

TEN THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PLEA NEGOTIATIONS

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(1) THE CLIENT

- Background
- Education
- Employment
- Substance Abuse History
- Mental & Physical Health
- Prior Criminal Record
- Expectations
- Incentives

(2) THE CHARGES

- Information
- Jury Instructions
- Dismissal or Reduction
- Habitual Offender Notices
- Statutory Maximums

(3) THE FACTS

- What Happened
- Police Reports
- Witness Statements
- Defendant's Statement
- Co-Defendant's Statement
- Lab Reports, etc.

(4) THE CASE

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Motions
- Defenses

(5) THE GUIDELINES

- Complete Your Own
- Review With Client
- Sentence Bargaining
- Straddle Cell

(6) THE VICTIM

- Age
- Relationship
- Proximity
- Injury
- History
- Restitution

(7) THE PROSECUTOR

- Docket Attorney
- Special Units
- Memorandums
- Gun Board Letters

(8) THE JUDGE

- Cobb Evaluations
- Moderate/Conservative
- Judicial Temperament

(9) THE LAWYER

- Experience
- Skills
- Abilities

(10) THE PROGRAMS

- HYTA
- Boot Camp
- Electronic Monitoring
- Veterans Court
- Drug Court
- Jail Plus
- Smart Start, etc.