



Neighborhood Legal Services Association

WHO ARE WE?

Neighborhood Legal Services Association (NLSA) is a private, nonprofit corporation created in 1966 to provide high-quality, free civil legal services to low-income individuals, the elderly and the abused of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence Counties. Our mission is to meet the civil legal needs of the poor and vulnerable in our community through effective legal representation and education.

WHO DO WE HELP?

Troubled Families

- Victims of Domestic Violence
- Custodial parents and primary caretakers
- Individuals seeking divorce, support, visitation, and partial custody

People Eligible for Public Benefits

- Individuals whose Social Security benefits are being terminated or reduced
- Individuals facing terminations or denials of:
 - Unemployment benefits
 - Cash Assistance
 - Food Stamps
 - Medical Assistance (Medicaid)
 - Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Low-Income Tenants

- Individuals wrongfully threatened with lock-out or eviction
- Individuals and families improperly denied public or subsidized housing or discriminated against when attempting to rent
- Individuals seeking advice on habitability or security deposit issues

Low-Income Consumers

- Consumers who face loss of their homes/essential property through forced public sales (sheriff or tax sales, mortgage foreclosures, executions on personal property)
- Individuals harmed by denial or termination of essential utilities
- Individuals needing bankruptcy to preserve housing, essential property or termination of utilities
- Individuals harmed by predatory lending
- Individuals harmed by unfair debt collection/credit law violations

Low-Income Workers

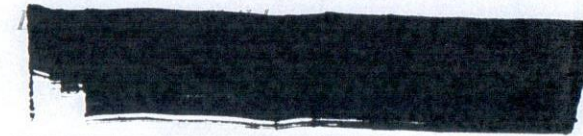
- Individuals who are owed wages
- Individuals needing criminal records expunged or a pardon

- Individuals needing unfounded child abuse allegations removed to obtain employment
- Individuals facing discrimination
- Individuals denied Family and Medical Leave benefits

*Low-Income Elderly (60 and above)**

- Victims of physical, emotional or financial abuse
- Elderly needing living wills, powers of attorney, health care planning and alternatives to guardianship
- Elderly who are subjects of guardianship and /or protective services proceedings

*NLSA provides some elderly services without regard to income/assets through special county subcontracts.



WHAT TYPE OF HELP CAN YOU GET?

We may provide you with direct representation, advice, assistance in self-representation, brief service/limited legal assistance or referral to a private attorney (including free and reduced-fee). We also provide community education on legal topics. Free interpretation services are provided to those with limited English abilities and the hearing-impaired.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR HELP?

NLSA provides civil legal services to low-income residents with limited assets in Allegheny, Butler, Beaver and Lawrence Counties and to victims of domestic violence who are seeking help under the Protection From Abuse Act.

*NLSA does NOT represent people in non-priority or case restricted areas. See our website for a list of exclusions.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

All of our services are free of charge to eligible clients. In a small number of cases, clients may be required to pay some court costs.

ASSISTANCE FROM PRIVATE ATTORNEYS

NLSA is able to serve more people in need through its Pro Bono Referral Programs. Eligible clients are referred to private attorneys for free or reduced-fee representation in certain ways.

SHARING RESOURCES

In order to provide more services to our clients, NLSA shares resources and expertise with neighboring legal services programs in the Southwestern Pennsylvania area (www.swplsc consortium.org) and the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network.

WHO TO CALL FOR HELP

To find out if you qualify for legal assistance from NLSA, please call the office in your county.

Bridgewater Office 724-378-0595

Butler 724-282-3888

New Castle Office 724-658-2677

Pittsburgh Office (toll-free) 866-761-6572

WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?

You can visit our website at www.nlsa.us. You can also obtain legal information on a variety of legal topics by visiting www.PALawHELP.org.

HOW CAN YOU HELP NLSA?

The demand for NLSA services and the cost of providing these services are continually increasing. While NLSA receives federal, state, and county funding in addition to grants from the private sector, we rely on contributions from individuals like you. Contributions of any size are appreciated and are tax-deductible. If you are able to contribute, you may send your donation to the address on the back of this brochure or you can donate online at www.nlsa.us.

www.nlsa.us



Funded, in part, by the Commonwealth and through a contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCEd). The official registration and financial information of Neighborhood Legal Services Association may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Federal regulations applying to NLSA require that we notify all donors that no funds can be expended by NLSA for any activity prohibited under P.L. 104-134 or otherwise prohibited by 45 C.F.R. §1600 et seq.

NLSA

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NLSA GUIDE
TO HELP

NLSA

