

How much does it cost to retain an attorney for ARD?

I usually charge between \$1000 and \$1750 for representation up to and including your acceptance into the ARD Program. Factors that will determine my fees include your prior criminal record, your blood alcohol level, the number of summary offenses charged, the jurisdiction and police department involved, and whether or not there was an accident or injuries. I accept payment plans. Usually I require about 50% of the total costs prior to your Preliminary Hearing with the remainder due before you last court appearance.

How much does it cost to retain an attorney for a second or subsequent DUI?

I charge between \$2000 to \$5000 (or more) for representation, depending on whether or not we intend to file pre-trial motions and/or fight the charges at trial. Additional factors that will also determine my fees include the dates and number of previous DUIs, your prior criminal record, your blood alcohol level, the number and severity of additional charges, the jurisdiction and police department involved, your eligibility for house arrest or work release, and whether or not there was an accident or injuries. I accept payment plans. Again, I usually require about 50% of the total costs prior to your Preliminary Hearing with the remainder due before you last court appearance.

Do I really need representation? Even for ARD?

I honestly believe that it is in your best interest to have representation even if you feel confident that you will be accepted into the ARD program. For starters, there are over fifty different Motions I can file on your behalf to contest the charges. For example, perhaps the police can't prove you were driving. Or maybe there is a problem with your blood results. For example, did you know that we can have your blood result (BAC) suppressed (thrown out) if it was not obtained within two hours of the time you were driving? Likewise, if you were pulled over for allegedly swerving or erratic driving, there is a lot of precedent cases in Pennsylvania holding that the police do not have probable cause to make the traffic stop.

Hiring an attorney affords you the comfort of knowing that there will not be any surprises or unanticipated hassles with your case. You'll probably sleep a lot better knowing your interests are protected by an experienced professional. In this regard, I cannot overemphasize enough how important it is to retain an attorney who is knowledgeable in the area of DUI law. Over 50% of my practice is devoted to DUI. I handle over 200 DUI cases a year. I also take multiple continuing legal education courses and seminars every year to refine my skills and stay up-to-date with the latest legal developments. Don't get fooled into retaining a general practitioner or junior associate simply because he is the cheapest or the first lawyer you

contacted. The new DUI law is entirely too complex for even the most seasoned attorney. My first consultation is free. So contact us today to set up an appointment or submit our FREE Case Evaluation for further help.

Other benefits to hiring an attorney may include:

- (1) the possible dismissal or modification of the DUI charges;
- (2) dismissal of the summary offenses (resulting in an average savings of \$300 to \$1500 over the three year insurance period and a guarantee that you will not accumulate more than five points as a result of the DUI, thus also saving you from having to take the PennDOT exam);
- (3) manipulation of the date you will turn in your license (ex: if you are seasonally employed I can continue your case unto the season is over);
- (4) modification of the length of your drivers license suspension (depending on your BAC);
- (5) the ability to waive certain court appearances (saving you a day at work);
- (6) going first at those court appearances you must attend (again saving you hours of waiting around at the courthouse feeling like a number or cattle shoved from one place to another);
- (7) knowledge of the system, including prosecuting attorneys, judges, and treatment providers (resulting in the ability to get a better plea bargain);
- (8) lower fines and costs (by amending the charges);
- (9) dismissal or suppression of some of the evidence needed to convict you;
- (10) (for repeat offenders) admissibility to house arrest or work release;
- (11) (for repeat offenders) modification of your period of incarceration or probation. In Northampton County without representation a five year probation period could be imposed!

As you can see, you will more than make up for my costs by the amount of fines and time I save you, not to mention the ultimate outcome of your case! So call me today (610) 432-7040.