State-by-state list of legal resources for Veterans needing legal help with out-of-state child support modifications; compiled by Veterans Child Support Modification Clinic of Dallas and SMU law students, Fall 2014

ALABAMA

Alabama Legal Help (<u>http://www.alabamalegalhelp.org/</u>) has good online resources for pro se pleadings for child support modifications.

Alabama Lawyer Referral Service (not free legal services)

The Lawyer Referral Service is a program of the Alabama State Bar. Its purpose is to assist members of the public who can afford to pay a lawyer but do not have one in finding an attorney who handles their type of matter. It is the only lawyer referral service operated by the Alabama State Bar. All panel members of the Lawyer Referral Service are licensed in Alabama and are members in good standing of the Alabama State Bar. The Lawyer Referral Service does not have free attorneys.

How Does the Lawyer Referral Service Work?

When you call the Lawyer Referral Service's toll free number (1-800-392-5660) you will be asked to briefly state your problem. All information will be held in the strictest confidence. After listening to your problem, the Lawyer Referral Service representative will ask for your name, address, telephone number and any other necessary information. You will then be given the name of one lawyer located near you, if one is available, who practices in the area of law that relates to your problem. The service does not have attorneys who handle all types of legal problems in all areas of the state. The service does not provide lists of attorneys.

When you request and receive a referral through the Alabama State Bar's website, you must agree to the Terms of Service and choose the area of law and the type of problem. You must enter your name, address and email address, and you must indicate the county in which you are having the legal problem. You will receive the name and phone number for one lawyer who practices in the county you indicated if one is available. The service does not have attorneys who handle all types of legal problems in all areas of the state.

We regret that we cannot provide referrals through email. Please read the remainder of these instructions and then go to the bottom of this page for an online referral, or call the toll free number to speak with a referral representative.

When you receive a referral, it is your responsibility to contact the lawyer to make an appointment to discuss your legal problem. The Lawyer Referral Service cannot make appointments for callers. When you call to make your appointment with the lawyer, be sure to tell him or her that the Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral Service has referred you.

When is the Lawyer Referral Service Open?

The Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral Service's toll free number operates Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:30 p.m.to 4:30 p.m. Referrals through this website are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. https://www.alabar.org/for-the-public/find-a-lawyer/

Lawyer Referral Service members will sometimes include many counties in their coverage area. If you feel that you need a lawyer closer to the site of your legal problem, please call us at 800-392-5660 and we will attempt to narrow down your search.

How Much Will My Lawyer Charge?

The Lawyer Referral Service is designed to serve anyone who can afford the services of a lawyer. A person who has a legal problem and cannot afford to pay for legal counsel should contact Legal Services Alabama.

Lawyers who participate in the ASB Lawyer Referral Service agree to charge no more than \$50 for an initial 30-minute consultation. The purpose of the initial consultation is to assess your legal problem, determine if additional legal services are needed and explain your legal options. If your problem requires work beyond the initial consultation and you decide to hire the lawyer, you and the lawyer must negotiate to determine how much his or her legal services will cost. Be sure to discuss any additional fees; if the lawyer tells you that you need additional legal work but does not discuss additional fees then you should ask. Lawyers charge based on the time and type of work involved, the difficulty in solving the problem, and your needs as a client. The Lawyer Referral Service encourages you to ask for a written fee agreement before you proceed with any legal work beyond the first 30-minute consultation.

Members of the United States Armed Forces

Some attorneys who participate in the ASB Lawyer Referral Service offer a 25% discount to members of the United States Armed Forces. If you are a member of the U. S. Armed Forces, please call 800-392-5660 for a referral. At this time, the online Lawyer Referral Service does not indicate which lawyers provide legal representation for members of the military at a discounted rate.

In Alabama, the Department of Human Resources handles child support enforcement for those who cannot afford private attorneys. You can learn more about that division here: http://www.dhr.alabama.gov/services/Child_Support_Services/Child_Support_Enforcement.aspx

A committee of the Alabama State Bar has also developed pro se forms that can be used to request a child support modification. The forms can be found on the Alabama Legal Help web site <u>http://www.alabamalegalhelp.org/resource/how-to-change-a-child-support-order?ref=unq60</u>

The Alabama State Bar also runs a Lawyer Referral Service which anyone can use to obtain a referral to a private attorney. <u>https://www.alabar.org/for-the-public/find-a-lawyer/</u>

If you live in Alabama, you may qualify for help from Legal Services Alabama (LSA). LSA is a state-wide, non-profit law firm that provides free legal assistance in certain civil matters to people who have limited income, do not own too much property, and meet certain other requirements. Conferences with a lawyer are by appointment only.

Legal Services Alabama (LSA)

207 Montgomery Street, Suite 1200 Montgomery, AL 36104 (866) 456-4995

Alabama's Volunteer Lawyer Programs

All across Alabama, volunteer attorneys donate their time to provide legal services in certain civil (not criminal) matters. These programs are designed to help persons who cannot afford to hire a lawyer. To qualify, you must have income below a certain level and not own too much property. If you think you might qualify, please contact the program in your area to see if you meet these and certain other requirements. Conferences with a lawyer are by appointment only.

Although the attorney's time is free, you will be responsible for any out-of-pocket costs such as filing fees.

The kinds of cases normally accepted are:

- Adoption by relatives with the consent of natural parents
- Bankruptcy Chapter 7
- Child Support Modification client has major change in circumstances
- Collections Small Claims with attorney on other side
- Contracts and warranties
- Custody by agreement
- Divorce uncontested and parties are separated or defendant's whereabouts are unknown.
- Guardianship of child if needed to enter child in school
- Guardianship of adult person not of sound mind or medical condition prevents person from caring for self
- Home Ownership Deed preparation; pre-foreclosure negotiations; or land dispute
- Landlord/Tenant private housing
- Legitimations by consent
- Name Change Adult and minor
- Power of Attorney
- Probate Wills, living wills, and small estate administration
- Tax

If you live in Baldwin, Clarke, Mobile or Washington County or your case is in Baldwin, Clarke, Mobile or Washington County Call:

South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program

56 St. Joseph Street, Suite 312

Mobile, AL 36602 (251) 438-1102 (855) 997-2857 www.savlp.org

If you live in any other county or your case is in any other county Call: Alabama State Bar

Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP)

415 Dexter Avenue P. O. Box 671 Montgomery, AL 36101 (888) 857-8571 www.alabar.org



Legal Services Alabama

If you live in Alabama, you may qualify for help from Legal Services Alabama (LSA). LSA is a state-wide, non-profit law firm that provides free legal assistance in certain civil matters to people who have limited income, do not own too much property, and meet certain other requirements. Conferences with a lawyer are by appointment only.

LSA may be able to help with the following kinds of matters:

- Protection From Abuse (PFA) order due to recent abuse
- · Divorce with domestic violence or other issues
- Eviction defense
- Private foreclosure defense
- Garnishment defense
- Repossession defense
- Utility (electricity, gas, and water) termination
- Wrongful termination
- Unemployment compensation
- Bankruptcy (Chapter 7 and Chapter 13) as a way of solving problems with garnishments, multiple suits, and threatened loss of housing
- Public benefits (Family Assistance, Food Stamps, Medicaid appeals)
- · Social Security and SSI cessation appeals
- · Social Security and SSI overpayment appeals.

Please note, LSA can only provide limited assistance in some types of cases. Call LSA to find out if it can help you.

Legal Services Alabama (LSA)

207 Montgomery Street, Suite 1200 Montgomery, AL 36104 (866) 456-4995 www.LegalServicesAlabama.org

For information about many legal topics and do-it-yourself forms, go to www.alabamalegalhelp.org.

Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral Service

If you don't meet the requirements for help from the Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP) or Legal Services Alabama (LSA), it can be hard to know where to find an attorney. The Lawyer Referral Service of the Alabama State Bar can give you the name of a lawyer who handles your kind of case. For a fee, you can talk to that lawyer about your problem. After that consultation, any other legal work (and the fees for that work) will be a matter for the attorney and you to agree upon.

Alabama State Bar

\$50 fee for 30-minute Lawyer Referral Service consultation (800) 392-5660 Email: Irs@alabar.org

The VLP are separately funded by a variety of sources, including

- Alabama State Bar
- Local Bar Associations
- The Alabama Law Foundation
- Legal Services of Alabama
- Alabama Civil Justice Foundation







Legal Help for Low-Income Clients



Alabama's Volunteer Lawyer Programs

All across Alabama, volunteer attorneys donate their time to provide legal services in certain civil (not criminal) matters. These programs are designed to help persons who cannot afford to hire a lawyer. To qualify, you must have income below a certain level and not own too much property. If you think you might qualify, please contact the program in your area to see if you meet these and certain other requirements. Conferences with a lawyer are by appointment only. Although the attorney's time is free, you will be responsible for any outof-pocket costs such as filing fees.

The kinds of cases normally accepted are:

- · Adoption by relatives with the consent of natural parents
- Bankruptcy Chapter 7
- Child Support Modification client has major change in circumstances
- Collections Small Claims with attorney on other side
- Contracts and warranties
- Custody by agreement
- Divorce uncontested and parties are separated or defendant's whereabouts are unknown.
- Guardianship of child if needed to enter child in school
- Guardianship of adult person not of sound mind or medical condition prevents person from caring for self
- Home Ownership Deed preparation; pre-foreclosure negotiations; or land dispute
- Landlord/Tenant private housing
- Legitimations by consent
- Name Change Adult and minor
- Power of Attorney
- Probate Wills, living wills, and small estate administration
- Tax
- Tort Defense
- Visitation Change by agreement

If you have a legal issue that is not listed, please call the VLP to find out if we can help you.

If you live in Jefferson County or if your case is in Jefferson County Call:



Birmingham Bar Volunteer Lawyers Volunteer Lawyers Program/Birmingham Bar Center 2021 2nd Avenue North Birmingham, AL 35203-3703 (205) 250-5198 www.vlpbirmingham.org

If you live in Madison County or if your case is in Madison County Call:



Madison County Volunteer Lawyers Program P. O. Box 2913 Huntsville, AL 35804 (256) 539-2275 www.vlpmadisoncounty.com If you live in Baldwin, Clarke, Mobile or Washington County or your case is in Baldwin, Clarke, Mobile or Washington County Call: South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program

56 St. Joseph Street, Suite 312



Mobile, AL 36602 (251) 438-1102 (855) 997-2857 www.savlp.org

If you live in any other county or your case is in any other county Call:



Alabama State Bar Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP) 415 Dexter Avenue P. O. Box 671 Montgomery, AL 36101 (888) 857-8571 www.alabar.org

ALASKA

Alaska Legal Services Corporation

Anchorage Office 1016 West Sixth Avenue, Suite 200 Anchorage, AK 99501-1963 Phone: (907) 272-9431 Toll Free: 1-888-478-2572 Fax: (907) 279-7417 E-mail: anchorage@alsc-law.org (http://www.alsc-law.org/ Office hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) provides free legal services to low-income individuals, usually those below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. We have asset guidelines as well. We do have some exceptions to the income and asset guidelines for seniors.

