

# Federal Charges Defense

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Typically a federal crime is committed when a person breaks the law on federal land, commits similar crimes in multiple states, or crosses state lines while committing a crime. However, a defendant's crime could also be placed under federal jurisdiction if the person breaks a federal law or if the crime involves a government agency such as the FBI, DEA, the U.S. Postal Service, etc. **Unlike crimes at the state level, the majority of federal crimes cannot be expunged from your record.**

A federal conviction means long prison sentences and a criminal record that follows you for the rest of your life. You do not want to face federal charges alone. You need an experienced defense lawyer to guide you every step of the way.

**Contact Wasatch Defense Attorneys for a free, federal charge, case review at [801.980.9965](tel:8019809965).**

## What are Federal Charges?

Some examples of federal crimes are as follows:

- Aircraft hijacking
- Kidnapping
- Bank robbery
- Child pornography
- Tax evasion
- Counterfeiting
- Wiretapping

- Theft from a museum
- Damaging or destroying public mailboxes

The difference between federal charges and state charges is whether you've broken a federal law or a state law. However, there are some areas where federal and state laws overlap. In many cases, the primary difference between federal and state charges is that federal charges typically have higher minimum sentence requirements.

The most common minimum sentences are often for drug related federal crimes where you could be facing a minimum of two years of prison time. Even if you plead guilty or make a plea deal, at the federal level you still face the mandatory minimum sentence.

## **Can I Be Charged at Both The State & Federal Level?**

People familiar with the term "double jeopardy" might think that you cannot be charged for the same crime at both the state level and the federal level. However, the truth is that you can. The U.S. Constitution's double jeopardy clause only states that you cannot be charged more than once for the same crime by the same sovereign. In most federal cases, the state and federal courts are considered separate sovereigns governed by separate laws. That's why you can be charged for the same crime in both courts.

Typically, the Federal government will defer to the state court unless the case is of special interest to the government, such as when the crime occurs on federal land or across multiple state lines. Your case can also end up in the federal courts instead of the state courts if the federal and state laws contradict each other. Federal law trumps state laws, so you'd have to be tried in a federal court.

## **Experienced Federal Criminal Defense Attorney**

**If you are facing federal charges, you need an experienced federal crimes defense attorney to protect your rights.** Don't leave your fate in the hands of the wrong lawyer. At Wasatch Defense Attorneys we have over 30 years' experience defending crimes at the federal level. We know how to aggressively defend our clients to reduce or even eliminate charges against them. We also know how to keep you informed and supported every step of the way.

**Don't hesitate to call us at 801-980-9965 today for your no-obligation case review.**

## **Guard Your Rights**

Do NOT Waive Your Right to Legal Counsel! Authorities will try get you to incriminate yourself and suggest there is no need for an attorney. Stay calm and call us immediately: [801.980.9965](tel:801.980.9965)

## **Experience You Can Trust**

We have represented thousands of clients, with countless difficulties and challenges, for more than 100 years. Less than 1% of our clients have ever been incarcerated.

## **Compassionate & Aggressive**

Whether you have a family, financial, or criminal matter – our ethical, caring attorneys listen to YOU and use their expertise and a strong, hands-on approach to get you the best result.