

# Legal Services for Criminal Matters

## Washington, D.C.

### Advice and Representation

➤ **Community Defender Division (Community Reentry Program and Institutional Services Program at PDS)**

Provides services to adults and children, who are in the post-adjudication stage of a criminal or juvenile delinquency case in the District of Columbia Superior Court. CDD responds to the legal and social services needs of newly released individuals and others with criminal records, assisting them in making a successful transition back into the community. For adult clients they provide record sealing and expungement consultations. For juvenile clients, CDD represents children at administrative due process hearings, provides in-person legal consultations for children at the District's youth detention centers and works with community organizations to develop reentry programs that address the special needs of children.

680 Rhode Island Avenue, NE  
Suite H-5  
Washington, DC 20002  
(202) 824-2801

<http://www.pdsdc.org:8000/PDS/CommunityDefenderDivision.aspx>

*Restrictions: Can only help with DC cases.*

➤ **George Washington University Prisoner and Reentry Clinic**

Focuses on legal issues involved in post-conviction re-entry to the community for individuals with criminal histories. No walk-ins. Only take cases during the academic year. They are currently taking cases in the following areas:

- Grant of parole
- Early termination of parole (for those who have been on parole 5+ years)
- Expungements of criminal records (for those with a single misdemeanor conviction or arrests only)

2000 G St., NW  
Washington, DC 20052  
(202) 994-4954

<https://www.law.gwu.edu/prisoner-reentry-clinic>

*Restrictions: For expungement cases client must be indigent, but no strict definition. No walk-ins. Call for an appointment at (202)994-7463. These clinics operate during the academic year – no new cases are taken over the summer or winter vacation.*

➤ **Georgetown University Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic**

Provide defense attorneys for people charged with misdemeanors in DC (the charge must be in DC). The most common pretrial charges include assault, threats, drug possession, theft, unlawful entry, destruction of property, and minor weapons offenses. Students in the clinic also represent clients in parole revocation hearings before the U.S. Parole Commission.

600 New Jersey Avenue, NW

Room 130

Washington, DC 20001-2095

(202) 662-9575

<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/criminal-defense-prisoner-advocacy-clinic/>

*Requirements: Must meet DC income eligibility requirement to receive a public defender (200% of poverty level)*

➤ **Georgetown University Criminal Justice Clinic**

Students in the Criminal Justice Clinic represent defendants in misdemeanor cases in the District of Columbia Superior Court and prisoners in parole revocation proceedings before the U.S. Parole Commission. Charges typically include assault, destruction of property, drug possession, prostitution, theft, threats, and unlawful entry.

111 F Street NW

Suite 127

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 662-9583

<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/experiential-learning/clinics/criminal-justice-clinic/>

➤ **The Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia**

Provides legal services in the areas of trial, appeal, mental health, special litigation, and parole.

Main Office

633 Indiana Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20004

(202) 628-1200

<http://www.pdsdc.org/>

## Information and Referrals

### ➤ **Bar Association of DC Lawyer Referral Service**

Refers callers to experienced attorneys in the area of law in which they need assistance

(202) 296-7845

<http://badc.org/public-services/lrs/>

*Restrictions: A \$39.95 referral fee is collected from the caller by credit card over the phone. Callers are referred to ONE attorney.*

### ➤ **Howard University Criminal Justice Clinic**

Provides legal representation to indigent defendants in criminal matters. Takes cases directly from DC Superior Court and **provides referrals for all other cases.**

2900 Van Ness Street, N.W.

Room G-18, Notre Dame Hall

Washington, D.C. 20008

(202) 806-8082

<http://law.howard.edu/content/criminal-justice-clinic-cjc>

*Restrictions: Closed in the summer.*

# Legal Services for Housing Matters and Homelessness

## Washington, D.C.

### Advice and Representation

#### ➤ Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center

By establishing the Multilingual Legal Helpline and the Legal Interpreter Project, the APALRC utilizes the bilingual resources in the Asian American community in Metro-D.C. to provide a linguistic and cultural bridge between the client community and legal services. APALRC has staff attorneys who work on a variety of matters as well as a legal helpline to connect callers to services.

