

# Domestic Violence Defense Attorney in Utah

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Domestic violence calls are handled by law enforcement with procedures for on-the-spot evaluations that can sometimes erroneously lead to arrests. With emotions running high, minor domestic incidents may be interpreted as serious crimes. In some cases, police have potentially erred on the side of caution. Then, prosecutors who are highly experienced in these cases take over, and they're tough opponents. You will need a [Utah defense attorney](#) with a strong track record in domestic violence cases to defend you effectively against the government's charges and arguments.

**We are experts in getting domestic violence charges reduced or dismissed. Call us today for a no-obligation consultation.**

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## Threat Of Violence

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A threat of violence charge is when an offender threatens injury, death, or substantial property damage to frighten a victim. The threat of violence is a Class B misdemeanor, so you could be facing a \$1,000 fine and up to six months in jail.

## Violation Of Protective Order

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A protective order is typically filed between two people due to a personal conflict, but once the protective order is filed, the conflict is no longer personal. If a person is accused of violating a protective order and the officer-involved determines the accusation is well-founded, a protective order requires the accused to be arrested.

Due to the nature of these situations, the officers involved must make snap judgments, which can make life hard for the accused. These situations are particularly volatile when parental custody is at stake.

## **Violation Of No Contact Order**

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A no-contact order is an order issued by the court regarding a criminal case in which there were allegations of a violent or threatening act, most commonly domestic violence. A no contact order requires the alleged abuser to:

- Have no personal contact with the victim
- Neither threatens nor harass the victim
- Avoid visiting the premises of the victim's residence or anywhere the victim is temporarily living.
- Also, avoid sending messages through third parties.

The difference between a protective order and a no contact order is the situation in which they are filed. The victim must request a protective order – while the court can order a no contact order. Violating a no contact order is classified as a Class B misdemeanor and can also lead to other charges.

## **Domestic Violence In The Presence Of A Child**

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Committing an act of domestic violence in the presence of a child can double the criminal charges you face since each child present serves as the basis for a separate charge. Utah law has a broad definition for the presence of a child in terms of domestic violence, so a child doesn't have to witness the violent act. They could, for example, simply be in the next room.

## **Domestic Violence Is a Serious Criminal Offense in Utah**

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Domestic violence is a severe criminal offense in Utah. Sometimes it involves multiple victims. Incidents can affect adult family members and children as well. This domain of criminal law overlaps with issues of family law. Therefore, a domestic violence case requires a legal defense by an attorney well experienced in both areas of specialization.

## **Sentencing for Domestic Violence**

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The extent of domestic violence punishment in Utah depends on the frequency and severity of the harm to the victim and other factors weighed by the court. Penalties for people convicted of this crime can range from probation with fines to long prison sentences. Additionally, the offense may be "enhanced" by the court's decision. For example, enhancement of the charge(s) is sometimes applied in cases of repeat offenses of domestic violence. That increases the punishments in this type of case.

## **Additional Consequences of Domestic Violence Conviction**

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In addition to the legal consequences, there can be many other unexpected life-changing repercussions of a criminal conviction for domestic violence, including:

- Job loss and difficulty obtaining new employment
- Irreparably damaged reputation in the community
- Impacted rights to child custody or visitation
- Restrictions on where you're allowed to go physically
- Loss of freedom to participate in community activities
- Loss of your right to possess a firearm
- Other serious personal consequences

## Frequently Asked Questions About Domestic Violence

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### What Are the Different Types of Domestic Violence?

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Although most people associate domestic violence with physical abuse, domestic violence charges can also be filed for Control, Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, psychological, Emotional Abuse & Intimidation, Isolation, Verbal Abuse: Coercion, Threats, & Blame, or financial abuse. In Utah, any crime committed against a cohabitant is considered to be domestic violence. For instance, someone who destroys the property of a cohabitant can be charged with domestic violence.

### What Are the Penalties for Domestic Violence in Utah?

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### Does Domestic Violence Charge Stay on Your Record

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### What Makes Domestic Violence Charge a Felony or a Misdemeanor?

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### Is Threat of Violence Gross Misconduct in Utah?

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### How Does Domestic Violence Affect Child Custody?

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### How to Drop Domestic Violence Charges in Utah?

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### How Much Does a Domestic Violence Lawyer Cost?

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## Have You Been Accused of Domestic Violence?

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The extreme negative effects of domestic violence charges can be wide-reaching, impacting the lives of entire families and their futures. To help prevent an outcome that can have these life-altering effects, you will need an experienced Utah criminal defense attorney with a strong track record in domestic violence cases.

If you are charged with domestic violence, you should contact a lawyer as soon as possible. Your attorney will make sure that all your rights are fully protected and build the best possible case for your defense. Wasatch Defense Lawyers are highly experienced in defending people against domestic violence charges in the Utah court system.

## **Domestic Violence Defense Attorney in Salt Lake City, UT**

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Wasatch Defense Lawyers have helped clients with defenses against domestic violence charges in Utah for many years. We can often overcome serious charges and obtain favorable outcomes in these sensitive, high-stakes cases. We make sure that all your rights are fully protected throughout the process in the Utah courts, and we build the best case for your defense. We are focused on keeping you from being convicted, suffering punishments, and having a criminal record.

## **If You Face Domestic Violence Charges, We Can Help.**

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For 33 years, Wasatch criminal defense lawyers have been defending people in Utah criminal trials. We have built our reputation by quickly moving to have charges dropped or significantly reduced to keep clients from going to jail. We will guide you through the Utah criminal court system, build the strongest case for your defense, and stand up for you in court to fight for your freedom and future.

**If you have been arrested for domestic violence, contact Wasatch Defense Lawyers at (801) 980-9965, or contact us online to schedule a free case review.**

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## **Guard Your Rights**

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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

## **Experience You Can Trust**

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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**

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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.