

HARRIS

County Seat – Houston

Lone Star Legal Aid

800-733-8394 (Main Office)

www.lonestarlegal.org

Provides free legal assistance in a wide-range of civil matters to eligible, low-income Texans; for family law cases call Monday 8:30am-12:30pm; for other civil matters call Tuesday through Friday 8:30am-12:30pm

Advocate Legal Senior Center

713-527-4029 (Main Office)

Provides legal services on a pro bono and sliding scale basis to senior citizens residing in and around Harris County

AdvoCourt For Kids

713-681-7300 (Main Office)

Accepts pro bono appointments for children in divorce and custody proceedings of the family courts in Harris and surrounding counties; Amicus attorneys assist the courts in determining the best interests for the child

Aid To Victims Of Domestic Abuse

713-224-9911 (Main Office)

www.avda-tx.org

Provides free legal representation to domestic violence victims; handles family law cases including protective orders, divorce, child custody, child support, and termination of parental rights

Bay Area Turning Point

281-338-7600 (Main Office)

www.bayareaturningpoint.org

Provides legal advocacy for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, particularly with obtaining protective orders and referrals to free and sliding scale legal assistance

Boat People SOS, Inc.

281-530-6888 (Main Office)

www.bpsos.org

Provides civil legal assistance for low-income Vietnamese Texans in the areas of family law, immigration, landlord-tenant and wills

The Bridge Over Troubled Waters

713-472-0753 (Main Office)

www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org

Provides legal advocacy and support services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and the homeless

Cabrini Center For Immigrant Legal Assistance

713-874-6570 (Main Office)

www.catholiccharities.org

Handles a wide range of immigration matters including, but not limited to, family-based visa petitions, citizenship applications, asylum proceedings, adjustment of status for refugees and asylees, legal assistance to immigrant crime victims and representation of unaccompanied minors

Cathedral Justice Project (Cathedral Health And Outreach Ministries)

713-220-9780 (Main Office)

cjphouston.org/Home_Page.html

Provides civil legal services to the poor and homeless in Harris county, including but not limited to, public benefits, housing, employment, disability, wills, consumer law, and municipal code violations

Consejos Legales

713-759-1133 (Main Office)

www.mabah.com/consejos-legales.htm

Offers free legal advice over the phone for Spanish speakers on the 1st Thursday of every month from 6-8pm

Disability Rights Texas

800-880-0821 (Houston)

800-252-9108 (Main Office)

www.disabilityrightsbx.org

Handles disability-related issues including access and discrimination

Earl Carl Institute For Legal And Social Policy, Inc.

713-313-1139 (Main Office)

www.earlcarlinstitute.org

Provides services that range from counsel and advice on property of various estate documents, property title documents and non-profit incorporation documents for low-income Texans

Family Violence Center – Northwest Assistance Ministries

888-750-4673 (Main Office)
www.namonline.org

Provides legal advocacy for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, particularly with obtaining protective orders and referrals to free and sliding scale legal assistance

Fort Bend County Women's Center, Inc.

281-342-4357 (Richmond)
281-344-5750 (Main Office)

www.fortbendwomenscenter.org

Partners with Lone Star Legal Aid and Fort Bend Lawyers Care to assist domestic violence victims through the legal process

Harris County Dispute Resolution Center

713-755-8274 (Main Office)

www.co.harris.tx.us/DRC

Provides community, civil and family mediation services for county residents

Harris County Domestic Relations Office

713-755-6757 (Main Office)

www.dro.hctx.net

Assists in child support and visitation enforcement, conducts social study investigations, and provides mediation services

Houston Area Women's Center

713-528-6798 (Main Office)

www.hawc.org

Provides legal advocacy for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault; referrals to free and sliding scale legal assistance

Houston Volunteer Lawyers

713-228-0735 (Main Office)

www.MakeJusticeHappen.org

Provides free legal services to low income residents of Harris County by linking qualified applicants with volunteer attorneys. Also offers a variety of free legal advice clinics on a walk-in basis. Areas of service include family law, wills, consumer, tax and guardianship. Does not provide extended representation with criminal, traffic, or fee-generating matters.

Houston Volunteer Lawyers AIDS Project

713-228-0732 (Main Office)

www.MakeJusticeHappen.org

Provides free legal assistance to eligible low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS. Legal assistance may be provided in the areas of family law, estate planning and probate, tax, guardianships, Social Security appeals and consumer matters. Does not provide legal assistance in traffic, criminal, or fee-generating matters.

