

RANGE OF OUTCOMES FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CHARGES

-----NO CRIMINAL RECORD -----

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| Withdrawal/ Stay | Acquittal | Informal Resolution | Peace Bond | Discharge | Suspended Sentence | Fine | CSO | Jail |
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| The charges are dropped outright because we cannot convince the Crown that they have “no reasonable likelihood of conviction” or it is “not in the public interest” to pursue the charges | A judge finds you “not guilty” at trial | Upon completion of counselling the Crown agrees to withdraw the charges | Requires an admission that there was an incident that caused the complainant to fear for their safety and there is a present and ongoing fear. You must follow conditions for a fixed term to avoid a record | Requires a finding of guilt by a judge, but instead of entering a conviction on your record the judge enters a discharge, which may be conditional on you following conditions for a fixed term of probation | A fixed term of probation, but a conviction is entered on the record, which means you will have a criminal record | Monetary penalty with a criminal record | Conditional Sentence Order referred to as jail in the community. Typically consists of a fixed term of house arrest followed by a fixed term of curfew along with conditions | Actual incarceration in a correctional institution. Less than two years will be served in a provincial institution. 2 years or more will be served in a federal penitentiary. |