1012 14th Street, N.W., Suite 450

Washington, D.C. 20005

Phone: (202) 706-7150

Fax: (202) 315-0375

Helpline:

202-393-3572

Ext. 22 for English

Ext. 18 Chinese

Ext. 19 Hindi/Urdu

Ext. 20 Vietnamese

Ext. 21 Korean

<http://www.apalrc.org/>

*Restrictions: Follows Federal regulations, clients need to be at 150% below the poverty line, although this number could vary depending on the service required. They work with people in DC, MD, and VA.*

#### ➤ Bread for the City

Bread for the City operates two legal clinics. Volunteer and staff attorneys represent clients in a variety of legal disputes, including landlord-tenant cases. Intake applicants can call the numbers below Monday through Thursday (9am- 5pm) to make an appointment to meet with a Bread for the City attorney.

NW Legal Clinic: (202) 480-8950

SE Legal Clinic: (202) 791-3982

<https://breadforthecity.org/>

*Restrictions: Must live in DC and be at or under 200% of the poverty level.*

#### ➤ Catholic Charities

A pro bono legal services that provides information, referral, and sometimes direct representation in a variety of legal matters, including landlord-tenant/housing issues.

924 G St., NW

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 350-4305; In Spanish: (202) 772-4325

Telephone Intake Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 9:30am - 12pm, 2pm-4:30pm; Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am - 12pm, 2pm - 7:30pm

<https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/>

*Restrictions: Serves low-income individuals whose earnings are equal to or less than 200% of the poverty level.*

➤ **Columbus Community Legal Services Civil Practice Clinic**

A general practice law office that is designed to serve the legal needs of financially eligible DC residents. Covers the full range of civil law matters including: housing, consumer, family, probate, bankruptcy, and administrative law matters.

Phone: (202) 319-6788

<https://www.law.edu/CCLS/ccls-clinic-civil.cfm>

*Restrictions: Need to be below 200% of the poverty line. Need to be DC resident (or at least the case needs to be under DC jurisdiction). Do not take cases during the summer. Do not talk walk-ins, must call first.*

➤ **DC Bar Advice and Referral Clinic**

Individuals can discuss with volunteer attorneys civil legal problems governed by D.C. law including housing law (i.e. landlord-tenant issues). Volunteer attorneys may help individuals identify legal issues, help individuals fill out papers to file with the court, make a phone call to resolve a dispute, write a letter on the individual's behalf, or give the individual general advice about a legal problem. If brief service is not enough to resolve the problem, or if another type of service is necessary, then the clinic volunteers may be able to refer the individual to an appropriately suited service. Services are free of charge. 2nd Saturday of every month from 10am - 12pm.

<https://www.dcbbar.org/for-the-public/help-for-individuals/advice.cfm>

Bread for the City Northwest Center  
1525 7th Street NW

Bread for the City Southeast Center  
1640 Good Hope Road SE

Phone: 202-626-3499 (press 1 (English), press 5 (other), press 3 (free legal clinic), press 9 (to leave a message)).

*Restrictions: Do not have their own lawyer. Only available to individuals, not businesses, nonprofits, associations, or other similar groups.*

➤ **DC Law Students in Court**

Law Students in Court helps low-income Washington, D.C. residents who have legal problems that originated in the District. The services primarily focus on representation of tenants in landlord-tenant actions, but include other civil matters.

Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Room 113, Building B  
510 4th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
Monday-Friday: 10:00 am-1:00 pm  
(202) 638-4798  
<https://dclawstudents.org/>

*Restrictions: Only accepts new clients during the academic school year; Income must be below 200% of the poverty line*

➤ **Howard University Civil Rights Clinic**

The Clinic litigates on behalf of indigent, prisoner, and pro se clients in federal and state courts on a range of civil rights matters, including but not limited to employment and housing discrimination, voting rights, police brutality, unconstitutional prison conditions, habeas corpus, and unfair procedural barriers to the courts.

(202) 806-8082  
2900 Van Ness Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
Weekdays 9:00am-5:00pm  
<http://law.howard.edu/content/human-and-civil-rights-clinic>

*Requirements: Clients must be at or below 200% of the poverty line. They do not take new clients over the summer but will provide referrals. They accept new clients during the school year.*

➤ **Howard University Fair Housing Clinic**

Provide full legal representation to clients in housing discrimination and landlord-tenant matters. Office is open weekdays from 9:00am - 5:00pm (except during the summer)

(202) 806-8082  
Room G-18, Notre Dame Hall  
2900 Van Ness Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
<http://law.howard.edu/content/fair-housing-clinic-fhc>

*Restrictions: Follows Legal Services Corporation guidelines. Tries to take cases re: housing discrimination, housing code violations, matters impacting affordability and access to housing.*

➤ **Legal Aid Society of DC**

Provides advice and counsel in housing/landlord tenant/housing conditions, domestic violence/family law, consumer law (including debt collection), public benefits law (including health insurance), child support, and appellate litigation.

