Utah Burglary Lawyer

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Burglary is an unlawful entry offense that also involves theft, property crimes and is accompanied by assault, lewdness, and lewdness involving a child or voyeurism on another person. Utah code §76-6-202 states that a person commits burglary if he or she unlawfully remains in a building with the intent to commit a felony against another person. If you or a family member has been charged with burglary, you need an affordable, qualified Utah burglary lawyer to protect your rights and your reputation. Contact Wasatch Defense Attorneys today for a free, no-obligation consultation at 801-845-3509.

Degrees of Penalties for Burglary in Utah

The state of Utah defines the offense of burglary into two separate categories, depending on the location of the crimes committed. A defendant will be charged with third degree burglary if the offenses were committed in a commercial building. A burglary occurring in a home or residence is charged as a second-degree burglary. The seriousness of the offense will also be taken into consideration when charges are filed.

- Third-Degree Felony Burglary The offense of third degree burglary is unlawful entry of a building or business with intent to commit theft, property damage, and violence against another person.
- Second-Degree Felony Burglary Burglary committed in a residence, including the intent to commit theft, assault and/or sexual assault against another person is considered a second-degree felony in Utah.

Sentencing for a Burglary Conviction

When a defendant is convicted of burglary, the judge or jury then considers sentencing parameters for the individual crimes that were committed during the burglary. A number of things are taken into consideration, including:

- If violence against another person was involved.
- The severity of the crimes committed during the burglary.
- The value of the stolen property.
- The defendant's previous criminal history.

Penalties for third-degree felony burglary in Utah may result in fines of up to \$5,000 and a maximum of 5 years in prison. Second-degree felony burglary is punishable by fines of up to \$10,000 and a maximum of 15 years in prison. When violence is involved, the judge or jury will often order the maximum punishment allowed by law.

Helpful Legal Terms and Definitions

- **Defendant** Someone who has been charged with a crime.
- **Felony** When a crime is committed with the use of violence or theft.
- Intent Determination to commit an act on purpose.
- Misdemeanor A misdemeanor is more serious than an infraction of the law but is less serious than a felony.
- Assault Inflicting physical harm upon another person.
- Lewdness The act of being sexual in an offensive manner.
- Lewdness Involving a Child The act of being sexually offensive in the presence of a child, or directing sexually offensive acts towards a child.
- Voyeurism Secretly observing individuals undressed or undressing to obtain sexual gratification.

Choose a Qualified Criminal Defense Attorney

If you have been charged with burglary in Utah, it is important to contact aqualified, experienced criminal defense attorney to help you understand your legal rights and ensure the best possible outcome. Wasatch Defense Lawyers have a proven track record and will utilize every resource available to prepare your legal defense. We believe that everyone deserves a fair trial and our aggressive criminal attorneys will advocate for you if you've been charged with an alleged misdemeanor or felony. Call us today for a free, no-obligation case review at 801-845-3509.

Comments