



Parishes We Serve

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation is a private, non-profit law firm. It provides free legal assistance in civil cases to seniors and those unable to afford it.

A grant from the Legal Services Corporation allows our attorneys and paralegals to represent low-income residents of the following parishes: Acadia, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline, Iberia, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Rapides, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Vermilion, and Vernon.

We have three offices located throughout this service area.

Eligibility for our services is based on an applicant's income, age, financial resources, the merits of the case, and availability of resources to address the client's needs.

Free Civil Legal Assistance

Main Office:
1020 Surrey Street
P.O. Box 4823
Lafayette, LA 70501

Phone: (337) 237-4320
Fax: (337) 237-8839
Toll-Free: (800) 256-1175
Email: alsclaf@la-law.org
Website: www.la-law.org

These are examples of the types of cases our attorneys and paralegals handle for our clients:

Consumer

Bankruptcy, Collection, Repossessions, Garnishment, Contracts, Warranties, Credit Access, Energy, Loans, Installment Purchases, Utilities, Unfair Sales Practices.

Education

Special Education and Disciplinary Proceedings

Employment

Job Discrimination, Wage Claims

Family

Adoption, Custody, Visitation, Divorce, Annulment, Guardianship, Name Change, Parental Rights, Paternity, Spousal Abuse, Child Support, Tutorship, Emancipation

Juvenile

Child in Need of Care, Families in Need of Supervision, Parental Rights Termination, Child Abuse, Child Neglect

Health

Medicaid, Medicare, Nursing Homes, Veterans' Administration

Housing

Landlord-Tenant, Subsidized Housing, Homeownership, Real Property Disputes, Boundary Disputes, Title Problems, Foreclosures

Administrative

TANF, Black Lung, Food Stamps, Commodities, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, Unemployment Compensation, Veterans' Benefits, Other Income Maintenance

Civil Rights

Immigration, Naturalization, Mental Health, Prisoners' Rights, Rights of the Physically Disabled, Other Individual Rights

Miscellaneous

Incorporation, Dissolution, Indian/Tribal Law, Licenses (Auto & Other), Powers of Attorney, Torts, Wills, Successions (Probate), Interdictions

Free Civil Legal Assistance

ACADIANA LEGAL SERVICE CORPORATION



"...and justice for all."


**Acadiana Legal
Service Corporation**

Phone: (800) 256-1175

Our History

In 1974, President Richard M. Nixon signed the law creating the Legal Services Corporation, a private, non-profit corporation established to assure equal access to justice under the law for all Americans. Incorporated in 1978, Acadiana Legal Service Corporation was formed to meet the legal needs of the poor of six parishes of Acadiana. Expansions and mergers added five more parishes and later grants expanded our operations to serve residents of sixteen parishes. In 2002, we received funding to serve an additional five parishes in Southwest Louisiana, bringing the total to twenty-one.

Acadiana Legal Service Corporation is governed by a Board of Directors made up of eligible clients, local attorneys, and representatives of local civic and social service agencies.

We do not charge clients any fee for our services. Daily, our staff dedicate themselves to the concept of "justice for all."

Our Divisions

Legal Services of Central Louisiana

In the parishes of Central Louisiana, we operate as Legal Services of Central Louisiana, which has its office in Alexandria.

Louisiana Disability Law Center

We operate a separate law center in Lake Charles which handles Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability appeals from throughout the state, in the Federal Court system.

Children in Need of Care

Since January of 2010, we have contracted with the State of Louisiana to represent children removed from their homes by the State in Child in Need of Care cases. This contract covers most, but not all of the twenty-one parishes in which we practice.

Getting Our Help

How to Contact Us for Help

Residents of parishes we serve should call the nearest office for assistance. It is not necessary to drive to one of our offices to apply for free help with your legal problem.

Our offices are open on Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Due to the high volume of requests for our services, and our limited funding, we are not able to assist everyone who asks for our help. The number of new applications taken each week in each of our offices depends upon the levels of our current staffing, and our obligations to existing clients.

It may be necessary to call on more than one day before we will be able to take your application for our services.

Our Services

Types of Problems We Handle

Our firm has four practice groups, each handling different types of legal matters. Through the Administrative, Family, Litigation, and Child in Need of Care units, cases are handled as follows:

The Administrative Law Unit handles cases which involve all types of public benefits (Medicaid, Food Stamps, TANF, Social Security Disability, etc.). We provide direct representation of clients in administrative hearings and in cases which require judicial review.

The Family Law Unit provides legal assistance, under certain circumstances, with adoptions, custody or visitation, divorces, child support, and other matters involving families and children.

The Litigation Unit's cases include employment and consumer matters (including bankruptcies when home foreclosure or wage garnishment is imminent), housing problems (including evictions and foreclosure defense), education, civil rights, wills, and estates.

The Child in Need of Care Unit represents children who have been taken into State custody as a result of abuse or neglect.

Our Offices

Offices

Lafayette

1020 Surrey Street
(337) 237-4320
(800) 256-1175

Lake Charles

1 Lakeshore Drive, #800
(337) 439-0377
(877) 256-0639

Alexandria

1808 Jackson Street
(318) 443-7281
(800) 256-4343

You can find other providers of free legal help, and a great deal of legal information and self-help materials by visiting the following website:

www.louisianalawhelp.org

Help for Seniors

Elderly Legal Services

Through separate grants from local area agencies on aging, residents of the following parishes who are 60 years of age or over may be eligible for free help, regardless of their income or assets:

Acadia, Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Cameron, Catahoula, Concordia, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Lafayette, LaSalle, Rapides, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Vermilion, Vernon, and Winn.

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