



TRACEY WOOD & ASSOCIATES

Wisconsin OWI and Criminal Defense Attorneys

“Not Guilty” - A Guide for Defending Criminal Cases By Tracey Wood

Our Mission: “To empower, educate, and defend those charged with criminal offenses in Wisconsin and achieve the best possible outcome for their case.” – Tracey Wood

When facing criminal charges, your number one concern is likely getting those charges reduced or dismissed. While this time may be stressful, it’s important to know that there is hope for your case, no matter how bad the charges may seem.

Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” It may seem as though the world you once knew has been forever altered by your criminal charges, but by educating yourself on common defenses, you will be armed with an arsenal of knowledge that both you and your defense attorney can use to fight back.

Getting Your Criminal Charges Reduced or Dismissed

Tracey Wood and Associates believe that there are two sides to every story, and yours matters. Maybe you wish you could tell the prosecution how hard you’ve worked to get where you are and how many people are counting on you. The truth is – you can.

Prosecutors have discretion in deciding which cases to pursue. They might even advocate for your case’s dismissal if they feel like it’s the right thing to do. When it comes to getting your case dismissed, your attorney need to both know who you really are as a person, and be able to demonstrate that moral character to the prosecution. You can help present this testament of character by providing:

- **Photographs** – Photos that show you playing with your children, tearing up during your wedding, spending time with your grandparents, accepting an award or volunteering in your community all make powerful statements about who you are.
- **Videos** – Similar to photographs, it would be even better to present videos to the prosecution showing that you are an upstanding person.
- **Testimonies** – Having loved ones and professionals colleagues testify to your character may be helpful in persuading the prosecution to drop your case.
- **Medical Records** – If you have been diagnosed with any physical disabilities or mental handicaps, it might be pertinent to share this information with the prosecution. Overcoming hardships and dealing with diagnoses are part of your unique story.
- **Future Plans** – Telling the prosecution about your goals and plans for the future may help persuade them that derailing those plans would not be an appropriate consequence for the crime you have been charged with.

Legal Defenses for Dismissal or Reduction of Charges

Sometimes, a case progresses to the court room and you must fight back against your charges by using legal defenses. In this case, you have a few options. These include:

- Not having probable cause to arrest you
- There was a mistake in the criminal complaint or charging document
- The stop or search was illegal
- There is insufficient evidence to charge you with a crime

There is Hope for Every Case

Even though it may seem as though getting your charges dropped or reduced is impossible – it’s not. When coming up with a defense, it’s your attorney’s job to make sure your case has the potential to get charges reduced or dismissed. Contact Tracey Wood and Associates to get started.

Call Us Today: (608) 490-5779