

Speaker 1:

Lawsuits against the city of New York can take time. The courts in the city, whether it's Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens, they're obviously crowded courts with a lot of cases pending. So any case in any one of the New York City counties takes a while. Sometimes lawsuits against the City of New York can take longer because there's a lot of lawsuits against the City of New York and the city only has so much resources, so many lawyers to defend them.

Generally what happens in the courts is that the city cases are handled separately in what are known as city parts and they're sort of on a separate track. So those lawsuits do take years and what essentially happens during the life of a lawsuit is the lawsuit is commenced when the plaintiff's attorney, that's me and a firm like mine, files what's known as a summons and complaint. That's the initial document that starts the lawsuit. Shortly thereafter, the city puts in what's known as an answer where they either admit or deny the allegations in the complaint. Then they ask us for what's known as a bill of particulars, which is a legal phrase or a legal label for a document that lays out the claims and the damages in more detail than the complaint.