1331 H St NW #350  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 628-1161

<https://www.legalaiddc.org/>

*Restrictions: Serves person at or below 200% of the FPG. While clients do not have to live in DC to receive services, Legal Aid Society can only help with problems arising in DC.*

➤ **Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division**

The Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division (Multi-Door) helps parties settle disputes through mediation and other types of appropriate dispute resolution (ADR), including arbitration, case evaluation and conciliation. The Division can handle all cases but has particular programs in child protection, family law, medical malpractice, landlord/tenant, probate, tax assessment, and small claims. Multi-Door also has a Community Information and Referral Program (CIRP) that has trained Dispute Resolution Specialists who can assist residents of the District of Columbia find the best way to resolve their disputes. Clients who call CIRP get help in learning about the options available both through the court and through other community venues. Clients will learn about other community services that may be of help as well as the mediation process within the court.

410 E St. NW  
Court Building C  
Washington, DC, 20001  
(202) 879-1549

<https://www.dccourts.gov/superior-court/multi-door-dispute-resolution-division>

Hours: 8:30AM - 5:00PM

Mediation Hours: 9:00AM - 3:00PM

*Restrictions: Matter must arise out of DC. No income requirements.*

➤ **Neighborhood Legal Services**

Provides direct legal services in the areas of family, housing/landlord tenant, consumer, public benefits, income maintenance, health, domestic violence, veterans' benefits, employment, and wills, and predatory student loans.

<http://nlsp.org/>

Headquarters  
64 New York Avenue NE Ste. 180  
Washington, DC 20002  
(202) 832-6577

Far Northeast Ward 7 Office  
4609 Polk Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20019  
(202) 832-6577

Southeast Ward 8 Office  
2811 Pennsylvania Ave, SE

Washington, DC 20020  
(202) 832-6577

*Restrictions: All persons at or below 125% of Federal Poverty Guidelines are eligible; on a case-by-case basis persons at or below 200% of the FPG may be eligible. Matter must have arisen in DC. Cannot serve non-US citizens or incarcerated people.*

➤ **University of DC Housing and Consumer Law Clinic**

Representation for matters such as eviction defenses, affirmative habitability actions, illegal rent increases, and real property actions, including predatory loans and foreclosure, fair housing and miscellaneous torts.

UDC David A. Clarke School of Law

Building 52, Room 302

4340 Connecticut Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20008

(202) 274-5120

<https://www.law.udc.edu/page/HousingClinic>

*Restrictions: No cases in the summer*

➤ **University Legal Services**

Helps low and moderate-income families and individuals buy homes, rehabilitate homes, and prevent mortgage default and foreclosure. ULS also provides rental counseling and assists DC residents with locating affordable and accessible housing.

<http://www.uls-dc.org/>

Northeast Office

220 I Street, N.E., Suite 130

Washington, D.C. 20002

(202) 547-0198

Far Northeast Office

3939 Benning Road, N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20019

(202) 650-5631

Southeast Office

1800 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, S.E., First Floor

Washington, D.C. 20020

(202) 889-2196

*Restrictions: DC residents only*



➤ **Washington Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs**

Provides pro bono legal representation in the following practice areas: workplace discrimination, housing (discrimination, lending, exclusionary zoning, accessibility issues), disability rights, DC prisoners' rights, and public accommodation cases against private institutions (e.g., when a business fails to accommodate consumers with seeing eye dogs). They also have a team devoted to representing immigrants and refugees in these civil rights issues.

(202) 319-1000

11 Dupont Circle, NW

Suite 400

Washington, DC 20036

<http://www.washlaw.org/>

➤ **Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless**

Advice and representation (by staff attorneys or pro bono attorney volunteers) on issues broadly related to homelessness and poverty. The organization has pre-arranged intake times at various sites throughout the District - interested individuals should call or check online ([www.legalclinic.org/legal-help/](http://www.legalclinic.org/legal-help/)) for upcoming intake hours. They also have self-help materials and resources online.

