

## Legal Terminology 5

### Criminal Law

<b>prosecutor</b>	legal officer who represents the state or federal government in a criminal proceeding ( <b>prosecutorial</b> )
<b>prosecution</b>	<b>1)</b> a criminal proceeding in which an accused person is tried ( <b>to prosecute</b> ) <b>2)</b> the government's side in a criminal case ("the <b>prosecution rests</b> ")
<b>misdemeanor</b>	a minor crime punishable by fine, penalty, or imprisonment for a brief period of time (usually no more than one year)
<b>felony</b>	a serious crime punishable by more than a year in prison or death
<b>probable cause</b>	<b>1)</b> proper basis for search, seizure or arrest -reasonable grounds (more than mere suspicion) to believe that a person has committed a crime; <b>2)</b> apparent facts that would lead a reasonably intelligent and prudent person to believe that an accused person has committed a crime and That prosecution is warranted
<b>proof of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt</b>	standard of proof in a criminal case
<b>bail</b>	security (payment) required by court for the release of a person who must appear in court at a future time (to set bail; to make bail; to be out on bail)
<b>probation</b>	punishment for a crime where a prison sentence is suspended and the offender is permitted to remain in the community subject to certain conditions, i.e. performing public service work, maintaining good behavior, paying a fine, reporting regularly to a probation officer.
<b>parole</b>	early release from prison subject to certain restrictions and conditions
<b>double jeopardy</b>	prohibition in the U.S. Constitution (5 <sup>th</sup> Amendment) against trying a person twice for the same crime
<b>information</b>	a formal criminal charge made by a prosecutor without a grand jury indictment