# Free & Affordable Legal Help In Cook County

# **ABOUT THIS GUIDE**

This guide will help you connect with:

- Free and low-cost legal help in Cook County
- Free online legal information and court forms
- Fee-based lawyer referral services, including those who handle just part of your case or coach you on handling the case on your own
- Court-based help desks and other resources for people without lawyers
- Answers to commonly asked questions about getting legal help

# **GETTING STARTED**

# Call CARPLS Legal Advice Hotline at (312) 738-9200.

CARPLS is Cook County's legal aid hotline. It is staffed by lawyers who can give free legal advice by phone. If there is a legal aid or pro bono organization that may be able to offer more help, the CARPLS lawyers will tell you who else to call. You can learn more about CARPLS and other options for getting legal help in this guide.

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# **GETTING STARTED – MORE INFORMATION**

# Call CARPLS Legal Advice Hotline (312-738-9200)

- The CARPLS Legal Advice Hotline is open from Monday Friday from 9:00am 4:30pm (7:30pm on Monday/Wednesday). CARPLS lawyers give free legal advice and will tell you where to call if another legal organization may be able to take your case.
- Many people call CARPLS for free legal help. If you get a busy signal, call back at another time, but keep trying. If the wait time is more than 20 minutes, you may be asked to leave your number and a CARPLS lawyer will call you back.
- CARPLS helps people up to 350% of the Federal Poverty Level. You can find the current poverty levels at: <u>https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines</u>.

Learn More with Illinois Legal Aid Online (<u>www.IllinoisLegalAid.org</u>) (www.IllinoisLegalAid.org/es - Español) (www.IllinoisLegalAid.org/pl - Polski)

- Find free information, forms, and videos on over 30 areas of law.
- Create court forms tailored to your needs by answering questions with "Easy Form" apps.
- Apply online or by text for free and low-cost legal services. Go to <u>www.illinoislegalaid.org/get-legal-help</u> or text "help" or "ayuda" to 85622.
- Real-time chat is also available Monday through Friday. Press the blue "Chat with us" button to get help finding the best resources.

# **Low-Cost Options**

There are good lawyers who charge reasonable fees. They may be able to handle just part of your case or coach you on handling the case on your own.

- JEP Lawyers
  - JEP lawyers provide quality legal services with flexible representation options.
  - Learn more at <u>www.jepchicago.org</u> or call 312-546-3282.
- Greater Chicago Legal Clinic
  - The Greater Chicago Legal charges clients sliding scale fees based on their ability to pay.
  - Learn more at <u>www.gclclaw.org</u> or call 312-726-2938.

# The Chicago Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service

- The Lawyer Referral Services connects people to experienced lawyers who charge fees for their time and services.
- Some kinds of cases allow lawyers to earn fees, but clients do not pay for those services.
  Some examples are personal injury and consumer fraud cases.
- Learn more or find a lawyer at <u>www.lrs.chicagobar.org</u> or 312-554-2001.

### **Other Lawyer Referral Services**

- Cook County Bar Association (<u>www.cookcountybar.org</u>)
- Illinois State Bar Association (<u>www.zeekbeek.com/isba</u> or 800-922-8757)
- North Suburban Bar Association (<u>www.ilnsba.org</u>)
- South Suburban Bar Association (<u>www.southsuburbanbar.org</u> or 708-633-9700)
- Southwest Bar Association (<u>www.southwestbar.org</u>)
- West Suburban Bar Association (708-338-2662)

### **Other Helpful Websites and Information**

- Illinois Court Help
  www.ilcourthelp.gov
  - Free help and information with the court process
- Circuit Clerk of Cook County
  <u>www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org</u>
  - o Court forms, online dockets, and case information
- Circuit Court of Cook County
  <u>www.cookcountycourt.org</u>
  - Information about court operations and services (including disability access)
  - o Information for people without lawyers, including free resources for legal help
- Illinois Supreme Court Access to Justice
  www.illinoiscourts.gov/CivilJustice/AccessToJustice.asp
  - o Statewide standardized forms, language access resources, and e-filing guides

# **COMMON QUESTIONS**

# Can I get a free lawyer?

It depends on the type of help you need. In non-criminal or "civil" cases, you usually do not have the right to a free lawyer, but there are many legal aid and pro bono programs that provide free legal help if you meet their income and other eligibility guidelines.

