



# Co-Signer Responsibility Guide

What you take on when you co-sign (indemnify) a bail bond — read this before you sign.



*BailBeacon is a free matching service, not a bail agent, bondsman, attorney, or law firm. This guide is general information, not legal advice. Bail rules and the bail premium are set by each state and county. Always work with a licensed bail agent, verify the license yourself, confirm every cost in writing before you pay, and consult a licensed attorney for legal advice.*

## • What a co-signer is

When you co-sign a bail bond, you become the indemnitor. You are promising the licensed bail agent that the defendant will appear at every court date — and accepting financial responsibility if they do not.

This is a serious commitment. Understand it fully before you sign.



## • What you are responsible for

- Paying the premium (and any agreed payment plan) in full.
- Any collateral you pledged to secure the bond.
- Helping make sure the defendant attends every court date.



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## • What can happen if a court date is missed

If the defendant misses court, the bond can be forfeited and you — as co-signer — can be liable for the full bail amount, plus any recovery costs.

Ask the agent exactly what happens in this situation, and what your options are, before you sign.



## • Questions to ask before you co-sign

- What is my total financial exposure if something goes wrong?
- When do I get my collateral back?
- Can I get a copy of everything I am signing, in my language?



- **Stay in control**

You are never required to co-sign. Take the time to understand the agreement, get everything in writing, and consult a licensed attorney if you have legal questions.

BailBeacon connects you with licensed agents for free — you choose who to work with and on what terms.