Montgomery County Women's Center

936-441-4044 (Main Office)

www.mcwctx.org

Provides free legal representation to eligible victims of family violence, stalking, or sexual assault who need assistance on family law issues

New Horizon Family Center

281-424-3300 (Main Office)

www.newhorizonfamilycenter.com

Provides legal advocacy for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, particularly with obtaining protective orders and referrals to free legal assistance

South Texas College Of Law Civil Practice Clinics

713-646-2990 (Main Office)

www.stcl.edu/clinics/index.html

Offers limited legal assistance through the law school's legal clinics, including family law, probate/estate planning, guardianship, and mediation through the school's mediation department; cannot handle cases requiring immediate attention

Tahrir Justice Center

713-496-0100 (Main Office)

www.tahrirh.org

Provides pro bono legal services in immigration and family law, as well as holistic case management support, social and medical service referrals

Thurgood Marshall School Of Law – Legal Clinics

713-313-7275 (Main Office)

www.tsulaw.edu/clinic/index.html

Offers limited assistance through the law school (legal clinics), including criminal misdemeanors (Harris County only), probate, guardianship (incapacitated adults), simple wills, simple divorces, and immigration matters

University Of Houston Clinical Programs

713-743-2094 (Main Office)

www.law.uh.edu/clinic/civil.html

Offers very limited legal assistance through several, varied law clinics such as the Civil Clinic, Immigration Clinic, Transactional Law, and Consumer Law. Does not offer legal advice; all cases accepted are pro bono and for the students

Veterans Legal Initiative

713-228-0735 (Main Office)

www.MakeJusticeHappen.org

Provides advice and counsel to any veteran or spouse of a deceased veteran every Friday, from 2 pm until 5 pm, at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, 2002 Holcombe Blvd, Houston 77030. The clinic is held on the first floor, near the emergency room entrance. No appointment is necessary. Also conducts veterans clinics in surrounding areas.

The Victim Assistance Centre, Inc.

713-755-5625 (Main Office)

www.victimassistancecentre.com

Provides crime victims compensation application assistance, supervised group visitations, monitored visitations, private visits and therapeutic counseling for victims; legal advocacy for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, particularly with obtaining protective orders and referrals to free and sliding scale legal assistance

YMCA International Services

713-339-9015 (Main Office)

www.ymcahouston.org/ymca-international

Handles immigration matters only; asylum applicants, immigration education and referrals for victims of persecution or fear of persecution, trafficking victims, victims of crime and VAWA petitions; provides immigrant court representation and representation for naturalization and family based immigration

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES

(FULL FEE AND REDUCED FEE)

Lawyer referral services enroll licensed attorneys who pay the necessary registration fee and meet basic guidelines. Callers referred to a participating attorney by a lawyer referral service receive a half-hour consultation for no more than \$20. After the initial half-hour consultation, should the caller decide to authorize the lawyer to take action on their legal issue, the caller and lawyer may negotiate fees. These fees may be on a full or reduced fee basis, depending on the program the attorney is participating in.

Below is a list of the certified lawyer referral services in Texas. The State Bar of Texas operates the lawyer referral service for the areas of the state not covered by a local lawyer referral service.

State Bar of Texas Lawyer Referral Information Service.....800-252-9690
Serving all counties except Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, Jefferson, Nueces, Tarrant, and Travis

CERTIFIED LOCAL LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES

Arlington Bar Association	817-277-3113
Corpus Christi Bar Association.....	361-883-3971
Dallas Bar Association	214-220-7444
El Paso Bar Association	915-532-7052
Harris County Bar Association	713-236-8000
Houston Lawyer Referral Service*	713-237-9429 or 800-289-4577
*Also offers reduced fee attorneys for income-eligible individuals	
Jefferson County Bar Association	409-835-8438
Lawyer Referral Service of Central Texas*	512-472-8303 or 866-303-8303
*MATCH Program – reduced fee panel for family law, probate and uncontested guardianship cases; potential clients must ask for "MATCH" program by name	
North Dallas Bar Association	972-980-0472
Plano Bar Association	972-424-6113
San Antonio Bar Association	210-227-1853
Tarrant County Bar Association	817-336-4101

INTRODUCTION TO PRO SE (SELF-HELP) RESOURCES

Major problems impacting access to the justice system in Texas include limited resources, funding restrictions, proximity to legal services in rural areas, and a rapidly increasing poverty population. The programs listed in this directory receive many requests for legal assistance, more than any program can accommodate. As a result, these programs can only assist a fraction of the requests received. Consequently, in some situations, individuals seeking legal assistance may have no choice other than to represent themselves in a legal matter.

ONLINE SELF-HELP RESOURCES

TexasLawHelp.org

Website provides free, reliable civil legal information to low-income Texans. A LiveChat operator is available Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm to help you navigate the website.

SELF-HELP RESOURCES FOR CIVIL MATTERS

HARRIS

Disability Rights Texas

1500 McGowen, Ste. 100

Houston, TX 77004

713-974-7691

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., M-F

Assists the disabled with pro se services

Harris County Courthouse, HVLP Courthouse Booth Family Law Center

1115 Congress, Basement

Houston, Texas 77002

No phone inquiries, provides in person assistance only

Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. M-F

Assists pro se litigants in filling out forms or provides appropriate referrals (attorney(s) on premises)