

Legal Crib Sheet

When you're trying to decide whether to hire legal counsel, it's difficult to know in advance what the important questions are. This crib sheet provides some questions you should ask any lawyer you are considering hiring.

Are you a lawyer?

A surprising number of people soliciting DePuy clients are not actually lawyers; they are planning to refer you to a lawyer after they have your information. Some may even sell your information to lawyers for profit.

Are you going to be my lawyer?

Many of the lawyers soliciting clients are planning to refer clients to other legal counsel.

(If not currently speaking to the lawyer) When can I speak to the lawyer who will be representing me? And how often will he or she be in touch during the case?

If you don't get a straight answer on when you can speak with the lawyer directly and how often you will speak with him or her thereafter, we recommend you look elsewhere for representation.

Are you or your partners experienced in mass torts?

If the answer is no, you will be at a serious disadvantage in this case. If the answer is yes, ask for specific cases.

Do you or your partners have any experience with multi-district litigation?

If the answer is no, you will be at a serious disadvantage in this case. If the answer is yes, ask for specific cases.

What can you tell me about the damages this device is causing?

Your counsel should be able to describe the design problems and the medical consequences of those problems.

Legal Crib Sheet

What is your fee and how is it paid?

You're looking for the answer "on a contingent fee", which means you will not owe attorneys' fees if the attorney does not obtain a recovery for you.

Notes