

## When Your Expectations in Legal disputes can be Disappointed – The Solution?

Understand now the reasons why what you think is “justice” may be far from the final outcome (after you will have spent a lot of money). For example:

1. You’ve signed away something giving away your rights.
2. There is some relevant fact not initially disclosed or appreciated.
3. You have not really understood or analysed the entirety of the legal advice given to you in initial conference or later, but only the parts you wanted to hear, and besides you are upset so you are not in the mood to think analytically.
4. You are determined regardless to proceed, that is, before the reality of the financial and personal pain is apparent.
5. There’s always an argument in favour of every party although the strengths of these arguments vary.
6. Legal advice is only an opinion at the end of the day and the judicial officer might have a different opinion – or your barrister who looks at the matter prior to hearing and after you’ve already spent a lot of money.
7. Something that no-one expected happens.
8. You have a weak spot, e.g. not enough money, or a conviction for dishonesty so you could be tested on your credibility.
9. Parties with more money have stronger bargaining power regardless of justice.
10. If you win you probably still don’t get all your costs covered.
11. You focus only on winning scenarios and forget about losing scenarios.
12. You don’t realise that sometimes just writing off \$10,000 or paying it is not much of a loss and may in fact be a good outcome compared with what could have happened!

So:

1. Retain a solicitor with integrity who will do his or her best to give considered advice and warn you of problems early on, recognising that these situations are complex and there is always a risk element.
2. Take personal responsibility for the judgement call as to whether to continue and seek clarification from your lawyer where you don’t understand something, prior to making that judgement call.
3. Continue to reassess the situation as the dispute process progresses.

### How to contact us

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