We do not have a formal child support modification clinic, but it is a high priority for ALSC to assist veterans facing homelessness with child support matters and we have been very successful in finding pro bono attorneys to assist us with these cases. If you visit our website (http://www.alsc-law.org/), there is information regarding how to apply for our services.

ARIZONA

Arizona Bar Foundation Law for Veterans http://www.lawforveterans.org/

The State Bar of Arizona's primary source for helping veterans is LawForVeterans.org. Veterans are funneled through the Foundation's online application system and are provided with a list of attorneys in the practice area they need based on their financial circumstances. The website was developed in conjunction with the Arizona Supreme Court and the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education.

Maricopa County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service

http://maricopalawyers.org/ (602)257-4434

Since its founding in 1914, the Maricopa County Bar Association has been the largest voluntary bar association in Arizona. Located in Phoenix, one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the nation, MCBA is where the legal community connects.

Our Lawyer Referral Service was established in 1964 to meet the legal needs of our community by offering low cost consultations with qualified local attorneys.

Pima County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service

http://pimacountybar.org/lawyer-referral-service-lrs (520) 623-4625 HOURS OF OPERATION: 9AM to 4:30PM Monday - Friday (excluding holidays)

Legal problems can be confusing when you do not know where to turn for help. The Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) program can help you find a private attorney who has experience with your particular type of legal problem.

We have a panel of experienced attorneys in many areas of law. Each LRS attorney must be a member of the State Bar of Arizona (the licensing authority for lawyers), and must be experienced in the area of law for which s/he receives referrals.

For a non-refundable fee of \$35 due at the time of the referral, the Lawyer Referral Service will provide you with a licensed attorney who will provide you with a 30-minute consultation. During this time, the attorney will offer: Information and Legal Advice; An opinion as to whether a lawyer can be of help with your concern; A fee estimate for further services or representation (if necessary)

Arizona Attorney General

https://www.azag.gov/veterans

https://www.azag.gov/child-and-family/child-support

The Office of the Arizona Attorney General would like our soldiers to know, that while they are defending us, we are protecting them. The Office of the Arizona Attorney General is here to help our military personnel, veterans, and family members by offering resources including but not limited to:

Home Improvement Aid For Disabled Veterans Auto Purchase Work-At-Home Schemes Veterans Court Child Support Identity Theft

Arizona Foundation for Legal Services Modest Means Project

http://www.azflse.org/modestmeans/index.cfm

(866) 637-5341

The Modest Means Project is a partnership program from the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education and the State Bar of Arizona. The Project provides low-cost legal assistance to individuals who do not qualify for free legal services, but cannot afford the expertise of attorneys at the standard rate. The Modest Means Project assists individuals in a onehour meeting for a fee of \$75. In that meeting, attorneys can offer brief advice or unbundled services. A lawyer may offer full representation but it is not the expectation of the Modest Means Project. If full representation is requested, the Modest Means Project attorney can agree to offer representation beyond the scope of the Project's one-hour consultation commitment, but must maintain the fee of \$75 per hour.

To sign up for the Modest Means Project and find participating attorneys, please call the LegalLearn line at 866-637-5341. Calls are taken from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Northern Arizona Legal Aid DNA People's Legal Services

http://dnalegalservices.org/

(928) 774-0653

In order to qualify for free legal assistance, your income and assets must be below a certain level. Also, DNA can only accept cases that fall within its established priorities and that are within our service area. Our service area includes 7 Native American: Navajo, Hopi, Havasupai, Hualapai, San Juan Southern Paiute, Kaibab Paiute, Jicarilla Apache, and the following two counties: Coconino County in Arizona and San Juan County in New Mexico.

Before you can become a client of DNA People's Legal Services, you need to go through DNA's intake process. Intake can take place in person or over the phone. DNA has 10 offices and all offices operate different intake hours. Please contact the DNA office closest to you to find out

intake hours and procedures. For Arizona residents, you can also apply online using the Arizona Law Help online system.

Central Arizona Legal Services - Community Legal Services

http://www.clsaz.org/site/ (602) 258-3434 (800) 852-9075

Community Legal Services provides equal access to our civil justice system to low-income residents of Maricopa, Mohave, Yavapai, Yuma and La Paz counties. We have multiple locations throughout the state of Arizona.

In Maricopa County: The Central Phoenix Office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday with evening hours by appointment. You may apply for services by telephone or by visiting our offices.

To apply for services by phone, please call 602-258-3434. Our eligibility telephone lines are open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please push 6 to apply for services. After that, follow the prompts for your general legal problem area – 3 for Family Law; 4 for Housing; 5 for Consumer Law, and 6 for Benefits and Employment Law.

In Mohave, Yavapai, Yuma and LaPaz Counties: Please call the CLS office in the county in which you reside. For LaPaz County residents, please call our Mohave County office. Mohave County Office: (928) 681-1177 Yavapai County Office: (928) 445-9240 Yuma County Office: (928) 782-7511

Southern Arizona Legal Aid

http://sazlegalaid.org/ (520) 623-9465

Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Inc. (SALA) is a non-profit organization in existence since 1951.

SALA, with staff in six (6) offices located in southern and southeastern Arizona, provides free, civil legal aid to qualified low-income persons who would not otherwise have equal access to the justice system.

In addition to staff, SALA has a Volunteer Lawyers Program (VLP) which is co-sponsored by Local Bar Associations. The VLP refers clients from throughout SALA's nine (9) county service area to volunteer attorneys for direct legal aid. The VLP also provides assistance through self-help clinics and educational workshops staffed by volunteer attorneys and students.

To apply for services go to http://www.azlawhelp.org

ARKANSAS

Arkansas Legal Services, Inc. provides pro bono assistance to clients who meet their income guidelines. Additionally, you can check their website's veteran's page for additional information and self-help forms

http://www.arlegalservices.org/taxonomy/term/1476

Another resource (also developed and maintained by the Arkansas Legal Services Partnership) is a legal information page with Arkansas-specific information on child support: <u>http://www.arlegalservices.org/childsupport</u>

There are two free legal aid organizations in Arkansas that provide civil legal assistance for lowincome Arkansans. Legal Aid of Arkansas (which operates a medical-legal partnership with the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks in NW Arkansas) and the Center for Arkansas Legal Services, which offers monthly pro bono legal help at a veteran's day treatment center in Little Rock.

Center for Arkansas Legal Services (Main Office) 1300 W. 6th St., Little Rock, AR 72201 Phone Number: 1-501-376-3423 Toll Free: 1-800-9 LAW AID (1-800-952-9243) rtucci@arkansaslegalservices.org

Legal Aid of Arkansas (Main Office)—Only through Medical Legal Partnership at the VA Hospital or the SSVF program at 7Hills Homeless Shelter 714 South Main Street Jonesboro, AR 72401 Phone Number: 1-870-972-9224 Toll Free: 1-800-9 LAW AID (1-800-952-9243)

Arkansas Bar Association 2224 Cottondale Lane Little Rock, AR 72202 Phone: (501) 375-4606 or (800) 609-5668

Website: https://www.arkbar.com/pages/veterans_services.aspx

On the Arkansas Bar Website, The Arkansas Veteran Resource Directory (http://arkansasveteran.com/resources/) provides an easy to use tool for locating veteran-focused assistance with benefits, claims, employment, health, small business and much more. Assistance providers may be located by county, by assistance provided, and by zip code proximity. Directory results include addresses, telephone numbers, local maps, links to assistance provider websites. An interactive Google Map depicting all assistance providers is also available (http://arkansasveteran.com/resources/map.php) Users may zoom in/out, drag, and change type of map displayed.

The Arkansas Bar Association having only a small staff of 10 and 5300 members is unable to offer a regularly scheduled pro bono clinic for veterans. They do have a website http://www.arkansasfindalawyer.com/ that lists Arkansas attorneys by areas of practice. Veteran's law is one of the areas listed.

CALIFORNIA

There are several resources available on the California Courts website:

Family Law Facilitator program:

"Assembly Bill 1058, signed by Governor Pete Wilson in September 1996, expedited the court process for families involved in child support cases and made the process accessible and cost-effective. The legislation also made assistance with health insurance and spousal support issues available to litigants. Most significantly, the legislation established the Child Support Commissioner and Family Law Facilitator Program.

AB 1058 requires the superior court in each of California's 58 counties to maintain an Office of the Family Law Facilitator to provide litigants with free education, information, and assistance with child support issues. Each court appoints a California-licensed attorney with mediation or litigation experience in family law to head the office. The family law facilitator does not represent any party, and there is no attorney-client relationship.

For the parents, a family law facilitator helps demystify courtroom procedures and humanize the court system. For the court personnel, commissioners, and judges, a family law facilitator increases the effectiveness of child support decisions, because with the facilitator's help parents prepare their legal papers correctly and more fully understand how to present their cases and collect support.

As an individual court's program matures and the need arises—and as additional funding is secured—the court may (within the limits established by statute) create additional duties for the facilitator, such as mediating support issues, helping parties draft agreements, and preparing formal orders consistent with the court's announced order. Statewide, family law facilitator offices report more than 407,000 visits each year." <u>http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Child-Support-Fact-Sheet.pdf</u>

One excellent resource is "A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO THE CALIFORNIA COURTS' SELF-HELP CENTERS AND FAMILY LAW FACILITATORS" which provides addresses and phone numbers for the Family Law Facilitators in each county. The guide can be found here: <u>http://courts.ca.gov/documents/Public Locations Directory 4-9-12.pdf</u> and with an interactive map, here:

https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=214046056428193305573.0004b787688745b8cae89& msa=0&ll=37.50101,-120.267334&spn=7.423823,9.876709&dg=feature

The California Courts website also has a **"Self-Help"** section that provides an overview of child support law and procedure, and a great deal of other useful information: <u>http://courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-support.htm</u> Here, there is a listing of Family Law Facilitator offices by county, and the links take you directly to the county's Superior Court or law library website: <u>http://courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-facilitators.htm</u> Similarly, the state Department of Child Support Services has a website (http://www.childsup.ca.gov/Home.aspx) with links, by county, to the Local Child Support Agencies: http://www.childsup.ca.gov/Home/LCSAOffices/tabid/301/Default.aspx and a great deal of other relevant information.