202-328-5500

1200 U St NW

Washington, DC 20009

*Restrictions: Only for D.C. residents who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless. No criminal matters or tort/small claims.*

## Information and Referrals

### ➤ **Bar Association of DC Lawyer Referral Service**

Refers callers to experienced attorneys in the area of law in which they need assistance

(202) 296-7845

<http://badc.org/public-services/lrs/>

*Restrictions: A \$39.95 referral fee is collected from the caller by credit card over the phone. Callers are referred to ONE attorney.*

### ➤ **DC Bar Landlord/Tenant Resource Center**

Provides free legal information to both landlords and tenants. Volunteer attorneys help self-represented persons understand court proceedings, assist self-represented persons prepare pleadings, coach self-represented persons how to best present cases in court, provide information on how to obtain continuances and retain counsel, make referrals to legal service providers in appropriate cases, and inform low-income litigants of financial and other social service resources that might be available and refer them to the appropriate resources.

Monday to Friday 9:15am - 12pm

510 4th Street NW

Court Building B, Room 115

(202) 508-1710

<https://www.dcbart.org/for-the-public/help-for-individuals/landlord-tenant.cfm>

*Restrictions: Must be unrepresented. Must have residential housing dispute in the District of Columbia.*

### ➤ **DC Bar Pro Bono Center Legal Information Helpline**

An automated system of recorded messages giving basic information on more than 30 legal topics, finding an attorney, and the availability of free legal services in DC. Clients can call 24 hours a day.

(202) 626-3499

### ➤ **Central American Resource Center**

Housing Services: Seeks to secure safe and affordable housing for Latinos in the Washington metropolitan area. Offers individual counseling and educational workshops on topics such as foreclosure prevention, credit and financial management, and tenant rights, as well as technical assistance to tenant groups and associations.

1460 Columbia Road NW, Suite C-1

Washington, D.C. 20009

(202) 328 -9799

Walk-in hours: Thursdays 2pm-4:30pm

<http://carecencdc.org/>

*Restrictions: No income requirements or ethnicity requirements. Have to be living in some part of the Washington Metropolitan Area.*

# Legal Services for Family Law Matters

Washington, D.C.

## Advice and Representation

### ➤ Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center

By establishing the Multilingual Legal Helpline and the Legal Interpreter Project, the APALRC utilizes the bilingual resources in the Asian American community in Metro-D.C. to provide a linguistic and cultural bridge between the client community and legal services. APALRC has staff attorneys who work on a variety of matters as well as a legal helpline to connect callers to services.

1012 14th Street, N.W., Suite 450

Washington, D.C. 20005

Phone: (202) 706-7150

Fax: (202) 315-0375

<http://www.apalrc.org/>

Helpline:

202-393-3572

Ext. 22 for English

Ext. 18 Chinese

Ext. 19 Hindi/Urdu

Ext. 20 Vietnamese

Ext. 21 Korean

*Restrictions: Follows Federal regulations, clients need to be at 150% below the poverty line, although this number could vary depending on the service required. They work with people in DC, MD, and VA.*

### ➤ Bread for the City

Through the **Child Support Community Legal Services** BFTC partners with Legal Aid to staff an office at the Paternity & Support Branch of the Court. They provide same-day advice and temporary representation and, in some cases, extended representation to low-income District residents who need assistance with child support matters. And with their newest project, the **Domestic Violence Community Legal Services** Project, BFTC provides the legal services necessary (Civil Protection Orders, divorce proceedings, child custody, etc.) to assist low-income District residents who are experiencing domestic violence and sexual assault.

<https://breadforthecity.org/>

1525 Seventh Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
Northwest Center: 202-265-2400

1640 Good Hope Road, SE  
Washington, DC 20020  
Southeast Center: 202-561-8587

*Restrictions: Must live in DC and be at or under 200% of the poverty level.*

➤ **Break the Cycle**

Break the Cycle provides free legal services to young victims of dating violence in Washington, DC. Break the Cycle attorneys assist victims of dating abuse and domestic violence with the following legal issues:

- Obtaining protection or restraining orders
- Violations of restraining orders
- Child custody
- Child support
- Visitation
- Divorce

Their attorneys also work closely with clients to ensure that their non-legal needs are met through safety planning, school advocacy, criminal case accompaniment and referrals to local domestic violence and social services.

