Attorney-client privilege constitutes rules that attorneys must follow when they're representing clients. Lawyers are banned from revealing information about the client without his or her knowledge. This includes information about the client's actions or opinions.

However, there are some cases that allow this privilege to be broken. For example, the court may require that the lawyer break attorney-client privilege. The court may require this if the client commits additional crimes. Attorney-client privilege may also be broken if the client is concealing information that may bring bodily or financial harm to another person.

Lawyers may also break privilege if they are involved in a dispute with the client. The lawyer may be required to defend their actions.

Why Privacy Matters

As long as the standard precautions are taken, the client can expect his or her private information to remain confidential. However, if information happens to be overheard by a third party, then the lawyer will not be held responsible. The attorney has no control of what is overheard by another person.

There are also cases where the client may break privilege, and the lawyer will not be held responsible. If the client intentionally or unintentionally shares information with someone else, then the lawyer will not be held responsible.

Clients cannot expect to have attorney-client privilege if they share confidential information over the Internet or phone. However, lawyers are responsible for helping clients avoid breaking privilege.

State law and Attorney-Client Privilege

Certain states have their own laws regarding confidential information. The general standard is that information is only privileged if the client directly shares it with the attorney. Texas is one of the states that has expanded attorney-client privilege. Texas lawyers are not allowed to reveal any information that they learn about the client. This includes information that the attorney finds out through a third party.

A lawyer may attempt to go around these rules by making a contract with their clients. This contract may allow the lawyer to break privilege as long as it will benefit the client. However, the client has to know about these clauses. They also have to understand exactly what these clauses mean.

Consult With an Experienced Criminal Defense Attorney Today

It can be hard for both lawyers and clients to understand attorney-client privilege. However, this is one of the fundamentals of the American legal system. It allows the legal system to run efficiently and justly. Defining and protecting this principle should be important for all lawyers. It certainly is for our firm.

If you want to know more about attorney-client privilege, then you should contact an experienced [criminal defense lawyer](#).

About Neal Davis Law Firm

The Neal Davis Law Firm in Houston, Texas has successfully represented clients in a wide range of criminal defense, felony and misdemeanor cases, including:



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