California also has a number of Veterans Treatment Courts that work with veterans in addressing their criminal cases but also provide assistance on a number of other legal issues http://www.childsup.ca.gov/Default.aspx

Thomas Jefferson School of Law Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic 1155 Island Avenue San Diego, CA 92101 Phone: (619) 297-9700 Contact: Steve Berenson http://www.tjsl.edu/clinics/veterans-clinic

Our veterans legal clinic here at Thomas Jefferson School of Law does represent veterans in child support modification cases, although we almost exclusively limit our services to veterans who are currently participating in or are alumni of the Veterans Village of San Diego (VVSD) recovery program for homeless veterans with substance abuse problems. Nonetheless, I am willing to consider representing other veterans on a case by case basis, so you should not hesitate to contact me if you have a case that seems appropriate for a modification here in San Diego. Also, our local Department of Child Support Services is quite receptive to working with struggling veterans, so if our program is unable to assist, I might be able to connect you with a DCSS attorney who would be able to file for a modification on behalf of the county.

Veterans Legal Corps

Levitt & Quinn Family Law Center 1557 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90026 213-482-1800, ext. 303 213-482-4225 (fax) lqfellow@levittquinn.org http://levittquinn.org/ contact: Becky Miller Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow

Levitt & Quinn Family Law Center's cause is a simple one. It is that no one should stand alone in a family law courtroom. We are located in Los Angeles, but can provide remote assistance to veterans in other states with child support cases in California, provided that we have a partner veteran organization to verify the veteran's identity.

COLORADO

El Paso County Child Support Services

30 East Pikes Peak Avenue, 2nd Floor Colorado Springs, CO 80903 http://elpasocountycss.com/ (719) 457-6331 Contact: Dan Savage

Direct customer service line is (719) 457-6331. Ask to speak to **Dan Savage**, who is the Deputy Project Manager with the El Paso County Child Support Services in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Dan Savage can assist with all cases in the State of Colorado. The veteran should say he/she is a veteran/military client. It would be best to have the case manager or attorney assisting the client call or have the client call and leave a good contact number where they can receive a return call.

CONNECTICUT

Statewide Legal Services

Toll-free: (800) 453-3320 From Middletown and Hartford: (860) 344-0380 Our hotline calling hours are: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon and 1-2 p.m. Monday-Friday Eastern Time http://slsct.org/

Our Services

- Our advocates can help you with legal questions about family, public benefits, housing, unemployment and other problems.
- If we can help you, we will give you free legal advice. We will answer your questions. We will help you understand your legal rights and responsibilities so you can make the right choices for you and your family.
- Some cases may be referred to other legal aid programs or a volunteer attorney.
- You must have very low household income for us to be able to help you.
- Your case must be in Connecticut.
- We cannot help with criminal or immigration problems.
- We are a non-profit organization and our funding is limited. We cannot help everyone who applies for help.

Self Help

You do not have to apply or talk to someone to get help. We have a Self-Help Library with information about legal problems on <u>CTLawHelp.org</u>.

- Find free legal information
- Download brochures
- Take classes to help you with your legal problems
- Watch videos and slideshows
- Find helpful links

On-line resources:

http://ctlawhelp.org/how-to-change-child-support-order-connecticut

http://www.jud.ct.gov/forms/grouped/family/modification.htm

http://www.jud.ct.gov/childsupport/faq_eng.htm#13

Connecticut Veterans legal Center-only by direct attorney referral http://ctveteranslegal.org/

DELAWARE

Delaware - Legal Assistance

Phone: 888-225-0582 http://courts.delaware.gov/help/legalassistance.stm

The Legal Help Link will refer eligible clients to legal services that may assist with problems relating to divorce and custody cases involving domestic violence, Protection from Abuse, guardianships, housing, landlord/tenant issues, wills, government benefits, homeownership, and consumer issues. Depending on your income eligibility, the operator will refer you to one of three legal services providers in Delaware – Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. (CLASI), Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, Inc. (DVLS) and Legal Services Corporation of Delaware, Inc. (LSCD) – or connect you to the Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) where you can receive a 30 minute legal consultation with an attorney at a reduce fee.

Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.

Provides civil legal services to members of our community who have low incomes, who have disabilities, or who are age 60 and over.

New Castle County: 302-575-0660 Kent County: 302-674-8500 Sussex County: 302-856-0038 http://www.declasi.org/

Delaware Volunteer Legal Services (DVLS)

An organization of volunteer attorneys that provides legal assistance to low-income clients with problems in a variety of civil areas. DVLS also provides "The Legal Help Link," the centralized case intake service stated above that assures that callers are referred to the appropriate legal service organization or to a private attorney for assistance.

Phone: 888-225-0582 or 302-478-8680

http://www.dvls.org/

Legal Services Corporation of Delaware, Inc.

Provides legal representation to Delaware's low-income population in civil matters such as bankruptcy petitions and advice, consumer problems, housing problems, and unemployment benefit problems.

New Castle County: 302-575-0408 Kent County: 302-734-8820 http://www.lscd.com/

Limited Legal Assistance Program

Free 15 minutes of legal assistance. Volunteer attorneys are meeting with eligible self-represented litigants for a one-time fifteen-minute meeting. The attorney will not be meeting with the self-represented litigant outside of the program. Nor will the attorney represent the litigant in court.

There is no income eligibility for this service. Instead, to be eligible, people seeking assistance must not have received previous legal assistance regarding the same issue and their question must be one that can be asked and answered within the fifteen-minute timeframe. People using the service will be directed to legal service providers and reference materials for further assistance.

Currently, the Limited Legal Assistance Program is available at the Self-Help Center in the New Castle County Courthouse, 2nd floor, 500 N. King Street, Wilmington, DE in the areas of:

CIVIL FAMILY LAW: MONDAYS from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

This service is available by appointment. **TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT** and to be screened for eligibility, visit the Self-Help Center or contact Karen Antonelli at 302-255-2599.

This program is coordinated by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Program sponsors include: the Delaware State Courts, the Delaware State Bar Association, Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, Inc., Community Legal Aid Society, Inc., Legal Services Corporation of Delaware, Inc., Widener University School of Law, and the Delaware Paralegal Association.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Legal Aid Society of DC is the best legal resource in the District of Columbia for veterans who need to modify their child support orders. There are other legal services providers, but many of them only assist DC residents. We assist with DC child support cases, regardless of where the individual seeking our services lives. We can at least provide advice, and possibly representation (which may be difficult if the veteran cannot travel to DC for court appearances). We can conduct telephone intakes to assess eligibility for our services and the merits of a case.

Legal Aid Society of DC 1331 H Street NW, Suite 350 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 628-1161

FLORIDA

Florida is in the process of creating a veterans law clinic as part of the Florida Military Family and Community Covenant, <u>http://www.fmfcc.org/</u>.

Veteran's Resource Guide, available as PDF.

PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICES FOR VETERANS

DCBA Legal Aid Society - LAS

123 N.W. First AvenueMiami, FL 33128305-579-5733Needs: Family & Juvenile, Nonprofit Organizations, Public Benefits, Veterans

DCBA Legal Aid Society/Put Something Back - LAS

123 NW First Ave
Miami, FL 33128
(305) 579-5733
Needs: Civil Rights, Community Development, Consumer, Criminal Appeals, Death Penalty, Debt/Credit/Bankruptcy, Disability, Disaster and Emergency Assistance, Education, Elder Law Employment, Environmental, Family & Juvenile, Foreclosure, Health, HIV/AIDS, Homeless, Housing, Immigration & Naturalization, Life Planning, Nonprofit Organizations, Prisoners, Public Benefits, Taxes, Veterans

Legal Aid Service of Broward County/Coast to Coast Legal Aid of South Florida

491 N. State Rd 7 Plantation, FL 33317 954-736-2426 http://www.legalaid.org/

Needs: Community Development, Consumer, Debt/Credit/Bankruptcy, Disability, Disaster and Emergency Assistance, Education, Elder Law, Employment, Environmental, Family & Juvenile, Foreclosure, HIV/AIDS, Homeless, Housing, Immigration & Naturalization, Nonprofit Organizations, Public Benefits, Taxes Guardianships, Wills and Estates/Probate, Guardian Ad Litem

Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County

423 Fern Street, #200 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 561-655-8944 http://legalaidpbc.org/

Needs: Arts, Civil Rights, Consumer, Debt/Credit/Bankruptcy, Disability, Education, Elder Law, Employment, Family & Juvenile, Health, HIV/AIDS, Housing, Immigration & Naturalization, Life Planning, Nonprofit Organizations, Taxes

Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc.

3000 Biscayne Boulevard, Ste. 500 Miami, FL 33137 (305) 576-0080 http://www.lsgmi.org/

Needs: Legal assistance and community education on behalf of active duty military, veterans and their families to help them overcome legal barriers to successful community reintegration post military discharge, and to resolve legal problems associated with military involvement especially in the areas of home ownership, rental housing, homelessness, consumer, taxes, veteran benefits, discharge upgrade, Social Security and other government benefits, unemployment compensation, and special education for children.

Put Something Back

123 NW First Avenue Miami, FL 33128 305-579-5733 http://dadecountyprobono.org/

Needs: Consumer, Debt/Credit/Bankruptcy, Disability, Education, Elder Law, Employment, Family & Juvenile, Foreclosure, Health, HIV/AIDS, Homeless, Housing, Immigration & Naturalization, Life Planning, Nonprofit Organizations, Public Benefits, Taxes, Veterans

Volunteer Lawyers' Project for the Southern District of Florida

100 S.E. 2nd Street 3750 Bank of America Tower
Miami, FL 33131-2309
305.373.4334
Needs: Civil Rights, Disability, Education, Employment, HIV/AIDS, Housing, Prisoners, Veterans, all federal civil causes of action

Legal Aid Services for Tampa Bay Are

Bay Area Legal Services

Free civil legal aid for qualified, low-income residents
Serving: Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, and Sarasota Counties
Practice Areas: Domestic Violence, Consumer, Housing/Foreclosure, Landlord/Tenant, Elder Law, Family Law, Public Benefits, Other
Phone: (813) 232-1343
Senior Line (statewide): (888) 895-7873
Legal Aid Line: 1(800) 625-2257
(If qualify, callbacks from Bay Area attorneys/paralegals. If Bay Area cannot help, refers to partners)
Website: http://www.bals.org/

Community Law Program

Free civil legal aid by St. Petersburg Attorneys Serving: St. Petersburg Practice Areas: Family Law, Probate, Bankruptcy, Elder Law, Other Phone: (727) 582-7480