P.O. Box 66165  
Washington, D.C. 20035  
(T): 202-824-0707  
(F): 202-824-0747

<https://www.breakthecycle.org/>

*Restrictions: Legal services are available to young people who are 12 to 24 years old, living in the Washington, DC metropolitan area and who are experiencing abuse*

➤ **Catholic Charities**

A pro bono legal service providing clients with general information, access to volunteer attorneys and law firms, as well as referrals to other appropriate legal service organizations. Operates in the areas of consumer debt/bankruptcy, employment, family law (including child custody and domestic violence), landlord-tenant/housing issues, public benefits (social security, disability), wills and probate/guardianship and conservatorship.

924 G St., NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: (202) 350-4305; In Spanish: (202) 772-4325

Telephone Intake Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 9:30am - 12pm, 2pm-4:30pm; Wednesday and Thursday 9:30am - 12pm, 2pm - 7:30pm

<https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/>

*Restrictions: Serves low-income individuals whose earnings are equal to or less than 200% poverty.*

➤ **Columbus Community Legal Services Family and the Law Clinic**

Deals with cases of domestic violence, family law, and immigration law. The clinic helps clients address immediate safety needs and assert their legal rights by obtaining CPOs, as well as representing clients in longer-term litigation arising from abusive family situations, including resolving complex divorce, legal separation, property and debt distribution, child custody, child visitation, and child support matters. The clinic also responds to the unique needs of immigrant victims of domestic violence, helping them attain legal status and employment authorization through VAWA self-petitions, battered spouse waivers, and U visa applications.

Phone: (202) 319-6788

<https://www.law.edu/CCLS/ccls-clinic-family.cfm#CCLS>

*Restrictions: Need to be below 200% of the poverty line. Need to be DC resident (or at least the case needs to be under DC jurisdiction). Do not take cases during the summer. Do not talk walk-ins, must call first.*

➤ **Child Support Services Division**

Helps the person caring for a child to collect child support from the child's noncustodial parent. CSSD also helps those who are divorced to collect spousal support. CSSD provides services including locating a child's parent for the purpose of establishing parentage and child support, establishing parentage, establishing a support order, establishing medical support, enforcing child support payments and medical support established by court order, collecting child and spousal support payments, reviewing child support orders to determine whether an adjustment is needed.

One Judiciary Square

441 4th Street, NW, N550

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 442-9900

<https://cssd.dc.gov/>

Hours: Monday-Friday 8:15am - 4:45pm

➤ **DC Bar Advice and Referral Clinic**

Individuals can discuss with volunteer attorneys civil legal problems governed by D.C. law including bankruptcy and debt collection, consumer law, employment law, family law, health law, housing law (i.e. landlord-tenant issues), personal injury, probate matters (such as wills and medical directives), public benefits (such as welfare and SSI), and tax law. Volunteer attorneys may help individuals identify legal issues, help individuals fill out papers to file with the court, make a phone call to resolve a dispute, write a

letter on the individual's behalf, or give the individual general advice about a legal problem. If brief service is not enough to resolve the problem, or if another type of service is necessary, then the clinic volunteers may be able to refer the individual to an appropriately suited service. Services are free of charge.

Hours: 2nd Saturday of every month from 10am - 12pm

Locations: Bread for the City Northwest Center - 1525 7th Street NW; Bread for the City Southeast Center - 1640 Good Hope Road SE

Phone: 202-626-3499 ext. 3

<https://www.dcbbar.org/for-the-public/help-for-individuals/advice.cfm>

*Restrictions: Do not have their own lawyer. Only available to individuals, not businesses, nonprofits, associations, or other similar groups.*

➤ **George Washington University Family Justice Litigation Clinic**

The Family Justice Litigation Clinic represents clients in a variety of family law and domestic violence matters. Clients are represented by third year law students who are certified to practice in DC Superior Court and supervised by attorneys who have practiced for several years in the family law field.

202.994.7463 (ask for the Family Justice Litigation Clinic)

<https://www.law.gwu.edu/family-justice-litigation>

*Restrictions: 200% of the poverty level. Must be a DC case.*

➤ **Howard University- Child Welfare/Family Justice Clinic**

Provides direct legal representation to parents who have or are alleged to have neglected or abused their children in a way that has resulted in state intervention.

Weekdays: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (except summer)

Room G18 Notre Dame Hall

2900 Van Ness St.

Washington DC 20008

(202) 806-8082

<http://law.howard.edu/content/child-welfarefamily-justice-clinic-cwc>

*Restrictions: Takes case directly from Family Court division. Provides referrals for cases not coming from the court.*

➤ **Legal Aid Society of DC**

Provides advice and counsel in housing/landlord tenant/housing conditions, domestic violence/family law, consumer law (including debt collection), public benefits law (including health insurance), child support, and appellate litigation.

