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BUSINESS

spotlight

REYNOLDS DEFENSE FIRM



If You Were Arrested For A DUI, What Would You Do?

Discreetly located in an old Victorian house in the Goose Hollow neighborhood of downtown Portland is the Reynolds Defense Firm, one of the most impressive boutique law firms that you hope never to need.

The Reynolds Defense Firm specializes exclusively in representing good people facing DUI or other criminal charges, according to owner MacDaniel Reynolds. And who exactly are these “good people” his firm represents? “You know them,” says MacDaniel, “they are your neighbors and your friends. A DUI arrest doesn’t suddenly undo a lifetime of being a solid member of society.” But it is sometimes hard to remember that when a person is under arrest and in handcuffs in the back of a police cruiser.

Experience Tempered With Compassion

Before opening the Reynolds Defense Firm nine years ago, MacDaniel started his legal career as a deputy district attorney in Multnomah County. During his years there he handled and made charging decisions on literally thousands of cases. For two of those years, his office was in a police precinct where he advised and trained police officers on a daily basis. That experience, and inside knowledge of how the ‘other side’ thinks, has played a large part in the success of the Reynolds Defense Firm. “I’ve been representing folks charged with DUI for more than

nine years, and not a day goes by that I don’t use my background as a prosecutor to help the people my firm represents.” says MacDaniel. He knows how the prosecution will react in most given situations because he’s been in their shoes. And when it comes to police reports, he knows how to interpret what is written, and sometimes more importantly what is not written, because he trained officers on report writing. Most importantly, he knows how to use his knowledge to benefit his clients. Experience has also given MacDaniel a perspective that some may lack. “My firm is a no-judgment zone.” he says. He doesn’t believe that an arrest defines who a person is. The reality is that an arrest is a challenge that has to be faced, he says, and the way a person takes on that challenge shows their true character. When MacDaniel points out that few people can honestly say they have never driven a car after having more to drink than they should have, and that some people have simply had more luck than others, his perspective makes sense.

An Entire Law Firm With A Single Focus

One of the strengths of the Reynolds Defense Firm is its commitment to specialize in only one area of law – criminal defense. While not unique, this is certainly rare in the legal community. “Maybe the folks in other law firms are smarter than I am,” says MacDaniel with a smile, “but I think there is a reason brain surgeons don’t perform heart transplants. We do one thing, and we do it very well.” Rather than diluting their time and energy into knowing a little bit about a lot of unrelated areas of the law, each attorney and staff member at the Reynolds Defense Firm is able to focus everything into ensuring their clients get the



best DUI defense representation they can give.

In doing this, the Reynolds Defense Firm takes a team approach to helping their clients, and it is clear that this team takes pride in the work they do. MacDaniel and Reynolds Defense Firm attorneys, Josh Gibbs and Lauren Freeman, regularly sit down together to review every



case. “When Josh, Lauren and I evaluate a case, we each bring our own perspectives to the table. This helps us look at every angle, and together we develop the best strategy for that person.” This means that regardless of which of their attorneys takes the lead on a case, every client has the name, reputation, and collective knowledge of the Reynolds Defense Firm behind them.

The results are impressive, as viewed through their on-line reviews and testimonials, although each case is different, and the results achieved in each case can vary. MacDaniel tends to avoid sweeping generalizations, with a single exception: “The one promise I can make is that when the Reynolds Defense Firm accepts a client, we will do the absolute best we can to help that person get through their case in the best way possible.”

From the sign reading “We represent good people,” to the warm, caring staff and the straightforward and dedicated attorneys, it is clear that the Reynolds Defense Firm believes in the people they represent and the quality of the service they provide.

Practical tips for the holiday season

- Try to avoid drinking on an empty stomach, because food slows the absorption of alcohol into your bloodstream. Without food, the alcohol from each drink enters your bloodstream faster, leading to those drinks affecting you more than you would otherwise expect;
- Stick with the type of drink you are used to having. If you are a beer or wine drinker, avoid mixed drinks if you need to drive later; and
- Be aware of the alcohol content of your drink. Portland has some fantastic microbrews, but the alcohol content of some of these can be many times higher than a typical drink.