Website: http://www.lawprogram.org/home.aspx

Florida Rural Legal Services

Civil Legal advice, representation, and education for low income people and communities. Serving: indigent families, low-income elderly people, migrant workers **Practice Areas:** Civil Rights, Consumer, Employment, Family Law, Public Benefits and Economic Stability. Housing. Elder, and Farm-Worker Law

Economic Stability, Housing,	, Elder, and Farm-worker La
Phone:	Primary (800) 277-7680
Belle Glade	(561) 993-0003
Fort Myers	(239) 334-4554
Fort Pierce	(772) 466-4766
Lakeland	(863) 688-7376
Punta Gorda	(941) 505-9007
West Palm	(561) 820-8902
Website: <u>http://www.frls.org</u>	<u>/</u>

Gulf Coast Legal Services

Free civil legal aid for income eligible residents Serving: Pinellas, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties Immigration Services in Pasco through Manatee Practice Areas: Housing/Foreclosure, Elder Law, Family Law, Immigration, Domestic Violence, Other

Phone:

Pinellas County (St. Petersburg)	(727) 821-0726	
Pinellas County (Clearwater)	(727) 443-0657	
Manatee County	(941) 746-6151	
Sarasota County	(941) 366-1746	
Over 60 Senior Line:	(800) 963-5337	
Wabaita. http://www.aulfoogstlagel.org/		

Website: <u>http://www.gulfcoastlegal.org/</u>

Stetson University College of Law Veterans Law Institute Pro Bono Initiative vetprobono@law.stetson.edu

(727) 562-7333

GEORGIA

Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP) of the State Bar of Georgia 104 Marietta Street NW, Suite 100, Atlanta, GA 30303 1-800-334-6865 / Fax: (404) 287-4971 On-line application at: http://www.gabar.org/publicservice/militarylegalassistance.cfm

Lawyers of the State Bar of Georgia have been active in helping locate attorneys for veterans for about 15 years (at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Decatur, Georgia), and intensively so for both veterans and service members (active duty, National Guard members, and active Reservists) since December 2009 through the Bar's Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP). Through the MLAP about 1,250 service members or veterans have thus far been connected with a lawyer.

In this regard, please see the information summary below.

Of the now 1,250 cases processed through MLAP, about half have been family law matters and of that number, 245 have been divorces, 135 have been child custody cases, and 85 have been child support cases.

Further, in Georgia, legal clinic operations have been established at the VAMC in Augusta and also at the medical clinic at Carrolton. We hope to establish a similar legal clinic later this year at the VAMC in Dublin.

Below is an overview of the MLAP in Georgia.

MLAP SUMMARY:

The Military Legal Assistance Program (MLAP) of the State Bar of Georgia (<u>http://www.gabar.org/publicservice/militarylegalassistance.cfm</u>) provides connections between a cadre of volunteer attorneys (about 800 throughout the State) and service members (active duty, National Guard, Reservists, and military retirees) and veterans who seek legal assistance.

MLAP assists on most all categories of civil law matters, but not on criminal matters. The Program also helps spouses provided the interests of the family are aligned. Accordingly, the program is authorized to help a spouse with an adoption, guardianship, child support from a previous marriage, and other issues, but not on a divorce or some other intra-family dispute. Thus, we are authorized to help the service member with a contested family law matter, but not the spouse.

MLAP also helps veterans (but who may not have at least 20 years in the military) with serviceconnected disability issues with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA for processing civil law matters. The program does not assist directly with criminal matters, but does help guide service members or veterans to a public defender or a local bar association.

1) Active Duty Service Member, National Guard Member, Reservist, or Retiree (i.e., monthly check from DoD).

- 2) Veteran (but not retired) with service-connected disability or illness with the VA.
- 3) Military spouse where interests of the family are aligned.
- 4) Jurisdiction in a state or federal court in Georgia.

GUAM

Office of the Attorney General Child Support Enforcement Division 590 S. Marine Corps Dr., Suite 704 Tamuning, GU 96913 Phone: (671) 475-3360 x1001

URL: <u>www.guamcse.net</u>

The primary resource for veterans seeking modifications would be our office. Our webpage at <u>http://www.guamcse.net/</u> details the modification process, and applicants can request a modification through email or phone at our office.

Guam Legal Services

Pro bono legal services are available to those that qualify financially at Guam Legal Services Corp., 113 Bradley Place, Hagatna, GU 96910 – (671) 475-3100.

Guam Bar Association

The private bar association does not have any practitioners that solely practice child support law, or even specialize in it, but interested parties can contact the bar at <u>info@guambar.org</u> to get a listing of the current group of family law practitioners.

HAWAII

At present Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii is limited to providing services to Hawaii residents due to funding restrictions. However, they are in the midst of developing their Veteran's Legal Services, which may extend services to out-of-state veterans facing Hawaii-based child support orders.

State of Hawaii Office of Child Support Hearings Phone: 808-692-7110 FAX: 808-692-7114 http://ag.hawaii.gov/ocsh/

The Office of Child Support Hearings (OCSH) conducts administrative hearings to establish, enforce, or change child support orders (including medical support). The Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) processes all cases heard by the OCSH. This administrative forum is an alternative to Family Court legal proceedings for child support matters only.

OCSH administrative orders have the same force and effect as Family Court orders for establishing, modifying, terminating or enforcing child support obligations.

OCSH conducts administrative hearings regarding child support pursuant to Chapters 91 and 576E of the Hawaii Revised Statutes when parties (parents or guardians) object to a proposed action or order of the Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA).

Parties may request to appear by telephone if circumstances prevent their appearance in person. To appear by telephone parties must send their written request to the OCSH by regular mail or by fax (808-692-7114) as far in advance of the hearing as possible. Include on your request your name, address, all case numbers, the date and time of your hearing, the telephone number where you may be reached at the time of the hearing, and your signature. You may also use a form available on the website.

IDAHO

Court Assistance Office

The Court Assistance Office provides court forms for modification for self-represented litigants. These forms can be found on our website at <u>http://www.courtselfhelp.idaho.gov</u>. Although we cannot provide legal advice or representation, the local Court Assistance Officers can provide some assistance in reviewing those forms and with child support calculations. The links to the specific offices for each district can be found on that same website.

Will not provide legal advice, but will guide through filling out forms on your own.

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Idaho Child Support Receipting Services P.O. Box 70008 Boise, Idaho, 83707 **1-800-356-9868** <u>idcustomerservice@smimail.net</u> <u>http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Children/ChildSupport/ChildSupportServices/tabid/370/</u> <u>Default.aspx</u> The department of health and welfare offers help in getting a child support order changed. The

The department of health and welfare offers help in getting a child support order changed. The child support order must be more than 3 years old, and the applicant must provide a \$25 fee. Print and fill out the application on their website, and then mail it with a \$25 check and a certified copy of the child support order to the above address.

The Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program

PO Box 895 Boise, ID 83701 **1-800-221-3295**

Evaluates cases on an individual basis to determine income eligibility (125% of the Federal Poverty Level). Only offers free lawyers' services; applicant must pay out-of-pocket expenses. Apply by calling the above number.

http://www.isb.idaho.gov/ilf/ivlp/seeking_legal_assistance.html

Idaho State Bar

If a person must seek legal representation, they may use the Idaho State Bar Lawyer Referral Service to find an attorney. Their website is: <u>http://www.isb.idaho.gov/</u>

ILLINOIS

Prairie Legal Services 303 North Main Street, Suite 600 Rockford, IL 61101 (815) 965-2134 http://www.pslegal.org/

Only offers assistance to in-state residents who are over age 60, or meet the income guidelines (generally, less than 125% of the federal poverty level). Child support cases are considered lower-priority for them.

LAF- Legal Aid Foundation

120 S. Lasalle Chicago, IL (312) 341-1070

The Veterans Practice, Ltd

1101 Lake St. Suite 405A Oak Park, IL 60301 (708) 668-6996

Cabrini Green Legal Aid

740 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60642 (312) 738-2452

John Marshall Law School

Veterans Legal Support Center and Clinic 315 S. Plymouth Court Chicago, IL 60604 (312) 360-2656

INDIANA

Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic (there are satellite offices in northern and southern Indiana) 3333 N Meridian Street, Suite 201 Indianapolis, IN 46208 Phone: 317.429.4131 Fax 317.429.4130

Indiana Pro Bono Commission 615 N Alabama St, Suite 122 Indianapolis, IN 46204 Phone: **317.269.2415** Fax: 317.536.2271 Email: probono@inbf.org http://www.in.gov/judiciary/probono/2343.htm

In Indiana, there are pro bono districts. Each district has a plan administrator who seeks out volunteers to assist low-income Hoosiers, with family law issues being on the top of the list. For more information about that, see: <u>http://www.in.gov/judiciary/probono/2338.htm</u>

Indiana Legal Services Military Assistance Project (satellite offices are regionally located in Indiana)
Market Square Center 151
North Delaware Suite 1800
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 631-9410
(800) 869-0212 (toll free)
http://www.indianalegalservices.org/

Indiana Legal Services assists veterans with child support modification (and arrearages) when resources allow. They also have a number of *pro bono* attorneys who assist with this. Additionally, they have just begun conducting *Pro Se* Child Support Modification Clinics, but at only doing them in Indianapolis at this time, with the hope of expanding elsewhere in the state.

Indiana Lawyers for Soldiers, sponsored by the Indiana State Bar Association. http://www.inlawyersforsoldiers.com/

This website is *limited to Indiana National Guards*, but the website management will refer ineligible applicants to the Indiana State Bar where further resources might be available.

IOWA

Iowa Legal Aid 1-800-532-1275 info@iowalaw.org http://www.iowalegalaid.org/

Applicants must call to apply for aid; Iowa Legal Aid is not able to respond to requests for legal assistance made by email. Only low-income residents of Iowa are eligible to receive free legal help.

Iowa Child Support Recovery Unit

1-888-229-9223 https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/CustomerWeb/Default.aspx

Iowa Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU) provides child support services that include changing a child support amount. There is a \$25 application fee, and the applicant may also have to pay servicing fees, usually between \$30-65. There are 25 regional offices, call the above number for help in locating the correct one. Current order must be more than 2 years old, and not expire in less than 1 year. Any adjustment of more than 20% will be subjected to extra review by the court.

May also apply for an "Administrative modification" when the parent's income has changed by 50% or more. Current order may be less than 2 years old for an Administrative modification.