# What types of cases do free lawyers take?

Pro bono and legal aid programs provide free (sometimes called pro bono) legal help in many kinds of cases, including:

- Family (divorce, child custody and support, domestic violence, guardianship)
- Housing (evictions, foreclosure, condition of property)
- Money and Debt (bills, debt, utility shutoff, bankruptcy)
- Public Benefits (food stamps, unemployment, Social Security, Social Security disability, Medicaid, TANF)
- Immigration (citizenship, asylum, visas)
- Most programs do not take criminal cases. If you have a criminal case, you may need to hire a lawyer or ask for a public defender (312-603-0600 in Cook County).

### Do I need a lawyer?

Lawyers are trained to know what the law says about your legal problem, what your options are, how to help you decide what's best for your case, and how to present your case. For many legal issues, it is best to have help from a lawyer. For simpler issues, you may be able to handle the case on your own. To help decide whether you need a lawyer, consider:

- 1. How important is the matter to you? The more important the matter, the more important it is to have a lawyer.
- 2. How much is at stake if you do not win? If a lot is at stake, it is important to have a lawyer.
- 3. How complex is your legal issue? If your matter is complicated, legal help may be needed.
- 4. How comfortable are you filling out forms and speaking in court? If you are not comfortable with forms or speaking in public, help from a lawyer is important.
- 5. Does the other side have a lawyer? If so, it may be more important to have a lawyer.

# **COURT-BASED HELP DESKS**

Court-based help desks provide same-day legal information or advice and help with forms. Help desks do not generally provide in-court representation.

# Learn more about court-based help desks online:

### **State Court Matters in Cook County**

- <u>www.cookcountycourt.org</u> (Information available under "For People without Lawyers")
- <u>www.chicagobarfoundation.org/category/resources/courts/</u> (Lists of resources at the Daley Center, the Markham Courthouse, and the Leighton Criminal Courthouse)

### Bankruptcy Advice Desk in the Northern District of Illinois

• <u>www.ilnb.uscourts.gov/bankruptcy-assistance-desk</u>

### U.S. District Court Advice Desk (federal civil cases; by appointment only)

 <u>www.ilnd.uscourts.gov</u> (Information and online appointments under "Information for People without Lawyers")

### City of Chicago Administrative Hearings Advice Desk

• www.carpls.org/client-services/administrative-desk/

NOTE: Some help desks are operating remotely due to the pandemic. You can learn more about getting help desk services remotely <u>here</u>.

# ILLINOIS FREE LEGAL ANSWERS (INCLUDING CIVIL APPEALS)

Illinois Free Legal Answers is a virtual legal clinic. You can ask a question about any civil (noncriminal) legal problem on a secure website. If there is a lawyer who can help, you will get an answer emailed to you. This service also includes help with appealing a court decision. To ask a question:

- 1. Go to il.freelegalanswers.org.
- 2. Click "Get Started".
- 3. Complete the registration.
- 4. Verify the email address.
- 5. Login and ask your question.

# **DIRECTORY OF LEGAL AID SERVICES**

The legal aid services listed in this Guide provide free or low-cost legal help. Many websites have helpful information about their services, including the type of cases they accept, the areas they serve, and income guidelines.

#### **Accidents/Personal Injury**

Note: Private lawyers may take these cases in exchange for part of the money awarded at the end of the case. **Go to page 7 for more information about finding a private lawyer.** 

For defendants in small cases:

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

#### Adoption

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

For families adopting children from the foster care system:

Department of Child and Family Services 800.232.3798 https://www2.illinois.gov/dcfs/lovinghomes/ad option/Pages/default.aspx

For families impacted by HIV/AIDS:

Legal Council for Health Justice 312.427.8990 www.legalcouncil.org

#### **Artists & Arts Organizations**

Lawyers for the Creative Arts 312.649.4111 www.law-arts.org

#### **Bankruptcy/Debt Collection**

Bankruptcy Help Desk (Dirksen Federal Building, 219 S. Dearborn) advice and help with forms only 312.229.6344 www.ilnb.uscourts.gov/chicago-bankruptcypro-se-help-desk

Cook County Legal Aid for Housing & Debt (CCLAHD) 855.956.5763 www.cookcountylegalaid.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

For older adults and people with disabilities (debt collection help only):

Center for Disability & Elder Law 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org

#### **Child Abuse And Neglect**

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

For families in the child welfare system:

Ascend Justice charges fees based on ability to pay 312.325.9155 www.ascendjustice.org

