

## **<h1>What Is the Legal Definition of Sexual Harassment?</h1>**

Legally, sexual harassment is defined as behavior that is based on the person's sex. While many people think of sexual harassment as making lewd comments toward a person or pursuing them for a relationship after they have expressed that they aren't interested, sexual harassment can also include negative comments toward someone because of their sex. To qualify as harassment legally, the perpetrator's actions have to be frequent or severe enough.

Being charged with sexual harassment is a serious crime, and it requires a serious defense. Our law firm has experienced criminal defense lawyers who can help you understand and respond to these types of charges.

## **<h2>Is Sexual Harassment a Felony or Misdemeanor?</h2>**

Under South Carolina law, harassment is classified as a misdemeanor, and it can be charged as a first-degree or second-degree misdemeanor. However, it is possible to be charged with a felony for sexual harassment if there are previous harassment convictions. This is one reason why it's important to have a criminal defense attorney if you are facing sexual harassment charges. If you are convicted, it can significantly impact the severity of penalties for a subsequent charge later on.

## **<h2>What Happens If Someone Is Convicted of Sexual Harassment?</h2>**

If you are convicted of sexual harassment, the next step will be to be sentenced by the court. Generally, crimes have minimum and maximum penalties that can be imposed, and the prosecutor will make a recommendation on what they think is appropriate. The criminal penalties for a sexual harassment conviction include a fine and jail time. The amount of the fine can range from a few hundred dollars to a few thousand dollars, depending on whether it's a felony or misdemeanor and the degree of the charge. The same is true with the potential jail time. The more severe the charge, the longer the sentence. If you are convicted of felony sexual harassment, it can also keep you from being able to hold certain jobs.

## **<h2>What Should I Do If I'm Accused of Sexual Harassment?</h2>**

As soon as you are aware that there are sexual harassment accusations, it's time to talk with an attorney. Even if you aren't facing any official charges yet, a lawyer can help you understand if there is any legal basis for the charge and advise you on what to do while you're waiting to be officially charged. Having an attorney already involved can also help increase the chances of being released on bail.

If you've been accused of sexual harassment, speak to an attorney as soon as possible. You can get started by calling our law firm at XXX-XXX-XXXX. We offer free consultations and can help you understand what you're facing and what your options are.