1331 H St NW #350

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 628-1161

[www.legalaiddc.org](http://www.legalaiddc.org)

*Restrictions: Serves clients at or below 200% of the FPG. Matter must arise out of DC. If it's a case regarding a child (e.g. custody), the child must have been a resident of DC in the last six months. In DV cases, they only represent victims, not perpetrators. While clients do not have to live in DC to receive services, Legal Aid Society can only help with problems arising in DC.*

➤ **Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division**

The Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division (Multi-Door) helps parties settle disputes through mediation and other types of appropriate dispute resolution (ADR), including arbitration, case evaluation and conciliation. The Division appears to be able to handle all sorts of cases but has particular programs in child protection, family law, medical malpractice, landlord/tenant, probate, tax assessment, and small claims. Multi-Door also has a Community Information and Referral Program (CIRP) that has trained Dispute Resolution Specialists who can assist residents of the District of Columbia find the best way to resolve their disputes. Clients who call CIRP get help in learning about the options available both through the court and through other community venues. Clients will learn about other community services that may be of help as well as the mediation process within the court.

410 E St. NW

Court Building C

Washington, DC, 20001

(202) 879-1549

<https://www.dccourts.gov/superior-court/multi-door-dispute-resolution-division>

Hours: 8:30AM - 5:00PM

Mediation Hours: 9:00AM - 3:00PM

*Restrictions: Matter must arise out of DC. No income requirements.*

➤ **Neighborhood Legal Services**

Provides direct legal services in the areas of family, housing/landlord tenant, consumer, public benefits, income maintenance, health, domestic violence, veterans benefits, employment, and wills, and predatory student loans.

<http://nlsp.org/>

Headquarters

64 New York Ave., NE

Washington, DC 20002

(202) 832-6577

Far Northeast Ward 7 Office

4609 Polk Street, NE

Washington, DC 20019  
(202) 832-6577  
Southeast Ward 8 Office  
2811 Pennsylvania Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20020  
(202) 832-6577

*Restrictions: All persons at or below 125% of Federal Poverty Guidelines are eligible; on a case-by-case basis persons at or below 200% of the FPG may be eligible. Matter must have arisen in DC. Cannot serve non-US citizens or incarcerated people.*

➤ **Tahirih Justice Center**

Operates a pro bono network of attorneys to assist immigrant women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence on immigration and family matters. They also operate a pro bono medical network of providers willing to provide primary care to this same population.

6402 Arlington Blvd, Suite 300  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
Phone: 571-282-6161

<https://www.tahirih.org/>

*Restrictions: Must be female. Must be an immigrant. Must have experience gender-based violence or persecution*

## Information and/or Referrals

➤ **Bar Association of DC Lawyer Referral Service**

Refers callers to experienced attorneys in the area of law in which they need assistance.

(202) 296-7845

<http://badc.org/public-services/lrs/>

*Restrictions: A \$39.95 referral fee is collected from the caller by credit card over the phone. Callers are referred to ONE attorney.*

➤ **DC Bar Pro Bono Program Legal Information Helpline**

An automated system of recorded messages giving basic information on more than 30 legal topics, finding an attorney, and the availability of free legal services in DC. Clients can call 24 hours a day.

(202) 626-3499

<https://www.dcbar.org/pro-bono/volunteer/legal-info-helpline.cfm>



➤ **DC Bar Pro Bono- Pro Se Custody Clinic (information only)**

Every month at the District of Columbia Superior Court, volunteer attorneys and paralegals present a two-session workshop to help individuals file for child custody without an attorney. The clinic provides information on how the law in the District of Columbia addresses child custody, visitation, and child support arrangements. This clinic does not provide any legal advice. During Session I, instructors provide an introduction to the laws related to child custody, and during Session II, instructors will assist individuals in filling out required forms and answering individual questions. Individuals must preregister for the Clinic.

