
Advocating for equal justice for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Legal Services Civil Matter

If you need assistance for a criminal charge and you are indigent, the court will appoint a public defender. If you need assistance for a civil matter such as a divorce or other matrimonial case, social security appeal, veterans benefits appeal, landlord/tenant, here are some agencies to contact:

Community Health Law Project

Administrative offices: (973)275-1175

Four District Offices around the State: www.chlp.org

Housing, Family, Consumer, Social Security Appeals

Help people with MH, DD, physical disability

Legal Services of New Jersey

Landlord/Tenant Hotline: (888) 576-5529

Prisoner Re-Entry Program (732)572-9100, expungements

Also Main Number: (732)572-9100

Located in Central Jersey

Volunteer Lawyers for Justice, handle civil matters like family matters

Located in Essex but call intake since some programs are statewide

(973)645-1955

Guardianship Assistance Program:

Free consultation and sliding scale fees

Guardianship representation: (609)444-6653

Community Justice Center: Social Security and Veterans Appeals

Located in Trenton but serves Mercer, Somerset, Hunterdon

Possibly can represent in other counties so call intake:
(609)218-5120

Education Law Center: Intake Coordinator: Aimee Roche

(973)624-1815

Check for **Local Legal Services** in Specific County

These are divided geographically:

South Jersey Legal Services (609)348-4200 (in Atlantic but serve other South Jersey counties like Burlington and Camden)

Northeast New Jersey Legal Services (201)487-2166 (in Bergen but serves other North Jersey counties)

Legal Services of Northwest Jersey (908) 782-9761 (in Hunterdon but includes Sussex and Warren)

Central Jersey Legal Services: (732)249-7600 in Middlesex

Bergen County Community Mental Health Law Project: (201)634-2762

Also if person wants a private attorney to hire:

Send them to the **Lawyer Referral Service** for their **County Bar Association-this is a different organization in each county**: they'll provide names by specialty and they often have attorneys who will discuss sliding scale rates.