**Lawyers (Part 2)**

**How Do You Find a Lawyer?**

* BEST way is to ask for a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from someone who has had to deal with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ legal issue
* Use the Internet (Be careful)
* Use a local lawyer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ service (Mass. Bar Assoc.)
* Consult the Martindale-Hubbell Law (Legal Library) [martindale.com]

**Bar Associations**

* Responsible for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the legal profession in their jurisdiction
* Organizations that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lawyers
* Provide services to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you decide if you need a lawyer

**What if you cannot afford an Attorney?**

There are some options:

* You may qualify for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ legal assistance
* A lawyer may take on a legal case \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for a good cause
* Pro bono refers to legal work that is performed voluntarily and free of charge
* When a lawyer works pro bono, he or she is said to be working for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ good

**Contingency Fee**

* Some attorneys take cases on a contingency fee (lawsuits)
* The attorney will receive a certain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of any money (settlement) the client wins in the case
* If the client does not win the case, the lawyer does \_\_\_\_\_ receive any money

**Do Your Homework**

* It is wise to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more than one lawyer to take your case
* Use these meetings to judge the differences between:
* their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in your type of case
* how you think you will be able to work with each of them

**Legal Fees:**Good Questions to Ask

* What is the estimate of the total \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
* How much does each person charge per hour?
* Is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (down payment of the total fee) required?
* Are there any other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you should be aware of? (court costs, filing fees, etc.

**Working with Your Lawyer**

Making Decisions

* A good attorney will give you advice, but YOU must make the final \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* It’s your life and your future – and NOT your lawyer’s

Examples:

* To sue or not to sue
* To accept or to reject a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ offer
* To take the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or remain silent
* To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ guilty or not guilty

**Making Decisions**

* The attorney’s job to help you understand what is going on; to keep you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* It is your job to ask \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ questions as needed
* If you are not satisfied, you may \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your lawyer
* But once in court, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will permit a change in lawyers ONLY for a very good reason

**Attorney-Client Privilege**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is essential to the attorney-client relationship
* This privilege encourages clients to speak openly and honestly to their attorneys
* This means that whatever you tell your attorney about your case is secret and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* This privilege prevents a lawyer from revealing the client's information without \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Conduct of Lawyers**

* There has been a great deal of concern about the conduct of lawyers today
* Like other professionals, lawyers can be sued by clients for serious errors that result in injury or loss
* Clients can file a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ against an attorney (if they believe the attorney has acted irresponsibly and mishandled the case)
* Lawyers must also follow certain standards of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* These standards are set out in a Code of Professional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that are enforced by the state bar association
* Lawyers who violate standards of conduct may be reprimanded, suspended, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (no longer has a license to practice law)