



## Checklist: Finding the Best Private Investigator for Your Situation

**Positive first impression?**

Is the person professional? Are they a good communicator? Would a judge and jury find this person credible if need be?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Local? No Subcontractors?**

Are they actually located in your area? Will they do the work themselves without hiring subcontractors?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Experience?**

Are they experienced in the situation and type of case you are potentially hiring them for? Did they ask for a retainer?  
*Remember, be wary of suspiciously low prices or no retainer.*

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Are the business owners credible and reputable?**

Does the business owner follow an ethical practice and have a good reputation?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Licensed?**

If your state has a licensing requirement, do they have a license? If not, do they have a license in a different state?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Qualified?**

Do they have the right education, certifications, training, and professional affiliations? Do they have real experience doing the work?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Insurance?**

Are they insured with liability and commercial vehicle insurance?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees?**

Did they ask for a retainer? Did they explain their fee structure, or give you an estimate?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Promises or Guarantees?**

Did they explain that no results can be guaranteed? *Be wary if they promised results.*

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do they understand?**

Do they have a good grasp of your situation? Do you feel like they fully understand what you are asking them to do?

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_