



top 10 questions to ask when hiring a lawyer

podcast episode 37 tip sheet

You've probably heard you need to have a lawyer on your team. You've been feeling the prompts from your intuition and you know it's time to step up and work with a lawyer to protect yourself, your business and your brand. But who do you hire? Where do you find a lawyer you can trust? And what questions should you ask when hiring them to see if you're a match?

In this episode, you'll learn the Top 10 Questions to Ask When Hiring a Lawyer. If there's one thing I know for sure, EVERY entrepreneur needs to have a lawyer who you resonate with, who you trust, who matches your values, and who understands what you do in your business. Keep this episode Tip Sheet handy – you'll need it.

One of the top 8 fears of entrepreneurs that they reported is LEGAL ACTION.

That's why as a Holistic Lawyer®, I am committed to educating you about ways you can try to PREVENT legal catastrophes from happening in the first place. I want to arm you with information so you don't get into a "jarring and scarring" situations yourself.

When is the RIGHT TIME to hire a lawyer for your business?

There are 2 key times to hire a lawyer:

1. AFTER something has gone wrong.
2. BEFORE something goes wrong.

Most of the time when people are looking for a lawyer its AFTER something bad has happened and something has gone wrong in their business, but it can feel stressful having to find a lawyer when you're emotionally upset and panicking because something has gone wrong.

You want to have an ESTABLISHED relationship with a business lawyer who you trust on speed-dial on the FRONT end BEFORE something goes wrong so you can put the right legal terms in place for your business to help PREVENT legal catastrophes from happening.

What KIND of lawyer do I need for my business?

Well, that depends on what you do! And, it also depends on the scenario you're in. For example:

- If you're a business coach who wants to get website terms in place for your new website, you'd want to work with a business lawyer who understands the online space.
- If you're a licensed practitioner or Health Coach who is trying to figure out what you can and can't do in your state when it comes to giving advice about nutrition, you want to work with a health care lawyer or a lawyer with a background in health care law.
- If you're wanting to protect your assets, create a will, form a trust or plan for your retirement and your family well into the future, you'd want to work with an estate planning attorney.
- If you're any kind of business owner or practitioner and your client is threatening to sue you – or you receive a formal legal letter in the mail from a law firm or a complaint in a court case, you want to work with a lawyer who works in courts – also called a litigator.
- If you're someone who owns a registered trademark and someone is using your intellectual property without your permission and you want to know what to do, you want to work with a lawyer with expertise in intellectual property and trademarks.

Each lawyer is different and we each have our own areas of knowledge and expertise – just like YOU do in your business.

The most important thing to consider when hiring a lawyer is...

You want to find a lawyer who truly understands your work and who can help you take the right legal steps for your business at the right time so you feel safe, secure, confident and empowered – and not legally naked.

WHERE can you find a good lawyer who understands your business?

If you have an online business or virtual aspect to your business, you'll want to have at least two kinds of lawyers to support you in your business:

1. You want a local lawyer in your city, state, or province who you can contact. You want someone who is familiar with your local and state laws to support you locally as a trusted resource, especially if you have a brick and mortar business, are buying/selling/leasing office space, want to open a new storefront or restaurant or need local business licenses, tax documents or local forms.
2. Since many traditional lawyers aren't as familiar with the aspects of online entrepreneurship like online cleanses, Ontraport or opt-ins, you also want to have an online biz lawyer who can help you make sure you are aware of the language and documents you need operating as a virtual business in the online space.

What kinds of things can a lawyer help you do?

Part of the role of a lawyer is to help you think through scenarios in advance and include language in your legal documents to help prevent things from going wrong. That's why using a generic legal document designed for everyone or from a random legal service isn't enough—you need to use legal documents designed specifically for your work by a lawyer who understands what you do.

In my view, working with a lawyer is aligned energetically with the **third eye chakra** because getting legally covered, filing the right paperwork, creating the right legal documents and forming an LLC or S-Corp taps into your inner insight. Many of my clients have told me they “just knew” it was time to take their business up a notch and to make their operation more “official” by getting a lawyer on speed-dial. If they weren't presently in a Legal Pickle™ where they REALLY needed a lawyer pronto, they trusted their intuition that it was time to talk with an attorney and raise the business professionalism and vibe by bringing a lawyer onto their team.



Be sure to work with an attorney who takes the time to make you feel comfortable, confident, and empowered. You can use this checklist when you are reaching out to attorneys to find out what services they offer and how they can help you by asking them these 10 questions:



Top 10 Questions to Ask an Attorney:

1. What types of services do you offer business owners?
2. What are your areas of legal expertise?
3. What are your fees? How do you charge for your services or time? Do you charge by the hour or do you charge by the service?
4. If I have a limited budget, what steps do you recommend that I take right now?
5. Can you help me know what types of legal issues I should keep in mind as my business grows?
6. What do you recommend for keeping my legal costs down in general?
7. How do you like to communicate? By e-mail? Phone? In person meetings? How often do you like to communicate? Would we communicate regularly, or just as needed?
8. Do you send me reminders about when things are needed or due?
9. If there's a problem with a client, partner or vendor, would you be the one to represent me in court?
10. What else is important for me to know if we were to work together going forward?



Lawyers are there to help you, to support you, to bolster you and your business. Don't be scared to reach out to an attorney and to ask any question that you want. Having a lawyer on your team is important for your business growth and success and the sooner you can check this box off of your "to-do" list, the more safe and secure you will feel knowing you can call on someone who has your back.

Take a moment to ask these questions and get a lawyer on your team. I hope you are seeing how important lawyers are to you and you are feeling confident now to reach out and support yourself and your business with the gift of legal support.

Do you have other questions about what to ask a lawyer when you reach out to them? Feel free to reach out to us at clientlove@lisafraley.com. I read every e-mail that comes in and my team and I would love to help you however we can.

As always, I believe you're set free to do your best work and create anything that you want when you get legally covered in a loving way.

Here's to getting legally enlightened!

With Legal Love,



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It is not legal advice and it does not create an attorney-client relationship.**

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Lisa Fraley, JD, CHHC, AADP, is an acclaimed attorney, Legal Coach®, speaker and #1 Best Selling Author of "Easy Legal Steps...That are Also Good for Your Soul." With her unique blend of coaching, legal expertise, and spirituality, Lisa has supported thousands of heart-centered entrepreneurs and small business owners to protect themselves, their businesses and their brands through DIY legal templates, online legal courses and one-on-one services.

From sharing international stages with thought leaders like Kris Carr and Gabrielle Bernstein to being featured on hundreds of podcasts, webinars, radio shows and bonus calls, Lisa has made it her mission to help every single small business owner understand that the law can be accessible, empowering, loving, and even spiritual. When she's not saving the world (with Legal Love) one contract at a time, she's posting free legal tips and connecting with her tribe at lisafraley.com.