

# CRIMINAL DEFENSE 101

30%



OF AMERICAN ADULTS HAVE A POLICE RECORD

AMERICAN'S PRISON POPULATION IS OVER



2.3 MILLION PEOPLE

11 MILLION AMERICANS



PASS THROUGH THE U.S. JAIL SYSTEM EVERY YEAR

## HAVING A CRIMINAL RECORD CAN MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO



Get a Job



Finding Housing



Enroll in School



Obtain Loans



Vote

## CRIMINAL CHARGES ARE BROKEN INTO TWO CATEGORIES

In Illinois, felonies are classified as being Class 1 through Class 4, or as Class X, the most serious of felony classes. Misdemeanors in Illinois are ranked Class A, B or C.

### MISDEMEANORS

can result in a fine and up to one year in jail, depending on the class of the charge.

- Most DUIs
- Battery
- Possession of small amount of marijuana
- Harassment
- Reckless driving

### FELONIES

are considered more serious crimes than misdemeanors and they result in longer sentences, which are served in state penitentiaries.

- Aggravated assault and aggravated battery
- Criminal sexual assault
- Murder
- Possession of drugs such as cocaine or heroin



Federal crimes, unlike state crimes, are those that impact the entire country, or those that occur across state lines. While the punishments for federal crimes vary greatly from one charge to the next, some examples include:

- Selling classified information
- Tax evasion
- Crimes involving federal benefits
- Mailing toxic or hazardous substances
- Terrorism
- Immigration offenses



## YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS

- ✓ The right to remain silent - though in some situations, like public places, you might have to give your name and some of your personal information
- ✓ The right to an attorney
- ✓ The right to refuse a search

## SOMEONE PLACED UNDER ARREST SHOULD REMEMBER

They do not have to speak to police.

They should call an attorney as soon as possible.

They can ask the authorities if they are under arrest, are being detained or if they are free to go.

# Arrested? Criminal Charges?

START YOUR DEFENSE NOW

# 630-305-0222

[www.wolfeandstec.com/criminal-law](http://www.wolfeandstec.com/criminal-law)

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Sources:

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2016.html>

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/how-many-americans-have-a-police-record-probably-more-than-you-think-1438939802>