

Demurrer v. Traverse

Demurrer – A allegation of the defendant, which admitting the matters of fact alleged by the complaint or bill (equity action) to be true, shows that as they are therein set forth they are sufficient for the plaintiff to proceed upon or to oblige the defendant to answer; or that, for some reason apparent on the face of the complaint or bill, or on account of the omission of some matter which ought to be attendant thereon, the defendant ought not be compelled to answer. The formal mode of disputing the sufficiency in law of the pleading of the other side.

Black's Law Dictionary, Sixth Ed. P.433

A demurrer doesn't argue the facts, but that the law is inapplicable.

Common Traverse – A simple and direct denial of the material allegations of the opposite pleading...

Black's Law Dictionary, Sixth Ed. P.1500

To traverse, to deny, is to answer. To answer is to accept liability and applicability of their laws.

They **want** you to deny their accusations – it establishes their jurisdiction.

Your **first** line of defense is stupidity. You don't know why you are in court. You ask if there is a sworn affidavit in support of their accusations. Who is the injured party? You don't understand the nature and charges against you, so you must have a probable cause hearing.

Your **second** line of defense is a pre-plea motions hearing. You have the right, as the accused, to enter motions to dismiss their charges and quash / strike evidence.

Your **third** line of defense is non-standard pleadings.