

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD - DISABILITY NETWORK DIRECTORY

Legal Services

Montgomery County, Maryland ('the County') cannot guarantee the relevance, completeness, accuracy, or timeliness of the information provided on the non-County links. The County does not endorse any non-County organizations' products, services, or viewpoints. The County is not responsible for any materials stored on other non-County web sites, nor is it liable for any inaccurate, defamatory, offensive or illegal materials found on other Web sites, and that the risk of injury or damage from viewing, hearing, downloading or storing such materials rests entirely with the user. Alternative formats of this document are available upon request.

ADA Information Line - Disability Rights Section

U.S. Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530

1-800-514-0301 (V)

1-800-514-0383 (TTY)

www.ada.gov

Provide general ADA information, answer technical questions and investigate complaints, ADA enforcement information, ADA Title II and III regulations, and ADA statute. ADA Specialists are available to provide ADA information and answers to technical questions on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. or on Thursday from 12:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time). Calls are confidential.

ADA National Network - Mid-Atlantic ADA Center

Marian Vessels, Director

12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 350

Rockville, MD 20852

1-800-949-4232 (Toll Free/TTY)

301-217-0124 (V/TTY)

www.adainfo.org

ADA specialists provide information and guidance on a wide range of ADA topics such as reasonable accommodations at work, building codes for new construction projects, accessible housing, and transitioning from school to work. Also develop and provide information specific to their state laws and regulations, and offer an extensive network of regional referrals. Provide training in-person or through distance technology such as webinars, podcasts and webcourses on all ADA topics such as: accessible information technology; ADA and education (pre-K through post-secondary); accessible architectural design; ADA and employment; accessible health care; emergency preparedness; and ADA and hospitality. Serve Delaware, D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia. **Disability Law Handbook:** www.swdbtac.org/html/publications/dlh/index.html

Guide to the basics of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other disability related laws. Written in a FAQ format, the Handbook answers questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act, the ADA Amendments Act, the Rehabilitation Act, Social Security, the Air Carrier Access Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, and the Fair Housing Act Amendments.

Alternative Directions, Inc.

2505 N. Charles Street

Baltimore, MD 21218

410-889-5072 (V)

E-mail: mkelly@alternativedirectionsinc.org

www.alternativedirectionsinc.org

Civil legal program assists the incarcerated population in representing themselves in pro se family law matters such as divorces, child support modification, name change, temporary guardianship, paternity, and visitation. Workshops are conducted at correctional facilities.

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Maryland

3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 350

Baltimore, MD 21211

301-270-2258 (Takoma Park – Field Office)

443-524-2558 (Civil Rights Complaint Line)

E-mail: aclu@aclu-md.org

www.aclu-md.org

Protect the constitutional rights of Americans through litigation, legislation, and public education. Provide legal representation in select cases. Complaint Line is in operation on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland and Office of Bar Counsel

200 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Suite 300

Annapolis, MD 21401

410-514-7051 (V)

E-mail: agcmd@agc.maryland.gov

www.mdcourts.gov/attygrievance/index.html

Oversees the conduct of both Maryland lawyers and nonmembers of the Maryland Bar who engage in the practice of law in the State. The Office of Bar Counsel investigates and, where indicated, prosecutes attorneys whose conduct violates the Maryland Lawyers' Rules of Professional Conduct as well as those engaged in the unauthorized practice of law. Bar Counsel also reviews notifications of overdrafts on attorney escrow accounts.

Bar Association of Montgomery County

27 West Jefferson Street
Rockville, MD 20850
301-424-3454 (V)

www.montbar.org

Assist low-income residents of Montgomery County obtain free legal representation and consultation.

Lawyer Referral Service:

301-279-9100 (V)

Referral service to attorneys in Montgomery County. A fee will be charged by the attorney for a 30 minute in-office consultation. Reduced fee services available for eligible residents. Telephone intakes only from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. No walk-ins.

Family Law Self-Help Center: Low income Montgomery County residents who want to proceed with a simple family law case without an attorney can get limited legal advice or general legal information from staff and volunteer attorneys. It is a FREE walk-in clinic located on the first floor of the Circuit Court for Montgomery County, Maryland, Judicial Center, 50 Maryland Ave, Room 1500 South Tower, Rockville, MD; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (arrive by 2:00 pm to be seen).

