

Misdemeanor Charges are Filed

Below, you will find a diagram briefly explaining the process one can expect when misdemeanor charges are filed.

You are arrested or cited.



Decision by the District Attorney (D.A.)

It is extremely important to talk to an attorney during this stage of the case. Just because you have been arrested or cited does not necessarily mean that the District Attorney will file charges against you. In some cases, we have been able to convince the District Attorney not to file any charges by providing them with information that can not be gathered from a simple police report.



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Arraignment

If you are charged with misdemeanor offenses, other than domestic violence, you will not have to appear in court if you have a lawyer representing you.



Pretrial Conferences

This stage is where your case is discussed by your attorney, the District Attorney, and the Judge. Any information that we have gathered during the investigation of your case can be shared with the District Attorney at this point in an attempt to convince them to dismiss the case or reduce the charges against you.



Motions



Pretrial Conferences



A trial date doesn't always mean a case will go to trial. Cases that appear on the trial calendar are discussed with the District Attorney and Judge prior to any decisions being made. Often times, the offer previously made by the prosecution is changed, and a new offer is made. The final decision whether a case goes to trial belongs to you.

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