Iowa Legal Aid Volunteer Lawyers Project

1111 9th Street, Suite 230 Des Moines, Iowa 50314 1-800-532-1275

Drake University Legal Clinic

2400 University Avenue Des Moines, IA 50311 (515) 271-3851

University of Iowa Clinical Law Program

University of Iowa Law School 386 Boyd Law Building Iowa City, IA 52242-1113 (319) 335-9023

ISBA Public Service Project

625 East Court Avenue Des Moines, IA 50309 (515) 244-8617

KANSAS

Kansas Legal Services, Inc (KLS)

http://www.kansaslegalservices.org/. 1-800-723-6953 and operates from 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Please list Kansas Legal Services, Inc. as your resource in Kansas. You can find more information about us at <u>http://www.kansaslegalservices.org/</u>. Our Toll Free Number to apply for legal assistance is 1-800-723-6953 and operates from 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. We also have an online application form that can be filled out anytime.

KLS is partnering with the Kansas (Military) Legal Network to provide legal assistance to active military members, their families and Veterans. Online forms are being developed and *pro bono* attorneys are being recruited to meet the specific needs of our military members.

Beginning in 2011, KLS inquires of every applicant for services if they are a Veteran and if they are a post 9/11 service member or family member of a post 9/11 service member. We offer expanded services to this group of persons. In conjunction with the Kansas Bar Association, a Veterans Helpline allows us to get legal advice for these callers. KLS worked with the Kansas Bar Association and Army One Source to recruit Kansas lawyers to provide legal advice on the Serving Our Troops (SOT) phone lines. Calls are distributed to volunteers based on legal areas of specialization and geography. KLS staff can provide support to those attorneys and follows up with the service members to see that their needs were met.

KLS partnered with the Kansas Supreme Court and the Judicial Council and has made 20+ sets of legal forms available to the public. KLS provides a mechanism for all users of online forms to opt for Limited Scope review of the forms created. Forms allow users to seek modification of child support, expungement of criminal records and deal with identity theft, employment issues or creditor harassment. In early 2013, KLS published instructions for *pro se* motions. The first set of instructions is to establish parenting time. The second set of instructions is for a *pro se* motion to enforce parenting time that has been court-ordered. The third set of instructions is for a *pro se* motion to modify parenting time where parenting time has been court-ordered.

KLS has also prepared a long list of Frequently Asked Questions on child support for the website, posted links to guide people to the resource available for collecting child support and created forms for child support reduction and termination focusing on job loss and SSI recipients.

We also have some cooperative agreements in place with the Salvation Army to provide legal assistance to homeless veterans.

KENTUCKY

In the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) may review and adjust a parent's support obligation when there is an assignment of support rights (the custodial parent receives public assistance for the child) or when either parent requests a review. CHFS may adjust a support obligation, if the review shows a material change in the current support obligation using the Child Support Guidelines, as referenced in Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) 403.212. KRS 403.213(2) defines a material change as a continuing change in circumstances, which results in at least a 15 percent increase or decrease in the amount of support due per month. A review of the order or cash medical support may cause medical support, in the form of health insurance for the child(ren), to be added to the order. Once the review is started, adjustment of the order will be completed even if the results do not favor the party who requested the review.

For example, if an increase in support is requested and the calculations result in a decrease, the obligation will be lowered. If a decrease in support is requested and the calculations result in an increase, the obligation will be increased.

If someone requests a review, he/she must provide all of the following financial information that applies to the case:

- Gross monthly salary (earned income before deductions) and other sources of income.
- The amount he or his spouse pays for health insurance for the child(ren).
- The amount he pays for court-ordered spousal support for a former spouse.
- The amount he pays for child support for prior-born (older) child(ren).
- The amount he pays for child care expenses for the child(ren), provided this money is spent to allow the mother or father who has custody to work or attend school.

The Cabinet represents the best interest of the child and does not represent either party. At any time, either party may choose to use a private attorney to present arguments in his or her best interest. In the past, this office has used the attached documents in Jefferson County (Louisville), Kentucky to request a modification.

If you have a Veteran who has legal issues that need to be resolved in Kentucky, please consider us as direct resources that may be able to provide the assistance needed.

Sean Dennis Lindsay Volk AmeriCorps Equal Justice Works Veterans Legal Fellow **Legal Aid Society** 416 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd., Suite 300 Louisville, KY 40202 (502) 614-3132 DID (502) 614-3732 Fax http://www.laslou.org/ **Legal Aid of the Bluegrass** provides civil legal assistance designed to alleviate the most brutal problems of the low income people living in 33 northern and central Kentucky counties. These services are typically in the areas of government benefits, consumer, housing and family law. Their website directs you to a specific page for child support

(http://www.kyjustice.org/topic_childsupport) containing self-help forms and more resources.

Legal Aid of the Bluegrass

498 Georgetown St, Lexington, KY 40508 (859) 233-4556. http://www.lablaw.org/home/

LOUISIANA

Pro Bono Project New Orleans, Louisiana

The Project accepts only clients who meet federal income and asset eligibility requirements. Cases are screened for legal merit and selected based on our volunteers' talent and time availability. Our **How to Get Help page** provides complete information about income eligibility and walks you through the process for requesting The Pro Bono Project's help. http://probono-no.org/

Louisiana Law Help

LawHelp.Org is an online resource for people living on low-incomes and the legal organizations that serve them. LawHelp.org provides referrals to local legal aid and public interest law offices, basic information about legal rights, self-help information, court information, links to social service agencies, and more. Southeast Louisiana Legal Services Corporation administers Louisiana's LawHelp Project, which is made possible by funding from Legal Services Corporation and the Louisiana Bar Foundation.

http://louisianalawhelp.org/

MAINE

Pine Tree Legal Assistance

The program website at <u>www.ptla.org</u> includes: a detailed discussion of how Maine courts determine child support at <u>http://www.ptla.org/library/416</u>

Custodial parent child support information at http://www.ptla.org/library/417

Information about how Maine's Department of Health and Human Services addresses child support enforcement at <u>http://www.ptla.org/library/418</u>

Modification of child support orders at http://www.ptla.org/library/419

Non-custodial parent child support issues at http://www.ptla.org/library/420

The relevant interactive court forms at http://www.ptla.org/court-forms

A child support calculator at <u>https://www.lawhelpinteractive.org/login_form?template_id=template.2014-07-</u>08.7194115505&set_language=en

There are very limited resources available to provide pro bono representation to out of state individuals needing legal assistance with child support issues in Maine. The Maine Lawyer Referral and Information Service is operated by the Maine State Bar Association and might be helpful in these situations; <u>https://www.mainebar.org/lawyer-referral/lawyer-referral.aspx</u> Our own pro bono project, the Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project, (<u>www.vlp.org</u>) does prioritize legal services to veterans and does accept referrals from outside Maine when the legal issue is in Maine. I suspect they would be the best resource for veterans whose low-income eligibility has first been confirmed by a clinic or legal aid program in their home state (such as Texas.) In those situations, a direct referral to the VLP would be appropriate, via fax to 207-828-2300 or phone (207-774-4518). Individuals living outside Maine who need legal help with their problems would have to contact the regular VLP phone lines at 1-207-774-4348 on M-W-F from 9 – 12 EDT/EST.

Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP)

Maine State Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service PO Box 788 Augusta, ME 04332-0788 Ph: 800-860-1460 Fax: 207-623-0083 <u>lris@mainebar.org</u> The Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) would do an intake with a veteran who was looking for help modifying a Maine child support order. If the Veteran qualified for our services we would try and find a pro bono attorney to represent them in the matter, either in a limited or full representation capacity. If the veteran did not qualify for our services, we would have some ability to refer them to a private attorney. For the most part, other legal service organizations in Maine would be likely to refer a veteran in this situation to the VLP.

MARYLAND

Maryland Legal Aid

http://www.mdlab.org/contact

The Maryland Legal Aid Bureau provides services to clients through thirteen local offices serving all twenty-four of Maryland's jurisdictions. To apply, please call or visit the appropriate office, listed at the URL above.

Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration

http://www.dhr.state.md.us/blog/?page_id=10629

For cases in which the parties reside in different jurisdictions, or the support order is from a different jurisdiction, I believe the best available resource is the Title IV-D program. Under these actions, special rules of evidence and procedure apply so that the physical presence of the veteran is not required.

To apply, fill out the appropriate form (CSEA application, Financial Statement) at the URL, and send it to the local child support office. For modifications, you must include the Financial Statement. Also must pay a \$25 application fee.

Maryland State Bar

The Maryland State Bar Association has operated a pro bono and low-bono clinic for veterans and they do handle family law matters. <u>http://msba.org/</u>

Maryland Volunteer Lawyer Service

http://www.mvlslaw.org/ Bonnie Sullivan 410-539-6800

The Maryland Volunteer Lawyer Service (MVLS) will place veterans' cases with pro bono volunteers.

MASSACHUSETTS

Shelter Legal Services

Veterans Legal Services 885 Centre Street Newton, MA 02459 617.552.0623 (t) 617.552.2615 (f) http://www.veteranslegalservices.org/ http://www.shelterlegalservices.org/index.php

We would be willing to assess these matters on a case by case basis to determine whether we have any capacity to offer assistance. We may be able to work something out in instances where we could make reciprocal arrangements for the benefit of clients residing in Massachusetts.

I would also suggest that you add the Boston Bar Association Military Hotline 617-742-0625 to your list of resources as well.

MICHIGAN

State Bar of Michigan - Pro Bono Manual Law Related Organizations Search Michael Franck Building 306 Townsend St. Lansing, MI 48933-2012 (517) 346-6300 http://www.michbar.org/programs/probonomanual.cfm

Has a directory of legal service for Family law pro bono organizations in Michigan.

Military and Veterans Resources Guide

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/ag/MI_Military__Veterans_Legal_Services_Guide_46321 3_7.pdf

Handout containing contacts for many Michigan attorneys who deal with pro bono matters for veterans. Most deal with obtaining veterans' benefits and compensation, but there are a few family law referral in the handout.

Michigan Legal Helps website - Pro Se Website

http://michiganlegalhelp.org/

Offers a guided wizard for creating a motion to change child support ("Motion Regard Support"). Links to the automated online forms, and instructions for filing, can be found here: <u>http://michiganlegalhelp.org/self-help-tools/family/getting-or-changing-child-support-order</u> Must include a copy of the current child support order.

MINNESOTA

Law Help Minnesota http://www.lawhelpmn.org/childsupport

Minnesota Judicial Branch

General info: <u>http://www.mncourts.gov/district/4/?page=1286</u> Self-help guide: <u>http://www.mncourts.gov/selfhelp/?page=4558</u>

Print and fill out the appropriate forms; either the Ex Pro forms if the Child Support Office was involved with the original order, or the District Court forms if the Child Support Office was not involved. A filing fee is required, but may apply for a fee waiver at the above URL.

Must have a copy of the current child support order. If you don't have a copy of your current order, you may get one at the Family Court Records Center (<u>http://www.mncourts.gov/district/4/?page=1721</u>).

