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litigation

noun[U]

law specialized uk / lɪt.ɪ ˈgeɪ.ʃ•n/ us / lɪţ.ə ˈgeɪ.ʃ•n/

> the process of taking a case to a court of law so that a judgment can be made:

The company has consistently denied responsibility, but it agreed to the settlement to avoid the expense of lengthy litigation.

"litigation" in American English

litigationnoun [U]
law us / lɪt̪·ɪˈgeɪ·ʃən/

> the process of taking an argument between people or groups to a court of law:

Both sides agreed to the settlement to avoid the expense of litigation.