D.C. Superior Court, H. Carl Moultrie I Courthouse  
500 Indiana NW, Washington, DC  
(202) 737-4700 ext. 3292

<http://www.dcbbar.org/for-the-public/help-for-individuals/custody.cfm>

*Restrictions: No income restrictions.*

➤ **DC Bar Pro Bono- Pro Se Divorce Clinic (information only)**

Every month at the District of Columbia Superior Court, volunteer attorneys and paralegals present a two-session workshop to help individuals file for uncontested divorces without an attorney in the District of Columbia. Individuals in a contested divorce are also welcome to attend for information purposes, but the Clinic does not provide any legal advice. Individuals must preregister online.

D.C. Superior Court, H. Carl Moultrie I Courthouse  
500 Indiana NW, Washington, DC  
(202) 737-4700 ext. 3292

<http://www.dcbbar.org/for-the-public/help-for-individuals/divorce-clinic.cfm>

*Restrictions: No income restrictions.*

➤ **DC Family Court Self Help Center**

The Family Court Self-Help Center is a free walk-in service that provides unrepresented people with general legal information in a variety of family law matters (divorce, custody, visitation, child support) and referrals to legal and social service providers.

Moultrie Courthouse

500 Indiana Avenue, NW, JM-570

Washington, D.C. 20001

(202) 879-0096

Monday-Friday: 8:00a.m.-5:30 p.m. No new intakes accepted after 5:00 p.m.

<https://www.dccourts.gov/services/family-matters/self-help-center>

*Restrictions: cannot provide legal advice, take sides in any case, or represent anyone in court; doesn't help people who are represented by attorneys.*

# Legal Resources for Public Benefits

## Washington, D.C.

### Advice and Representation

#### ➤ Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center

By establishing the Multilingual Legal Helpline and the Legal Interpreter Project, the APALRC utilizes the bilingual resources in the Asian American community in Metro D.C. to provide a linguistic and cultural bridge between the client community and legal services. APALRC has staff attorneys who work on a variety of matters as well as a legal helpline to connect callers to services.

1012 14th Street, N.W., Suite 450

Washington, D.C. 20005

Phone: (202) 706-7150

Fax: (202) 315-0375

Helpline:

202-393-3572

Ext. 22 for English

Ext. 18 Chinese

Ext. 19 Hindi/Urdu

Ext. 20 Vietnamese

Ext. 21 Korean

<http://www.apalrc.org/>

*Restrictions: Follows Federal regulations, clients need to be at 150% below the poverty line, although this number could vary depending on the service required. They work with people in DC, MD, and VA.*

#### ➤ Bread for the City

Provides free legal advice and representation on various matters, including social security and other public benefits.

<https://breadforthecity.org/>

Northwest Center

1525 Seventh Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

202-265-2400

Southeast Center

1640 Good Hope Road, SE

Washington, DC 20020

202-561-8587

*Restrictions: Must live in DC and be at or under 200% of the poverty level.*

➤ **Catholic Charities Legal Network of the Archdiocese of Washington**

Provides pro bono representation to low income individuals for a variety of family law issues

(202) 350-4305

924 G Street NW

Washington, DC 20004

<https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/>

*Restrictions: Call the number above to begin an intake. Caller must be at or below 200% of the poverty line. Intake hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays have extended intake hours until 7:30 p.m.*

➤ **DC Bar Advice and Referral Clinic**

Individuals can discuss with volunteer attorneys a range of legal issues, including public benefits such as welfare and SSI. Volunteer attorneys may help individuals identify legal issues, help individuals fill out papers to file with the court, make a phone call to resolve a dispute, write a letter on the individual's behalf, or give the individual general advice about a legal problem. If brief service is not enough to resolve the problem, or if another type of service is necessary, the clinic volunteers may be able to refer the individual to an appropriately suited service. Services are free.

2nd Saturday of every month from 10am - 12pm

202-626-3499

Bread for the City Northwest Center -1525 7th Street NW

Bread for the City Southeast Center -1640 Good Hope Road SE

<https://www.dclaw.org/for-the-public/help-for-individuals/advice.cfm>

*Restrictions: Do not have their own lawyer. Only available to individuals, not businesses, nonprofits, associations, or other similar groups.*

➤ **DC Law Students in Court**

Primary focus is on representation of tenants in landlord-tenant actions (so may include DC public housing matters).

Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Room 113, Building B

510 4th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 638-4798

Monday-Friday: 10:00 am-1:00 pm

<https://dclawstudents.org/>

*Restrictions: Only accepts new clients during the academic school year; Income must be below 200% of the poverty line*

➤ **George Washington University Health Insurance Counseling Project**

Provides advice, information, and legal representation to DC residents who are having difficulty with Medicare, Medicaid, and other health insurance issues. Students perform client interviews, assist clinic

attorneys in developing legal remedies, and represent clients at administrative hearings before federal administrative law judges.