If you have a problem, write a letter to: DHS: Child Support Enforcement Division P.O. Box 64946 St. Paul, MN 55164-0946

Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans

360 Robert Street N., Ste 306 Saint Paul, MN 55101 612-367-6786

Veterans not residing in Minnesota are not eligible for our representation services because they are not client-eligible, but we can certainly help to coach them through the process.

MISSISSIPPI

The Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project does not currently have the capacity to assist out-ofstate clients. The same is true for the Mississippi Legal Services Programs. I am unaware of the Mission First Legal Aid Office can assist out-of-state clients.

Mississippi Bar Association Phone 601-948-4471

MISSOURI

Missouri Department of Social Services

1-800-859-7999 (CSE office) http://dss.mo.gov/cse/military.htm

For Reserve and National Guard Soldiers. May apply for a modification based on a change in income as a result of being called to active duty for more than 30 days.

Missouri Bar Lawyer Referral Service (573) 636-3635 http://www.mobar.org/lrs/clients.htm

Only offers referrals, at a fee of \$37.50 for veterans. Referred attorney will charge normal, customary rates.

MONTANA

Pro Bono Assistance:

Montana has many pro bono programs across its 56 counties that can provide anywhere from advice and brief services to full representation. For information or to request a referral, applicants need to call **MLSA** at **1-800-666-6899** to apply for services. For questions on the specific programs, please contact the pro bono coordinator, Angie Wagenhals, at 543-8343 ext. 207.

Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED):

CSED has several field offices around the state. The central office is located in Helena and their contact information is listed below. For information on the locations of the field offices around the state, please visit the list on the DPHHS website (http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/csed/contactthedivision.shtml)

2401 Colonial Drive, First Floor PO Box 202943 Helena, MT 59620-2943 (406) 444-6856 Toll-free: (800) 346-5437 Fax: (406) 444-1370

Pro Se Assistance:

There are several self-help law centers located across the state to assist pro se litigants find and complete forms for their civil legal needs. A comprehensive list of these centers can be found at http://courts.mt.gov/selfhelp/default.mcpx.

NEBRASKA

NSBA Volunteer Lawyer Project

The individuals would need to call (402) 475-7091. The NSBA Volunteer Lawyer Project cannot guarantee assistance as we work with volunteers. We will try to place the individuals who qualify financially for our services. Our financial cut off is 125% of the federal poverty rate.

NEVADA

For custodian parents seeking modification of a child support order, in the Las Vegas area, our local **District Attorney's office** can offer assistance. They are located at 1900 E Flamingo Rd Ste 100 Las Vegas NV and their phone number is **702-671-9200**. For non-custodial parents seeking to modify their order, they can contact our **State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at 800-789-5747**.

Nevada Legal Services is a statewide LSC funded legal aid agency with multiple offices throughout Nevada providing services to low income individuals in many different practice areas. For child support modification the client would need to qualify for their services, which is income based, and Nevada would have to have jurisdiction over the case. For additional information, please refer to web site at <u>http://nlslaw.net/</u>

The following organizations in Nevada are available to assist with child support modification:

<u>Clark County:</u> District Attorney – Family Support Division (702) 671-9200

Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada; 800 S 8th St, Las Vegas, NV 89101 (702) 386-1070 www.lacsn.org

VA Southern Nevada - Healthcare System / Social Work Program http://www.lasvegas.va.gov/services/socialwork.asp

<u>Washoe County:</u> District Attorney – 1 South Sierra, 4th Fl., Reno, NV 89501 (702) 328-3200

Washoe Legal Aid; 299 South Arlington Avenue, Reno, NV 89501 (775) 329-2727 /http://washoelegalservices.org/

Nevada Legal Services, Inc. / Reno / 204 Marsh Avenue, Ste. 101, Reno, NV 89509 (775) 284-9431 <u>http://nlslaw.net</u>

Northern Nevada Veterans Resource Center / 419 West Plumb Lane, Reno, NV 89509 / (775) 284-8387

Rural Nevada:

VARN (Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans) 904 N. Nevada St., Carson City, NV 89703 (775) 883-8278 / <u>http://www.varn.org/</u>

Nevada Legal Services, Inc. / Carson City (Tuesdays and Thursdays only) / 2621 Northgate Lane, Ste. 10, Carson City, NV 89706 / 1-800-323-8666 <u>http://nlslaw.net</u>

Nevada Legal Services, Inc. / Elko / 380 Court St., Ste. D, Elko, NV 89801 (775) 753-5880 http://nlslaw.net

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Pro Bono Program New Hampshire Bar Association 2 Pillsbury Street, Suite 300 Concord, NH 03301 Phone: 603-224-5387

The Pro Bono Program has attorneys available for child support issues for veterans with income at or below 187% of poverty. For people over the income guidelines of the New Hampshire Bar Association, please use Lawyer Referral Service of the New Hampshire Bar Association, which could help with full fee and reduced fee referrals: Phone: 603-229-0002.

NEW JERSEY

Legal Services of New Jersey

Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ) coordinates the statewide Legal Services system in New Jersey, providing free legal assistance to low-income people in civil matters. **1-888-576-5529** The LSNJLAW Hotline is open from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM Monday – Friday <u>http://www.lsnj.org/GetLegalHelp.aspx?Span=ObtengaAyudaJuridica.aspx&Eng=GetLegalHelp</u> .aspx

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Legal Aid Veteran's Project 1-866-416-1922 http://www.nmlegalaid.org/?q=content/new-mexico-legal-aid-announces-launch-veteransjustice-project-serving-those-who-have-served

Provides legal services to veterans in need, including child support modifications. Focuses on atrisk and homeless veterans. Call the project directly to apply.

NEW YORK

New York State Defenders Association

http://www.nysda.org/index.html

Seems to focus on help in diverting veterans from the criminal justice system. Contact here to apply: <u>http://www.nysda.org/ContactUs.html</u>

Legal Aid Society of Rochester 585.232.4090 http://lasroc.org/

Only available to residents of Monroe and Wayne counties. Apply by calling the number; must provide financial information during call.

NY State Bar Association

Lawyer Referral Service 1-800-342-3661 lr@nysba.org

Call for a referral to an attorney that will provide a free consultation and offer reduced attorney fees.

Comprehensive list of resources: http://www.nysba.org/VetsResources/

LIFT Justice for All http://www.liftonline.org/

(212) 343-1122

Will assist in filling out and understanding court documents.

Legal Services of NYC Veterans Justice Project (347) 592-2409

New York Legal Assistance Group

http://nylag.org/news/2013/11/va-project-helps-vulnerable-veterans-and-showcases-the-powerof-medical-legal-partnerships

Has onsite legal clinics at two VA hospitals in NYC. They are on-site 1 day per week to offer pro bono legal guidance for an array of non-criminal issues.

NYC Dept. of Child Support

https://www.childsupport.ny.gov/dcse/child_support_services.html

The NYC Dept. of Child Support is very pro-active and able to assist with any referrals sent to their agency.

Can assist in filling out a petition to modify an order of support. The order must be more than 3 years old, or the parent's income must have changed by more than 15%. Modifications must be based on the fact that the parent's income or other circumstances have materially changed. Fill out the form here to apply: <u>https://www.childsupport.ny.gov/dcse/pdfs/LDSS-4882W.pdf</u>

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Legal Assistance for Military Personnel 919.828.4620 217 E. Edenton Street PO Box 25908 Raleigh, NC 27611-5908

http://www.nclamp.gov/

You will find client info letters [TAKE-1 for in-state clients, LEGAL EAGLE for any state], info letters for lawyers [Co-Counsel Bulletin for NC, SILENT PARTNER for any state], and also lots of RESOURCES at that tab

This website does not offer any actual help for veterans, it is just a generic Q&A style resource that advises you to retain an attorney. Maybe call them?

NORTH DAKOTA

SBAND Lawyer Referral and Information Services (LRIS) at 1-866-450-9579 charges a \$30 referral fee (for each case matter) which entitles the applicant to an initial consultation of up to 30 minutes with a full-price attorney who accepts cases in the area of law the applicant needs help with and the attorney's contact information. The \$30 referral fee would need to be paid up front before we could give you the referral information. You may pay for this service with a Visa or MasterCard and we would provide you with the referral immediately. If not, you may mail SBAND a check or money order payable to SBAND in the amount of \$30. Upon receipt of the check or money order, you will receive the referral information by mail from SBAND. You are responsible for contacting the attorney you are referred to and make arrangements for your initial consult. This is no guarantee that this attorney will handle your case matter; and the \$30 fee is non-refundable unless the attorney you are referred to cannot provide you a consultation due to a conflict of interest, no longer practicing in the area of law in which you need help or not taking on new clients. In that case, you may contact SBAND LRIS to get another referral at no extra charge. Fees for any legal services or representation beyond the 30-minute consult should be discussed with the attorney.

You may be able to find legal help by calling the combined Central Intake line for Legal Services of North Dakota and the State Bar Association of North Dakota. The staff at Central Intake will interview you over the phone to determine the nature of your legal question. Clients must meet income guidelines to qualify for all programs. By completing an application you are applying for services provided by both organizations, Legal Services of North Dakota (LSND) and the Volunteer Lawyer Program of the State Bar Association of North Dakota (SBAND). To apply for services, please call the Centralized Intake Office at 1-800-634-5263.

OHIO

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland has a bi-weekly pro se child support clinic to assist those with child support matters for which a court or administrative agency within their service area has jurisdiction. Depending on the county, the service either comes from pro bono attorneys or Legal Aid staff. They also have an attorney on staff who serves veterans, and she often provides more in-depth assistance on child support matters

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

1223 W. 6th Street Cleveland, OH 44113 http://lasclev.org/contact/

<u>Legal Aid's Intake Line</u> If you need legal assistance, you can contact Legal Aid <u>any weekday</u> for help. Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

New intakes are processed via phone: **888-817-3777** (*toll-free in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake and Lorain counties*) or **216-687-1900** (*Cleveland local*)

OMVLAP-Does not provide child support modifications at this time. Ohio Military/Veterans Legal Assistance Project, which was organized through the efforts of retired Ohio Supreme Court Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton. http://omvlap.org/Login-to-Resources.html

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Lawyers for America's Heroes Program (OLAHP) Post Office Box 53036 Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3036 Phone: (800) 522-8065 or (405) 416-7086 Fax: (405) 416-7092 http://okbar.org/heroes/Welcome.aspx

There are some programs for Veterans in the State of Oklahoma. As to family law matters, if they qualify financially for Legal Aid Services, then Legal Aid is a source. OLAHP is also a source. Our program guidelines are:

Qualification Guidelines:

1. The individual must be a veteran, retiree, active duty, guard member, or reservist.

2. If the individual is currently active duty, an activated guard member, or an activated reservist, her/his pay grade must be at E-6 or below.

