



CALL NOW!
(636) 896-4300
FOR A FREE CONSULTATION

Bill Byrnes and the Byrnes Law Firm have been helping citizens of St. Charles since 1999. We have earned the reputation of being a tough and determined advocate in the legal community. Byrnes Law Firm is your St. Charles law firm for criminal defense.

[ATTORNEY BIO](#)

The Byrnes Law Firm Guide to the first hours after being arrested.

You've been arrested? The actions you take in the first hours after your arrest have an enormous impact on the outcome of your case.

People who have never broken the law are often the ones that destroy their defense in the first hours after they are taken into custody. Follow these DOs and DON'Ts in the first few hours after an arrest in any municipality or county in Missouri:

1. DO NOT explain why the arrest happened over the phone at the St. Charles, St. Louis, Lincoln, Warren or Montgomery County jails. These calls are recorded.
2. DO NOT talk or write about anything until your criminal defense attorney is present.
3. DO write: "I wish to speak to my attorney, Bill Byrnes. I want to contact him at 636-896-4300. Until my attorney, Bill Byrnes, is present, I will make no statements, oral or written."
4. DO get the name of the jail where you are detained. You can safely share your location with us over the phone.
5. DO learn the name of the criminal charge(s). Share the charges but no other details over the phone.
6. DO share whether there are any additional outstanding warrants against you. You can share this with us by answering "Yes" or "No."
7. DO consider hiring a lawyer before posting bail. A lawyer can file a Bail Bond Reduction Motion and potentially have the bail reduced or removed.
8. Posting bail in Missouri automatically cancels your right to a public defender. You should not have to choose between getting out of jail or hiring a top criminal defense lawyer.

Call our office at 636-896-4300 at any time. Our phone is answered 24 hours a day.

Frequently Asked Questions

Should You Blow?

If you believe you are over the legal limit, you should not blow. Do not not take the field sobriety test or answer any questions. Politely refuse everything. Tell the officer that you will take the test in the presence of your attorney. You should then contact Bill immediately. This will help you get the best possible outcome.

What should I say if an officer contacts me?

An officer is not contacting you to help you prove your innocence. He is there to build a stronger case against you. This is the moment when many cases are won or lost. The person who tries to talk their way out of it usually ends up being charged. The person who doesn't make a statement and retains an experienced criminal defense attorney has a very good chance of never being charged. **If you believe you are under investigation, contact me immediately regardless of time of day**

Should I hire a bondsman?

An attorney can often get the bond reduced to an amount the individual can post without using a bondsman. Even if you have to use a bondsman, an attorney can save you a substantial amount of money. Call an attorney first.

Why should I hire Bill Byrnes?

You should hire someone you trust and feel comfortable with. Chances are you will have to disclose information about yourself that may make you feel very vulnerable. Come meet Bill Byrnes in a free consultation. You should know during your meeting if he is the right fit. We at Byrnes Law Firm hope to earn your trust, your case, and your future referrals. Call us any time, and Bill will give you his opinion of your case at no charge!



Bill Byrnes has been winning cases in the St.Louis/ St. Charles area for over 16 years, and he's ready to work for you in criminal, personal injury and family law cases.

Maybe you've been injured and need compensation. Maybe you need to defend your interests in a family dispute. Maybe you made a mistake. Whatever the case, Bill Byrnes will fight for the best possible outcome in your case! Bill has won hundreds of cases through his career, in a wide variety of practice areas.

See the Byrnes difference for yourself. Call us today at [\(636\) 896-4300](tel:636-896-4300) for expert help with your legal issue.