

Goodlawyer Statement of Defense

Practice area: Business, Startup, Litigation

What is a Statement of Defense?

A Statement of Defense is a legal document filed with the Courts after someone initiates a lawsuit against you with a [Statement of Claim](#). A Statement of Defense indicates that you deny the claim and the remedy proposed in the plaintiff's Statement of Claim, and explains the legal basis for your decision. It indicates that the issue will need to be settled inside or outside of court and is sometimes filed alongside a Counterclaim if you believe that you are entitled to compensation for damages.

A well-written, strategic Statement of Defense may encourage the Plaintiff to withdraw specific statements or even the entirety of their Claim altogether, making them a useful tool for entrepreneurs who want to spend their time building their business rather than arguing in court.

Price: \$1,500 + Tax

- \$1,250 Legal fee
- \$250 Service fee
- * Does not include government fees. These are generally \$50 - \$200.
- This price is based on a basic Statement of Defense and is subject to additional fees if your matter is more complex. Your lawyer will always clarify any additional costs for your approval

Included

- Project kick-off call to gather information, advise you, and answer questions
- One customized Statement of Defense
- One round of minor revisions if necessary

Not Included

- More than one Statement of Defense
- Service of the Statement of Defense
- Commencing other legal proceedings
- Additional work or questions following the delivery of the Statement of Defense
- Major revisions or rewriting of the Statement of Defense throughout, or after the project

What is the process?

- 1. Book a call.** Pick a time to discuss your Statement of Defense with a Good Lawyer.
- 2. Discuss your Statement.** Help your lawyer understand the situation and the goals of your letter.
- 3. Share documents.** Your lawyer will review your files and draft your Statement accordingly.
- 4. Your Statement will be prepared and filed.** Your lawyer will file the Statement of Defense with the courts on your behalf.

Why book a Statement of Defense through Goodlawyer?

Stand up for yourself. Some people or companies use lawsuits as a weapon to threaten and bully others in the hopes that they will choose to settle outside of court. A Statement of Defense demonstrates the legal basis for refusing this threat.

Work together. Working with a Good Lawyer means working with a partner who wants the best for you. You'll have a trustworthy guide to help you navigate the situation.

Get the best possible result. Litigation can have profound consequences, for better or for worse, and the most important decisions occur when creating the Statement of Defense. It's not a good time to DIY.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is the procedure the same provincially and federally?

For the most part, yes. The exact names of the documents involved can be different and filing fees can vary, but the procedure is generally similar. Your lawyer will inform you of these differences during your kickoff call.

Do I need to file a Statement of Defense?

No, you have three options when you receive a Statement of Claim. First, you can file a Demand for Notice, which means you accept the terms outlined in the Statement of Claim and will pay the remedy outside of court. Second, you can file a Statement of Defense, and third, you can file a Statement of Defense AND a Counterclaim if you feel like you are entitled to compensation for damages related to the situation. Options 2 and 3 both mean there will be further litigation in court.

What happens after the Statement is filed?

Either yourself or the Courts will arrange for the Statement of Defense to be delivered. The plaintiff will receive your Statement of Defense and will need to either drop their case or continue court proceedings. You will be notified of their decision.

How long do Statements of Defense take to draft?

Typically, from the time of your kick-off call you can expect to have your Statement of Defense within one week. Lawyers give these documents a high priority because courts generally enforce strict time limits on responses to Statements of Claim. The sooner you can engage a lawyer to draft your Statement of Defense, the better.

Will my lawyer file my Statement of Defense?

Yes, your lawyer will file the Statement on your behalf. They will also pay the filing fees, which will be added to the total price at the end of the service. These fees typically range from \$50 to \$200 and depend on which province and registry the Statement is filed in. The good news is that a successful Defense may be able to transfer these expenses and fees to the plaintiff, meaning this cost may be reimbursed later.

Do I need a lawyer in my city?

It is highly recommended that you work with a local lawyer since you may need to go to court after the Statement of Defense is filed. It will be easier to continue with the lawyer who filed the Statement rather than switching lawyers before going to court.

“[Goodlawyer] is an amazing company and everything about them is professional, easy, cost effective and solution based. You will not be disappointed!

5-star Google review — Tyler, November 2020