# Oakland County DUI Lawyer Paul J. Tafelski Explains the Difference Between a DUI Public Defender and a Private Lawyer

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Oakland County DUI lawyer Paul J. Tafelski (https://www.michigandefenselaw.com/blog/dui-public-defender-vs-private-attorney/) releases a new article explaining the difference between a DUI public defender and a private lawyer. The lawyer mentions that anyone who is accused of a crime in the United States has the right to an attorney. A famous part of the Miranda warning includes ?if you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed for you.? However, the court will ultimately charge the defendant some fee for use of the public defender.

According to the Oakland County DUI lawyer, ?Michigan does not have a single, unified public defender system. Instead, each county decides on its own how to organize, appoint, and pay attorneys who represent criminal defendants who cannot afford their own lawyer. Historically, it has been a very troubled system. In 2008, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA)?a nationwide advocacy group for legal representation of indigent criminal defendants?issued a scathing assessment of Michigan?s patchwork public defender system.?

The lawyer explains that the resources and support provided to Michigan?s court-appointed attorneys for indigent defendants have improved. However, court-appointed attorneys for criminal defendants are getting paid lesser than private attorneys. Those who work in organized public defender offices frequently have large caseloads that limit the amount of time they have to devote to each client.

Attorney Paul Tafelski adds that there are a lot of smart and hard-working attorneys out there, but they may not be able to provide a customized defense as private attorneys do. This is because of the amount of work they have to finish. They may also not look for other ways to ?win? the case if they feel like it cannot be ?won?.

?There is one other significant difference between a private attorney and a public defender. You pay the private attorney out of your own pocket (although many defense attorneys will work with their clients to find ways to manage the cost). But just because you don?t pay a public defender doesn?t mean the defender?s services come free. Not, at least, when you take the potential cost of a DUI conviction into account,? says the DUI lawyer.

Lastly, attorney Paul Tafelski emphasizes the importance of having a skilled lawyer when facing charges of DUII. Having an experienced attorney may be able to help the defendant understand their rights and protect their freedom.

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**Paul J Tafelski, Michigan Defense Law | Criminal Attorney and DUI Lawyer**

*Michigan Defense Law is a Bloomfield Hills, Michigan criminal defense firm that has been successfully defending good people accused of a wide range of crimes for over 20 years.*

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