

WI 2022 LAW



MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2022

The state of New York is the leader in the legal industry with the highest number of lawyers in the country. Some of the largest and best-known law firms are in the five boroughs and on Long Island. Today, as a result of technology and client demand, law firms in Nassau and Suffolk counties have emerged from the pandemic even more adept to handle the growing need for legal services among Long Islanders.

Source: American Bar Association 2020

[newsday.com/specialsections](https://www.newsday.com/specialsections)



LEGALease: You and Your Lawyer

| CONTINUED |

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

The attorney-client privilege is a legal concept that protects certain communications between a client and his or her lawyer and keeps those communications confidential. It is one of the oldest recognized privileges for confidential communications. However, there are limitations to the privilege, so please discuss any and all privilege issues with your lawyer.

THE BASIS FOR A LEGAL FEE

Abraham Lincoln once emphasized the value of a lawyer's services when he said, "A lawyer's time and advice are his stock and trade."

Often the key elements in any fee charged by a lawyer are the amount of time spent and the overall value of the service rendered on a particular problem. A lawyer's professional services differ from those of a doctor or dentist in one important way: Much of the work is done when the client is not present.

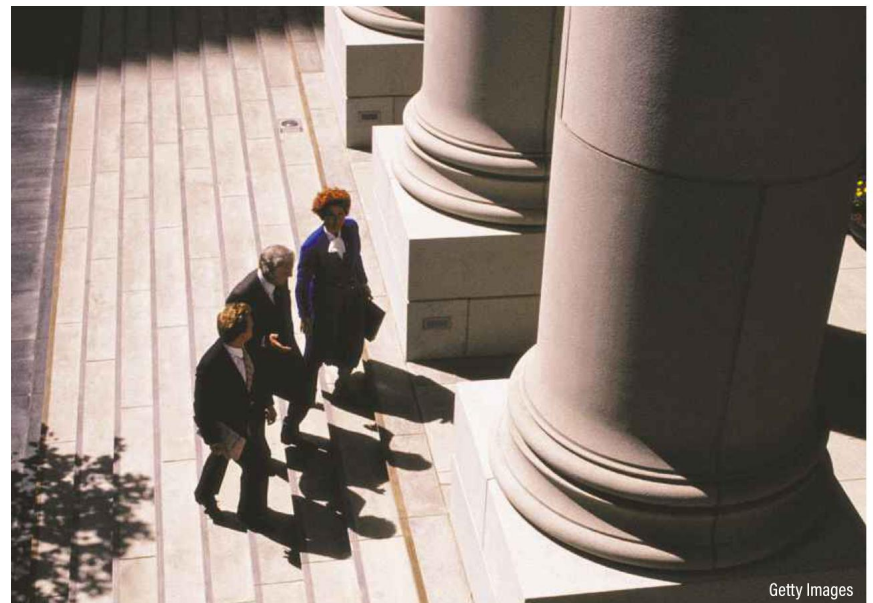
Many clients are often unaware that a document drawn for them, or the advice given to them in a few minutes, is actually the product of a lawyer's education, experience and many hours of work. The end result may also have involved time spent by others in the lawyer's office, such as legal assistants, the lawyer's associates and legal secretaries.

Remember, when you engage the services of a lawyer, you generally are hiring an entire law office to work for you.

ELEMENTS OF THE FEE

In charging fees, a lawyer considers a number of elements which may vary in significance depending upon the services performed and the applicable arrangements:

Time: This is often a basic element in determining a fee, in cases in which fees are based on hourly rates. Sometimes, fees are project-based or fixed.



Getty Images

Operating expenses and overhead: The cost of operating the average law office — including items such as rent, equipment, law library, supplies, staff and insurance— is often significant.

Ability, experience and reputation: You should expect to pay a higher hourly rate or fixed fee for a lawyer who has a lot of experience and knowledge in a specific

area of the law or who is particularly in demand.

This is not to imply that a lawyer less experienced in a certain area of the law is not able to cope with typical legal problems. The law is no different in this respect from any other professional area, such as medicine, where there are specific fields of practice (or sub-practice).



Heart of the Community Award

JASPAN | ■■■
 ■■■ SCHLESINGER^{LLP}
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Your best interests. Our best thinking.

Garden City Office
 300 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, NY 11530
 T: 516.746.8000 | F: 516.393.8282

Tarrytown Office
 520 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591
 T: 914.467.7800 | F: 516.393.8282

For 75 years, Jaspan Schlesinger LLP has been providing exceptional legal services in the areas of commercial litigation, banking and financial services, education law, municipal law, real estate, land use and zoning, tax certiorari and condemnation, and estates and trusts.

With more than 50 attorneys and offices in Garden City and Westchester County, Jaspan Schlesinger is equipped to handle complex matters while delivering individualized advice and counsel to its clients. Innovative yet practical and responsive, Jaspan Schlesinger is the trusted partner clients count on to help solve real-world problems—locally, nationally and globally—and to proactively help prevent problems from happening in the first place.

To celebrate the firm's 75th anniversary, Jaspan Schlesinger designed a program to donate to 75 local nonprofits. The Jaspan Schlesinger Heart of Community Awards are given to organizations with a proven commitment to making New York a better place. That commitment is consistent with the firm's values and mission since its founding in 1946.

"Giving back, whether through volunteerism or philanthropy, has always been a cornerstone of Jaspan Schlesinger's firm culture," Steve Schlesinger, co-managing partner, said in a statement. "With these awards, we hope to recognize the New York region's non-for-profit leaders and highlight the worthy causes that they support."

"Our attorneys frequently volunteer their time to serve on the boards of not-for-profit organizations and religious corporations, participate in and sponsor events, and provide critical pro bono legal services to those in need," Jothy Narendran, co-managing partner, added.

"As the Heart of Community program comes to a close this spring, we give our thanks to all the employees, partners and associates who have contributed to Jaspan Schlesinger's success for the past 75 years. Now we look forward to the next 75!" concluded Schlesinger.

www.jaspanllp.com