#### **Child Custody**

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance 312.655.7700 www.catholiccharities.net

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

For people in jail or prison, serving a sentence, or facing criminal charges:

Cabrini Green Legal Aid 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

#### **Child Guardianship**

Minor Guardianship Assistance Desk call for an appointment 312.603.0135

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance 312.655.7700 www.catholiccharities.net

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

For people in jail or prison, serving a sentence, or facing criminal charges:

Cabrini Green Legal Aid 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

#### **Child Support/Child Visitation**

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance 312.655.7700 www.catholiccharities.net

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

For people in jail or prison, serving a sentence, or facing criminal charges:

Cabrini Green Legal Aid 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

#### **Civil Rights**

For discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, age or gender in housing or employment:

Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights 312.630.9744 www.clccrul.org

For people with disabilities:

Access Living discrimination based on disability in housing, government programs and access to businesses 312.640.2100 voice 312.640.2102 TTY www.accessliving.org

Equip for Equality discrimination based on disability in employment, special education, transportation settings and voting rights 800.537.2632 voice 800.610.2779 TTY www.equipforequality.org

#### *For people with HIV/AIDS:*

Legal Council for Health Justice 312.427.8990

www.legalcouncil.org

For people who are homeless:

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless 312.641.4140 800.940.1119 toll free www.chicagohomeless.org

For discrimination based on sexual orientation:

Lambda Legal 312.663.4413 www.lambdalegal.org

For employment discrimination:

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

For immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers:

National Immigrant Justice Center 312.660.1370 www.immigrantjustice.org

For discrimination in housing:

John Marshall Fair Housing Clinic 312.786.2267 www.jmls.edu/clinics/fairhousing

For prisoner civil rights:

Uptown People's Law Center 773.769.1411 www.uplcchicago.org

**Community-Based Organizations** SEE SMALL BUSINESSES AND NON-PROFITS (PAGE 19)

#### **Consumer Issues**

Note: In this area, the law sometimes requires the other side to pay your lawyer's fees if you win the case. **Go to page 7 for more information about finding a private lawyer.** 

#### Cook County Legal Aid for Housing & Debt (CCLAHD) 855.956.5763 www.cookcountylegalaid.org

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance 312.655.7700 www.catholiccharities.net

Greater Chicago Legal Clinic charges fees based on ability to pay 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

For people with HIV/AIDS:

Legal Council for Health Justice 312.427.8990 www.legalcouncil.org

For older adults and people with disabilities:

Center for Disability & Elder Law 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org

#### **Criminal Law**

Note: The public defender is the main provider of free criminal defense. If you don't get a public defender, you may need to pay for a criminal lawyer to take your case.

Cook County Public Defender 312.603.0600

Federal Defender Program 312.621.8300

Office of the State Appellate Defender 217.814.5472 www2.illinois.gov/osad

#### Chicago Bar Association Bar Attorney Program

lawyers in traffic and criminal courts provide legal help for a reasonable fee or a cash bond 312.554.2001 voice 312.554.2055 TTY https://lrs.chicagobar.org/

#### Cabrini Green Legal Aid

criminal defense program that helps a limited number of people (excludes arrests for DUI, traffic cases, murder, manslaughter, sex crimes or animal cruelty) 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

For youth 24 and younger in North Lawndale:

Lawndale Christian Legal Center 773-762-6381 www.lclc.net

For youth 26 and younger in Evanston:

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy 847.492.1410 www.moran-center.org

If you or someone you know is arrested, detained or called in for questioning by the Chicago Police, call any time, 24/7:

First Defense Legal Aid 1.800.LAW.REP4 (1.800.529.7374) www.first-defense.org

#### Disability

For discrimination based on disability in employment, special education, transportation settings and voting rights:

Equip for Equality 800.537.2632 voice 800.610.2779 TTY www.equipforequality.org

For discrimination based on disability in housing accommodation, government programs and access to businesses:

Access Living 312.640.2100 voice 312.640.2102 TTY www.accessliving.org

*For public benefits, employment discrimination and special education:* 

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

For social security disability benefits:

Uptown People's Law Center 773.769.1411 www.uplcchicago.org

#### **Divorce (Dissolution of Marriage)**

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

For people in jail or prison, serving a sentence, or facing criminal charges:

Cabrini Green Legal Aid 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

For older adults and people with disabilities:

Center for Disability & Elder Law 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org