650 20th St. NW

Washington, DC 20052

202-994-6272

<https://www.law.gwu.edu/health-insurance-counseling-project>

*Restrictions: Generally only accepts DC residents.*

➤ **Legal Aid Society of DC**

Provides advice, brief service, and representation on public benefits matters.

1331 H Street NW, Suite 350

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 628-1161

Anacostia Professional Building (at Big Chair)

2401 MLK Jr. Avenue SE, Suite LL-1

Washington, DC 20020

<https://www.legalaiddc.org/>

*Restrictions: Clients must be at or below 200% of the 2014 poverty guideline. Intakes are done in person at all offices on Mondays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

➤ **National Veterans Legal Services Program**

Provides pro bono direct legal and appellate services to veterans with disability-related grievances.

Partners with and trains advocates from law firms and corporations to provide direct legal services regarding military and veterans benefits. Brings class actions with respect to military and veteran disability rights.

Individual Representation Line: 202 265-8305

1600 K St NW #500

Washington, DC 20006

<http://www.nvlsp.org/>

*Restrictions: Must be a veteran. No information available regarding income requirements.*

➤ **Neighborhood Legal Services Program (NLSP) of the District of Columbia**

Provides advice and counsel, brief services, and extended representation including in-court representation for low-income DC residents.

(202) 832-6577

<http://www.nlsp.org/>

64 New York Ave. NE

Washington DC 20002

2811 Pennsylvania Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20020

4609 Polk Street, NE  
Washington DC 20019

*Restrictions: Clients must be DC residents below 200% of the 2014 poverty guidelines. Intakes and advice offered over the phone or in person on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at all three offices*

➤ **University Legal Services**

Provides legal representation in various legal areas, including social security benefits.

220 I Street, N.E., Suite 130  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
(202) 547-0198  
<http://www.uls-dc.org/>

*Restrictions: DC residents only*

➤ **Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless**

Advice and representation (by staff attorneys or pro bono attorney volunteers) on issues related to homelessness and poverty. The organization has pre-arranged intake times at various sites throughout the District - interested individuals should call or check online ([www.legalclinic.org/legal-help/](http://www.legalclinic.org/legal-help/)) for upcoming intake hours. They also have self-help materials and resources online.

1200 U St NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
202-328-5500

*Restrictions: Only for D.C. residents who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless. No criminal matters or tort/small claims.*

➤ **Whitman Walker Legal Services**

Provides representation in various areas, including public benefits.

(202) 939-7627  
<https://www.whitman-walker.org/legal-services>

Elizabeth Taylor Medical Center  
701 14th St.  
NW Washington, DC 20009

Max Robinson Medical Center  
2301 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20020

*Restrictions: Services are for patients of Whitman-Walker Health Center, people living with HIV, and members of the LGBTQ community.*

## Information and Referrals

### ➤ **Bar Association of DC Lawyer Referral Service**

Refers callers to experienced attorneys in the area of law in which they need assistance

(202) 296-7845

<http://badc.org/public-services/lrs/>

*Restrictions: A \$39.95 referral fee is collected from the caller by credit card over the phone. Callers are referred to ONE attorney.*

### ➤ **DC Bar Pro Bono Program Legal Information Helpline**

An automated system of recorded messages giving basic information on more than 30 legal topics, finding an attorney, and the availability of free legal services in DC. Clients can call 24 hours a day.

(202) 626-3499

<https://www.dcbar.org/pro-bono/volunteer/legal-info-helpline.cfm>

### ➤ **National Pension Rights Center**

The National Pension Lawyers Network (NPLN) is a no-cost referral service that connects workers and retirees with attorneys who can help them understand and enforce their pension rights. Referral to services can be obtained [here](#) or by calling (888) 420-6550. Located at [www.pensionhelp.org](http://www.pensionhelp.org), PensionHelp America connects people who have questions about or problems with their retirement plans to the resources that can help them, free of charge. Based on pensioners' answers to a few questions, PensionHelp America will connect the pensioner with the legal service providers and government agencies that can help.

1350 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 206

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 296-3776

1-888-420-6550

[www.pensionrights.org](http://www.pensionrights.org)