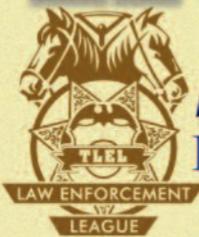


TEAMSTERS
**LEGAL
DEFENSE**
FUND



Think of it
like body armor—
24/7.



Support When You Need it the Most

Legal trouble is something everyone hopes to avoid during their career. But work in law enforcement long enough and you'll learn the importance of knowing that you're protected during the best—and worst—of times. Just ask a member of the Teamsters Law Enforcement League. During a time of crisis, our members have learned the value of the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund, a nationwide program providing excellent legal assistance for civil and criminal incidents. Regardless of your situation, the professionals at the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund will always be at your side, providing strong, unbiased legal representation. Unlike your agency or department, Teamsters Legal Defense Fund only represents your interests as a Teamster law enforcement member. Plus, it's surprisingly affordable.

"If it weren't for the Teamsters and their Legal Defense Fund I probably wouldn't know what to do. It's not every day you get involved in an investigation or trouble. In those moments you're vulnerable, you don't know what to do or say."

Officer Waleed Albakri

Volusia County Sheriffs Office, Daytona Beach, FL



The Power of the Teamsters

The Teamsters Union has given law enforcement professionals an unwavering voice for decades. Through the leadership of the Teamsters Law Enforcement League (TLEL)—which is comprised of veteran law enforcement officers who have personally experienced the challenges of protecting our communities—the union provides excellent representation when members need it most. From police to public safety and corrections officers, the Teamsters Union represents more than 1,400 law enforcement agencies nationwide.

“I was scared when I first discovered I was going to be going to court, and I was real relieved to have the Teamsters on my side, someone who was fighting for me. It really took the stress off me. Plus, they got back right away to us. That meant a lot. I’ve told my co-workers, ‘you guys better get on the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund if you’re not,’ and they did.”

Bob Hohisel

Program Coordinator, Mille-Lacs Jail, Milaca, MN



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Common Questions About the Legal Defense Fund



"In our field of work, your life and livelihood are constantly threatened. I know—I have had two serious job-related situations in the past three years. My Teamsters Legal Defense Fund attorney was by my side, when I was wrongfully accused of assaulting a suspect. He was also there, no questions asked, when I was personally sued for \$360,000 by a suspect who was injured following a high speed chase that exceeded 100 miles per hour. Without the Teamsters and without their Legal Defense Fund, I would not be a deputy sheriff today."

Deputy Sheriff Jim Graham
Dallas County, Iowa

Is the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund a pre-paid legal plan?

Unlike traditional pre-paid programs which handle general legal issues like wills, contracts and real estate, the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund is a legal defense program specifically designed for duty-related incidents. You receive coverage by paying an affordable monthly charge.

If I was involved in an incident last year, and someone files a lawsuit now, does the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund cover me?

Yes, as long as you didn't know of the suit when you enrolled in the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund.

Will I be covered if I'm involved in more than one incident in a year which leads to criminal charges or a civil lawsuit?

Yes, Teamsters Legal Defense Fund covers you for each separate incident.

Do I have to use the same attorney for both criminal and civil cases?

No, it's up to you which attorney you want to use. You choose the attorney that you feel will best represent your interests in criminal or civil matters.



The Legal Defense Fund Basics

As a dues-paying law enforcement member of the Teamsters Union, you can enjoy the security of the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund program. As long as you're acting in the capacity of a law enforcement officer, you're covered whether you're on or off-duty—and no one votes to determine if you will be represented. You're always covered. Other program features include:

- *Defense of criminal and civil charges*
- *Preparation in Grand Jury hearings*
- *No up-front costs or deductibles*
- *Representation by licensed attorneys, not paralegals*
- *Full legal coverage of your choosing, even if your employer provides an attorney*
- *Legal coverage for separate incidents no matter how many occur*
- *Freedom to choose the lawyer you want*

100% coverage regardless of the final cost of representation when using a Plan attorney.

The specific terms are spelled out in the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund document, which can be obtained from the Teamsters Law Enforcement League at 1-877-744-7550 or by e-mail at teamstercops.org. The Fund document provisions will at all times prevail over those in any other documents, including this brochure.

“As former general counsel to another union and a former prosecutor, I can tell you that I would stake my reputation— and have— on my work with the Teamsters...I am often phoned while an incident is actually occurring and delivered right to the scene. These situations can be highly charged, and officers need legal representation immediately. The people at the Teamsters Legal - Defense Fund have worked in law enforcement before, so they understand what’s really needed.”

***Maria Kazouris, Esq.
Legal Defense Fund
Attorney, Florida***





"...On a personal note, it gives me real satisfaction to witness our nation's law enforcement align itself with the Teamsters. This commitment to an organized, national union is the realization of a 50-year-old dream."

— Jim Hoffa

A Message From Teamsters General President Jim Hoffa

In our great country, unbiased legal representation should be an undeniable right of all citizens. No one is more deserving of this than America's law enforcement professionals who put their lives on the line each and every day. Life in law enforcement is dangerous and unpredictable, and our brothers and sisters in the field need to know there is someone behind them at all times, who is as dedicated as they are. That's why we developed the *Teamsters Legal Defense Fund*, a fund we've likened to 24/7 body armor.

We're very proud of the Teamsters legal defense program and how it provides proven backup for members during times when support is needed most. The Defense Fund has not only offered our members and their families peace of mind—it has supplied powerful and decisive legal representation during investigations, hearings and trials. When life on the job gets heated, you need to know that a smart, independent voice is right behind you, making sure your personal and professional rights are served.

Together with the guidance of the Teamsters Law Enforcement League— an impressive force of veteran police, correctional, and public safety officers— the Legal Defense Fund is another example of how we serve the core concerns of our members. It's because of this program and others like it, that the Teamsters Union represents more than 1,400 law enforcement agencies from coast to coast.

On a personal note, it gives me real satisfaction to witness our nation's law enforcement align itself with the Teamsters. This commitment to an organized, national union is the realization of a 50-year-old dream. Whether we're fighting for better wages, retirement security, affordable healthcare, or safe working conditions, our law enforcement members have come to expect an organization defined by excellence. We believe it is just the beginning of what you deserve.

In solidarity with those who protect and serve,

James P. Hoffa
Teamsters General President

"The Teamsters Legal Defense Fund has been great. They were with us very shortly after we contacted them. They were able to answer all my questions, and I felt I was in very professional hands. They really did a great job."

***Michael Dumonceaux
Sergeant, Mille-Lacs Jail,
Milaca, MN***





*For more information on the Teamsters Legal Defense Fund, please contact the Law Enforcement League at **1-877-744-7550**, or visit our website at **www.teamstercops.org**.*

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