#### **Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault**

Need help now? Call the IL Domestic Violence Helpline at 1.877.863.6338 (open 24/7)

Ascend Justice 312.325.9155 www.ascendjustice.org

Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation 773.244.2230 www.caase.org

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

Life Span Center for Legal Services & Advocacy 312.408.1210 www.life-span.org

*For victims of domestic violence/sexual assault with immigration needs:* 

Ascend Justice 312.325.9155 www.ascendjustice.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

National Immigrant Justice Center 312.660.1370 www.immigrantjustice.org

North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic 847.737.4042 www.nslegalaid.org

#### Education

**Equip for Equality Special Education Helpline** *help getting appropriate education services* 1-866-KIDS-046 (1-866-543-7046)

Access Living failure to serve or accommodate students with disabilities in educational setting 312.640.2100 voice 312.640.2102 TTY www.accessliving.org

Equip for Equality special education 800.537.2632 voice 800.610.2779 TTY www.equipforeguality.org

Legal Aid Chicago special education, school discipline, vocational colleges 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights school discipline 312.738.9200 www.clccrul.org

Evanston residents:

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy school discipline cases and special education in Evanston 847.492.1410 www.moran-center.org

#### **Older Adults (Elderly)**

Center for Disability & Elder Law 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org

# CBA Senior Citizens Will Program

at various Chicago area senior centers; costs range from \$50 to \$125 312.554.2001 Irs.chicagobar.org/pages/senior-wills

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

#### Employment

Note: In this area, the law sometimes requires the other side to pay your lawyer's fees if you win the case. **Go to page 7 for more information about finding a private lawyer.** 

Illinois Department of Human Rights 312.814.6200 voice 866.740.3953 TTY http://www2.illinois.gov/dhr

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission 312.872.9744 voice 866.740.3953 TTY www.eeoc.gov Access Living employment discrimination based on a disability 312.640.2100 voice 312.640.2102 TTY www.accessliving.org

Lambda Legal employment discrimination based on sexual orientation 312.663.4413 www.lambdalegal.org

Legal Council for Health Justice employment discrimination based on HIV/AIDS 312.427.8990 www.legalcouncil.org

Equip for Equality employment discrimination based on disability 800.537.2632 voice 800.610.2779 TTY www.equipforequality.org

#### **Eviction/Landlord-Tenant**

Cook County Legal Aid for Housing & Debt (CCLAHD) help for both landlords and tenants 855.956.5763 www.cookcountylegalaid.org

Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing 312.347.7600 www.lcbh.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services represents both landlords and tenants 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services 312.986.4105 www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

For evictions and voucher terminations for people with Housing Choice (Section 8) Vouchers and people living in public housing or projectbased Section 8 housing:

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic 847.737.4042 www.nslegalaid.org

Uptown People's Law Center 773.769.1411 www.uplcchicago.org

For evictions, voucher terminations or denials of admission based on criminal legal involvement:

Cabrini Green Legal Aid 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

For older adults and people with disabilities:

Center for Disability & Elder Law 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org

#### **Expungement/Sealing Of Criminal Records**

Cabrini Green Legal Aid 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Illinois State Appellate Defender's Office 217.814.5472 www2.illinois.gov/osad/Pages/default.aspx For Cannabis Cases:

New Leaf Illinois 855.963.9532 www.newleafillinois.org

For Juvenile Expungement:

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

For Evanston youth and their families:

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy 847.492.1410 www.moran-center.org

#### Foreclosure

Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) 312.8367.5200 www.ihda.org

Cook County Legal Aid for Housing & Debt (CCLAHD) 855.956.5763 www.cookcountylegalaid.org

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

#### For tenants facing eviction due to a foreclosure:

Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing 312.347.7600 www.lcbh.org

#### **Guardianship for Adults with Disabilites**

Center for Disability & Elder Law 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Cook County Public Guardian 312.603.0800 www.publicguardian.org

For guardianship defense:

Equip for Equality 800.537.2632 voice 800.610.2779 TTY www.equipforequality.org

### Housing

SEE ALSO LANDLORD-TENANT (PAGE 16), FORECLOSURE (PAGE 17), OR DISABILITY (PAGE 13)

#### Immigration

There are many community-based immigration service providers in Chicago. For a complete list, go to: <u>https://www.immigrationadvocates.org.</u>

National Immigrant Justice Center 312.660.1370 www.immigrantjustice.org Centro Romero 773.508.5300 www.centroromero.org