3. If the individual is a veteran, retiree, guard member, or reservist, her/his gross income per year cannot exceed Forty Thousand and no/100ths Dollars (\$40,000), including VA (or other) benefits, if any. All income is considered.

4. If the individual is a veteran, drilling guard/reserve member, or retiree, s/he must have an Honorable discharge.

5. The individual must have a legal issue within the State of Oklahoma.

6. The individual cannot be currently represented by counsel.

7. For some areas of law, such as criminal, incompetency, involuntary commitment issues, etc., there is the possibility of statutory attorney appointment/representation by the court. For these issues, an individual must first request assistance through the court before s/he can be part of the program. If the court denies appointing a lawyer, the individual would also need to provide the denial as part of the requested documentation.

Also, because our program is 100% volunteer, we cannot say when a volunteer attorney will come forward in any specific case. Until an attorney comes forward and accepts a case, the individual is still responsible for any deadlines, court hearings, statutes of limitation, document preparation, etc., with regard to his/her legal issue.

Legal Aid Services of Oklahoma

They have several attorneys dedicated to assisting veterans; however, the applicants must meet strict eligibility criteria especially as it concerns income. Oklahoma City Law Office 2901 North Classen Blvd, Suite 112 Oklahoma City, OK 73106 **Phone: (405) 488-6825 or 1-800-421-1641** Fax: (405) 557-0023 http://www.legalaidok.org

OREGON

When veterans are from out of state or have never applied to VA Roseburg for services, they will need to complete the 10-10EZ form attached and fax it to our Eligibility office (541-440-1351). This enables us to verify the person is a veteran and creates a file in our system. As long as the veteran checks the box that they do NOT want to transfer their care to VA Roseburg, it will in not interfere with their care at their local VA.

If you are working with a veteran with legal issues and they would like to consult with an attorney...

Have the veteran complete one of the Legal Clinic Referral Forms (sign the Back!) and complete and sign the ROI and fax to 541/465-6602; When the fax comes in, VA Behavioral Health Recovery & Reintegration Services (BHRRS) front desk staff will put the paperwork in my In-Box.

On the 2nd & 3rd Thursdays of the month, VJO will '*vet the veteran*'; make sure s/he is a veteran and registered in CPRS; VJO will log an 'Interested Legal Clinic note' in CPRS and then take the completed referral forms over to the ATL Legal office (VJO keeps the ROI and has it scanned into CPRS-Vista Imaging for future reference).

On the 2nd & 3rd Fridays of the month, the Law Students will make the calls to the veterans to schedule an appointment and prepare the veteran for the 30 minute consultation with the Attorney (can be a phone appointment for vets not local to Eugene); The students initiate a legal file with the ATL Law Office and coach the veteran on what paperwork to have ready, etc. Papers necessary for the Attorney to review can be faxed to the BHRRS(541/465-6602) so the Attorney can be looking at them at the same time as the 30 minute Legal Consultation appointment is happening(especially important with phone consultations).

Another issue that commonly comes up; The Attorneys tell me that by the time the veteran is done '*telling the story*', the 30 minute appointment time is up and the attorney did not have enough time to wrap his head around the issue, determine what type of case the veteran may have, and then be able to ask the veteran specific questions to see which legal approach would hold up in court. I <u>strongly</u> advise the veteran to take a SINGLE piece of paper and across the top write what s/he wants the outcome to be; then in bullet form(No 'he said, she said'), write how the veteran came to be in this predicament; i.e.,

I WANT THE TITLE AND THE TRAILER I PAID FOR

OR

I WANT MY MONEY BACK

02/02/2014; I bought a trailer from Silver Tree RV Sales

02/05/2014; I was supposed to pick it up...but 'the title wasn't ready'

02/10/2014; I found out from Mr. G.I. Joe (541/123-4567) that a similar thing happened to him 02/11/2014; I called Silver Tree RV Sales at 0900hrs; talked to the receptionist Ms. A and left a message

02/12/2014; I called Silver Tree RV Sales at 0900hrs; talked to the receptionist Ms. A and left another message – was told Mr. B was out sick and not expected back for X# of days

It is now 37 days since I paid for the trailer and I still don't have a title

This allows the attorney to get a handle on the case and start peppering the veteran with questions that determine if the type of case the attorney is thinking of would hold up in court. If not the attorney chooses another tack so see if another type of case would hold up; is it Misrepresentation, outright Fraud, Negligence, Incompetence, etc...

If you want to expedite the process you can print out the attachments to this email and have the veteran fill them out during their meeting with you and then fax them to me at 541/465-6602. You can give him/her a flyer to remind the veteran of when the Legal Clinic occurs.

Susan D. Harrison, L.C.S.W. Veteran Justice Program Coordinator VA Behavioral Health Recovery & Reintegration Services (BHRRS) 211 East 7th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401 541/242-0445 Office 541/520-3447 VA cell 541/465-6602 Fax

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia Legal Assistance Family Law Unit

http://www.philalegal.org/taxonomy/term/11 718 Arch Street, Suite 300N Philadelphia, PA 19106 215.981.3838

Call their number (above) Monday, Wednesday, or Friday between 10am and 12pm to apply for help. Income must not exceed 200% of the federal poverty guidelines, and children must reside in Philadelphia.

PLA also offers a self-help petition to modify support that can be prepared on their website by answering some questions, and then filed in the appropriate court. Form available here: http://www.palawhelp.org/resource/pennsylvania-petition-to-modify-support?ref=R9bPH

Pennsylvania Bar Association, Pro bono Services

David K. Trevaskis, Esq. Pro Bono Coordinator 100 South St. Harrisburg, PA. 17101 **P: 800.932.0311, ext. 2236** F: 717.238.7182 Email: David.Trevaskis@pabar.org http://www.pabar.org/

PUERTO RICO

Pro Bono, Inc. can interview clients on the phone and refer their child support modification cases to the appropriate pro bono attorney or agency to handle. The client does not need to be present in Puerto Rico. Although the people who answer the phone speak some English, the language barrier may require the client to be fluent in Spanish to avoid misunderstandings.

The central office can be reached at (787) 721-3398 (787) 721-3350

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

http://www.probonopr.org/oficinas/oficina-central/

RHODE ISLAND

The Rhode Island Bar Association offers legal assistance to veterans through its US Armed Forces Legal Services Project, including child support modification for those who are incomeeligible. You may find information on all of the Rhode Island Bar Association's public service programs at <u>https://www.ribar.com/default.aspx</u>

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Appleseed http://scjustice.org/2014/04/11/2242/

Lawyers 4 Vets pro bono clinics http://www.columbiasc.va.gov/Lawyers4Vets.asp

Veterans Child Support Clinic Meredith Miller, LISW-CP Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center Charleston, SC (843) 297-0019

Veterans Child Support Clinic meets once a month at a homeless shelter (SeeOne80Place information below). The attorney employed by the Shelter then coordinates cases with the attorney for Child Support Enforcement and Family Court.

Ms. Miller also runs a clinic once a week, which is a catch all walk-in clinic. Veterans present for all kinds of issues from DMV to visitation to divorce to criminal offenses to landlord tenant, etc. Ms. Miller is a social worker who works with the attorney that is representing them to present VA resources as an alternate sentencing option. In some cases advocacy is needed, so she may also able to do that. If there is no representation she will refer them to agencies or community partners that have agreed to assist.

One80Place

http://one80place.org/legal-services/

South Carolina has developed a self-help resource for Self-Represented Litigants wishing to petition the court for child support modification. The Self-Represented Litigant Child Support Modification Packet may be found at http://www.sccourts.org/forms/indexSRLChildSupport.cfm

Modify My Child Support (<u>http://www.modifychildsupportsc.com/</u>) is an interactive website designed to assist Self-Represented Litigants with their paperwork.

South Carolina Legal Services is a non-profit corporation that provides legal aid to eligible low income residents. Their website may be found at <u>http://www.sclegal.org/</u>

The South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families may also be a useful resource and their website may be found at <u>http://www.scfathersandfamilies.com/</u>

SOUTH DAKOTA

Access to Justice

1-605-791-4147 http://helpsouthdakota.com/

Access to Justice is the pro bono arm of the South Dakota Bar Association. Access to Justice (A2J) is a statewide program formed by the State Bar of South Dakota to supplement legal services provided by South Dakota's two legal aid programs (Dakota Plains Legal Services and East River Legal Services).

Pro Bono Program

The state pro bono program supplements legal services currently being provided by Dakota Plains Legal Services and East River Legal Services. Cases accepted for participation in the pro bono program are referred to volunteer attorneys who donate their time to help indigent (low-income) people with their legal problems without charging them a fee. Pro bono clients are, however, responsible for payment of case costs.

Modest Means (Reduced Fee) Program

In an effort to improve the availability of services to those of moderate income in South Dakota and supplement services being provided to the indigent by the state pro bono program, the State Bar of South Dakota and Access to Justice program developed a modest means (reduced fee) program. Cases accepted for participation in the modest means program are referred to lawyers who have agreed to consider representing eligible clients for a reduced fee. Modest means clients are also responsible for payment of case costs

Dakota Plains Legal Services (DPLS)

1-800-658-2297 DPLS is a private, non-profit organization that provides free legal assistance to eligible persons in 34 counties, Native American and non-Native American, in central and western South Dakota.

East River Legal Services (ERLS)

1-800-952-3015 East River Legal Services (ERLS) is a private, non-profit corporation that provides FREE legal assistance to low income persons in 33 counties in eastern South Dakota.

South Dakota Department of Social Services, Division of Child Support

605-773-3641 http://dss.sd.gov/childsupport/services/modifysupportorder.asp

Must complete and notarize the petition (available above), and provide a financial statement, verification of income, and the child support order. A \$50 fee may be required, but the applicant may also fill out the Fee Waiver Request, which is enclosed in the petition.

Any support order entered prior to July 1, 2009 may be modified without showing a change in circumstances. An order after July 1, 2009 may only be modified if it is more than 3 years old, or by showing a substantial change in circumstances.

TENNESSEE

Southeast Tennessee Legal Services receives a grant from the State of Tennessee to assist pro se litigants in the 10th and 11th Judicial districts who wish to establish, enforce or modify issues regarding their children, which includes child support. While this grant does not provide funds for direct legal representation, they will advise the pro se litigant on the types of forms they need to fill out and also provides them with a child support worksheet that matches what they propose. Southeast Tennessee Legal Services does not require referrals from out of state organization. The clients can call them directly; however, they do need to be able to proceed on their own in this state as their office cannot file on their behalf.