Greater Chicago Legal Clinic charges fees based on ability to pay 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

Latinos Progresando 773.542.7077 Ext: 10 www.latinospro.org

World Relief – Immigration Legal Services 773.583.9191 https://worldreliefchicago.org/

For victims of domestic and sexual violence:

Ascend Justice 312.325.9155 www.ascendjustice.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Legal Aid Society of Metro. Family Services 312.986.4105 https://www.metrofamily.org/legal-aid-society/

Life Span Center for Legal Services & Advocacy 312.408.1210 www.life-span.org

**Insurance Benefits** SEE ALSO PUBLIC BENEFITS (PAGE 18)

Legal Council for Health Justice 312.427.8990 www.legalcouncil.org

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

#### **Intellectual Property**

The Community Law Project 312.939.3638 www.clccrul.org/community-law-project/

For artists and arts-based organizations:

Lawyers for the Creative Arts 312.649.4111 www.law-arts.org

#### **Child Abuse and Neglect**

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Cook County Public Guardian 312.433.4300 www.publicguardian.org

For families in the child welfare system:

Ascend Justice charges fees based on ability to pay 312.325.9155 www.ascendjustice.org

#### Mediation

Center for Conflict Resolution 312.922.6464 www.ccrchicago.org

#### **Civil Mental Health**

Center for Disability & Elder Law 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org

Cook County State's Attorney 312.603.8600 www.cookcountystatesattorney.org Cook County Public Guardian 312.603.0800 www.publicguardian.org

#### **Prisoner Issues**

For civil rights issues on behalf of prisoners:

Uptown People's Law Center 773.769.1411 www.uplcchicago.org

For people with disabilities:

Equip for Equality 312.341.0022 800.537.2632 voice 800.610.2779 TTY www.equipforequality.org

#### For incarcerated mothers:

Cabrini Green Legal Aid 312.738.2452 www.cgla.net

For wrongful convictions:

Northwestern Law School Bluhm Legal Clinic, Center on Wrongful Convictions 312.503.8576 312.503.4472 TTY www.law.northwestern.edu/legalclinic

#### **Public Benefits**

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

Legal Council for Health Justice 312.427.8990 www.legalcouncil.org

#### For social security disability benefits:

Uptown People's Law Center 773.769.1411 www.uplcchicago.org

For people who are homeless:

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless 312.641.4141 800.940.1119 toll free www.chicagohomeless.org

For veterans benefits:

Illinois Armed Forced Legal Aid Network 855.IL.AFLAN (855.452.3526) https://ilaflan.org/

John Marshall Law School Veterans Clinic 312.427.2737 www.jmls.edu/veterans

#### **Real Estate Closings**

**Greater Chicago Legal Clinic** *charges fees based on ability to pay* 312.726.2938 www.gclclaw.org

#### **Small Businesses and Non-Profits**

The Community Law Project 312.938.3638 www.clccrul.org/community-law-project/

For organizations with an arts focus:

Lawyers for the Creative Arts 312.649.4111 www.law-arts.org

#### Taxes

Cook County Legal Aid for Housing & Debt (CCLAHD) for tax deed issues 855.956.5763 www.cookcountylegalaid.org

Ladder Up 312.409.1555 www.goladderup.org

#### Veterans

Note: The Illinois Armed Forces Legal Aid Network (<u>https://ilaflan.org/</u>) is a statewide hotline for veterans and active duty service members. <u>Call 855.IL.AFLAN (855.452.3526) for</u> <u>free legal help.</u>

Center for Disability & Elder Law monthly clinics at Jesse Brown VA Medical Center and Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital 312.376.1880 www.cdelaw.org Chicago Volunteer Legal Services 312.332.1624 www.cvls.org

Legal Aid Chicago 312.341.1070 www.legalaidchicago.org

John Marshall Law School Veterans Legal Clinic veteran benefit claims www.jmls.edu/veterans

# **GETTING HELP OUTSIDE OF COOK COUNTY**

Free or low-cost legal help is also available outside Cook County. Go to <u>https://www.illinoislegalaid.org/get-legal-help</u> to learn more.

In Northern and parts of Central Illinois:

In Southern and parts of Central Illinois:

Prairie State Legal Services go to their website for information and locations of their offices 800.531.7057 www.pslegal.org Land of Lincoln Legal Aid go to their website for information and locations of their offices 877.342.7891 www.lollaf.org