Southeast Tennessee Legal Services

821 Houston Street Chattanooga, TN 37403 423-756-0128 423-757-9063 fax http://www.selegal.org/

TEXAS

HEROES For Children In Military Families

512-460-6400 (Main Office) https://www.oag.state.tx.us/cs/ofi

Provides service members, veterans and their dependents with enhanced, personalized assistance in addressing paternity establishment, child support, and parenting time matters; (Help Establishing Responsive Orders Ensuring Support (HEROES) for Children in Military Families.

Veterans Legal Assistance Project

800-622-2520 (Main Office) www.tlsc.org/programs/vlap.asp

Provides legal assistance (advice and brief services) in civil legal matters, including family law, employment, housing, consumer, bankruptcy, probate, and VA benefits to Texas veterans, their spouses, dependents, and survivors

Texas Lawyers For Texas Veterans

512-427-1463 (Main Office) www.texasbar.com/veterans

Website includes resources for veterans on legal clinics and other related issues which was designed to help veterans, who meet the established financial guidelines, with an array of civil legal issues.

Referral Directory http://www.texasbar.com/Content/NavigationMenu/LawyersGivingBack/LegalAccessDivision/R eferralDirectory.pdf

UTAH

Utah State Courts Self-Help Center

http://www.utcourts.gov/howto/family/modification/child_support/

Download, fill out, and file the correct form: Motion to Modify Child Support **or** Petition to Modify Child Support. Please read the self-help *very carefully*, as the correct form to file depends on how old the support order is, the amount of income change, custody of the child, and other factors.

One filled out, it must be filed in the correct court. See the page above for a worksheet for finding the correct court.

Information about finding legal help is available on the website at http://www.utcourts.gov/howto/legalassist/

Information about statewide clinics is available on the website at <u>http://www.utcourts.gov/howto/legalclinics/</u>

VERMONT

South Royalton Legal Clinic

Vermont Veterans Legal Assistance Project South Royalton Legal Clinic Vermont Law School P.O. Box 117 South Royalton, VT 05068 (802) 831-1500

Project is funded by the Vermont Bar Foundation, and will run for the next two years out of the South Royalton Legal Clinic. Assistance for veterans in civil cases, including child support modifications is available, including out-of-state Veterans. Katelyn B. Atwood, Vermont Poverty Law Fellow, Attorney

Vermont Volunteer Lawyer Project

Angela Court 802-863-7153 acourt@lawlinevt.org

Links low income Vermonters with pro bono attorneys.

Vermont Office of Child Support (OCS)

http://dcf.vermont.gov/ocs/ 1-800-786-3214-- Child Support Helpline Vermont OCS is the state agency responsible for establishing, collecting upon, enforcing, and modifying support orders for children who do not live with both parents

Legal Services Law Line of Vermont 1-800-889-2047

http://www.lawlinevt.org/

Offers over the phone legal services

VBA's Modest Means Program 1-800-889-2047 http://www.vtlawhelp.org/

Veterans who do not qualify for free legal advice may be eligible for reduced fee legal help through the VBA's Modest Means Program.

Fill out the Intake Form to determine if you qualify for free or lower cost help: <u>http://www.vtlawhelp.org/vttriage/aba_questions</u>

VIRGINIA

Virginia Bar Veterans Initiative

701 E. Franklin St., Suite 1120 Richmond, VA 23219 804-644-0041 http://www.vba.org/?page=vba_veterans_initiat

Apply online: <u>http://www.vba.org/?servicemember</u>. They will attempt to find you an attorney who will assist. May be on a pro bono basis, or a reduced fee basis.

AG Office

http://oag.state.va.us/index.php/programs-initiatives/veterans-assistance-resources

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Legal Services of the Virgin Islands.

You may contact them at <u>340-718-2626</u> St. Croix office. <u>340-774-6720</u> St. Thomas

WASHINGTON

Open Door Legal Services 206-682-4642 dm<u>ace@ugm.org</u>

Assists in Washington State child support issues, even if the veteran lives out of state.

Northwest Justice Project 1-888-201-1014 http://nwjustice.org/clear-online

Northwest Justice Project Veterans Project 1-855-NJP-VETS http://nwjustice.org/veterans

Complete online intake form, in order to be screened for potential referral to an NJP Veterans Project attorney.

Please see brochure for NJP.

(855) NJP-VETS

Call if you are a lowincome veteran with one of these legal issues:

- Child Support
- Vacating Criminal Convictions/Records
- Driver's License Suspensions
- VA Overpayments
- Housing Issues
- Discharge Upgrades
- Consumer Law
- Veterans Benefits for Justice-Involved, Incarcerated, & Recently-Released Veterans

What if my issue is not listed?

You can still call (855) NJP VETS. We are often able to refer veterans to other service providers for legal issues that we cannot help with.

Eligible Veterans may have served in the **Active Duty, Reserve**, or **National Guard** components of the **Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines** or **Coast Guard**.

Can I Access Information Online?

Yes. The Veterans Project maintains a website at <u>http://nwjustice.org/veterans</u>.

<u>http://washingtonlawhelp.org</u> offers free legal information on a variety of issues. There is a section specifically for veterans.

Veterans and advocates can also visit http://bit.ly/MOS1LO to gain detailed information of the legal and cultural considerations for assisting veterans with civil legal issues in Washington.







Northwest Justice Project Veterans Project

Free Legal Services for Veterans

Low-income veterans with any discharge status may be eligible for free legal assistance with civil (not criminal) legal issues, including:

- Child Support
- Vacating Criminal Convictions/Records
- Driver's License Suspensions
- VA Overpayments
- Housing Issues
- Discharge Upgrades
- Consumer Law
- Veterans Benefits for Justice-Involved, Incarcerated, & Recently-Released Veterans



What is Northwest Justice Project?

The Northwest Justice Project (nwjustice.org) is a not-for-profit corporation that provides civil legal services to low-income persons in Washington. NJP is a member of Washington's Alliance for Equal Justice and receives federal Legal Services Corporation funds and State funds.

What is NJP's Veterans Project?

The Veterans Project is team of six attorneys providing state-wide civil legal services for low-income veterans in Washington. Veterans Project attorneys provide free legal services to veterans facing legal problems that are barriers to housing, employment, or self-sufficiency.

Do I have to pay for this service?

No. Eligible veterans will not be charged by NJP for services. Eligibility is determined in part by the veteran's income. Homeless or low-income veterans are encouraged to call **1(855) NJP VETS** to determine their eligibility.

Women Veterans

Washington's growing population of women veterans sometimes face specialized or unique legal challenges. NJP has Veterans Project attorneys who specialize in working with women veterans—just mention that you'd like to speak with one of these attorneys when you call **1 (855) NJP VETS**.

Do I Need a Certain Type of Discharge?

No. NJP's Veterans Project may work with financially eligible veterans with any characterization of service. While there are more limited options for veterans with Dishonorable, Other Than Honorable, and or General discharges, a Veterans Project attorney can help assess what options are available.

What if I Want Legal Assistance, but <u>not</u> from the Veterans Project?

NJP also operates a general legal aid phone line called CLEAR. King County persons can access clear by dialing 211. Outside of King County, CLEAR is available at 1 (888) 201-1014. CLEAR also operates a line specifically for callers 60 and older at 1 (888) 387-7111. Deaf and hearingimpaired callers may call 1 (800) 833-6384.

Where are NJP Veterans Project Attorneys?

The Veterans Project provides state-wide advocacy for low-income veterans. There are veterans attorneys at NJP's Seattle, Everett, Olympia, Tacoma, and Spokane offices. Attorneys may travel or work by phone to assist veterans anywhere in Washington. Potential clients may call **1 (855) NJP VETS** to connect with the most appropriate Veterans Project Attorney.

Contact information for all NJP offices is available at <u>http://nwjustice.org/office-</u><u>locations</u>. Information for the nearest NJP office is listed below:

NJP: Seattle Office

401 Second AVE S. Suite 407 Seattle, WA 98104 Phone: (206) 464-1519 Fax: (206) 624-7501

WEST VIRGINIA

Legal Aid of West Virginia

922 Quarrier Street, 4th FloorCharleston, WV 253011-866-255-4370http://www.lawv.net/lawhelp/petitiontomodifynoncustody

Has a self-help form and instruction at the above URL. Alternatively, may call the above number between 9am-3pm, Monday-Friday, or 6pm-8pm Tuesdays.

Filing requires the complete case information and a financial statement. Requires a \$20 fee if you want the Sherriff's Department to handle service on the other parent. Filing fees may also be required, but the applicant may file an affidavit to waive fees and costs.

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Legal Assistance for Military Personnel

http://www.wisbar.org/forpublic/ineedalawyer/pages/wisconsin-legal-assistance-for-military-personnel---.aspx

This is a project of the State Bar Volunteer Lawyers Program. The program provides free legal assistance for qualifying veterans, active duty military personnel, and National Guard and Reserve members.

Marquette University Law School *The clinic's service are limited to in person brief legal advice and referral services and no advice is given over the phone or via email.*

Mailing Address

Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic Marquette University Law School P.O. Box 1881 Milwaukee, WI 53201 <u>Phone (</u>414) 288-7970

Dryhootch

(414) 763-2785 http://dryhootch.org/

A program called Dryhootch offers a Family Legal Clinic where veterans and their families can receive free legal advice on non-criminal matters such as divorce, **child support**, visitation and more. The clinic runs in the evening on the first and second Thursday of each month. For more information, visit the Dryhootch site (<u>http://dryhootch.org/</u>) or call (**414**) **763-2785**.

UW Law School Veterans Law Center

Pro Bono Director Ann Zimmerman (608) 890-3754

The UW Law School Veterans Law Center provides free help with issues such as divorce, **child custody**, foreclosure, housing issues, unemployment benefits and other civil legal problems. The Law Center serves veterans and their families on a walk-in basis from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Madison's City-County Building (210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., just off the Capitol Square) and from 4-6 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month at Porchlight, Inc. (306 N. Brooks St.). Contact: UW Law School Pro Bono Director Ann Zimmerman, (608) 890-3754.

WYOMING

Legal Aid of Wyoming

1-877-432-9955

There is a statewide hotline that is utilized in Wyoming to determine the resource to assist income eligible clients and apply for assistance. This hotline is staffed by Legal Aid of Wyoming 1-877-432-9955.

Center for Legal Aid

(307) 777-8383

A veteran may also contact the Center for Legal Aid directly at (307) 777-8383. If the veteran qualifies, the Center can help find a volunteer attorney. The Wyoming State Bar works directly with the Center for Legal Aid to recruit volunteer attorneys.