Pro Bono Program:

301-424-7651 (V)

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Volunteer private practice attorneys are solicited by the Program to provide free legal guidance and/or representation in the areas of absolute divorce, custody, name changes, adoption/guardianship, landlord tenant law, bankruptcy/debt collection matters, wills and powers of attorney, and in limited circumstances immigration and employment cases. Not equipped to handle emergency cases, modifications, or appeals. \$25.00 processing fee.

Pro Bono Legal Advice Clinics: Residents are served a first-come first-serve basis due to limited staffing. You must sign-in at each location during the first half hour of service to speak to an attorney that evening. Any residents needing specialized services or accommodations should contact the Pro Bono Office in advance.

- **Tess Community Service Center**

8513 Piney Branch Road
Silver Spring, MD 20901
1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.
Registration time: 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

- **Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity
Upcounty Regional Services Center**

12900 Middlebrook Road
Germantown, MD 20874
2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.
Registration time: 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

- **Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity
Gaithersburg Library**

18330 Montgomery Village Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
2nd and 4th Monday Evenings
Registration: 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

- **Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center**

3300 Briggs Chaney Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904
1st and 2nd Thursday of each month.
Registration time: 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

- **Ana G. Mendez University System**

Capital Area Campus
11006 Veirs Mill Road, Suite L-1
Wheaton, MD 20902
2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month
Registration time: 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Bazon Center for Mental Health Law

1101 15th Street, NW, Suite 1212
Washington, DC 20005
202-467-5730 (V)
202-467-4232 (TTY)
E-mail: communications@bazelon.org
www.bazelon.org

Attorneys work on issues and cases that push the envelope to guarantee rights, consumer choice, access to services, and autonomy to people with mental disabilities. Bazon Center attorneys provide technical support on legal matters and serve as co-counsel on selected lawsuits with private lawyers, legal services programs, ACLU chapters, and state protection and advocacy systems.

CASA de Maryland - Legal Services

8151 15th Avenue
Hyattsville, MD 20783
301-431-4185 (V)
<http://wearecasa.org/legal-services>

Provides a variety of legal services for low-income immigrants in housing, employment and immigration matters. CASA provides its members free legal consults on these matters during weekly intake sessions. Assistance in defending the legal rights of our members is accomplished through mass education sessions, advocacy, individual representation and impact litigation. Intakes are held Tuesdays at 8:00 am.

Catholic Charities – Legal Network

924 G Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
202-350-4305 (V)

www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/legalnetwork

Pro-bono civil legal services for low-income residents through volunteer attorneys, law firms and legal service providers. Assist with consumer debt/bankruptcy, employment, family law (including child custody and domestic violence), landlord-tenant/housing issues, public benefits (social security, disability), wills and probate, guardianship, and conservatorship. **Telephone Intake Hours:**

Monday: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm; Tuesday: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm; Wednesday: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 7:30 pm; Thursday: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 7:30 pm; Friday: 9:30 am to 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

Child Support Enforcement Office

Montgomery County Government

Christopher J. Kunz, Special Counsel
51 Monroe Street, Suite 811
Rockville, MD 20850
301-610-4510 (V)

E-mail: ckunz@dhr.state.md.us

Child support is handled by a State agency. Help to secure child support from absent parent by locating absent parents, proving the paternity, obtaining court orders for support, enforcing court orders, and collecting support payments. Lawyers are available to take the cases to court.

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund

510-644-2555 (V)

E-mail: info@dredf.org

www.dredf.org

Information on disability rights laws and issues.

Advocate for the legal rights of individuals and families with disabilities. Represent clients in state and federal court, serve as co-counsel and file amicus curiae briefs in appellate courts and the U.S. Supreme Court in high impact and law reform disability rights cases.

Educate lawyers, service providers, and government officials about civil rights laws and policies.

Disability Rights Maryland (formerly Maryland Disability Law Center)

1500 Union Avenue, Suite 2000
Baltimore, MD 21211

410-727-6352 (V)

410-235-5387 (TTY)

1-800-233-7201 (Toll Free)

www.disabilityrightsmd.org

Provide services to persons with disabilities such as information and referrals to callers about many different legal topics, investigations of complaints that persons with disabilities are abused, neglected, or mistreated, case advocacy for persons with disabilities to obtain certain services, legal representation, technical assistance and legal information to promote self-advocacy, and public education and training.

Equal Rights Center

11 Dupont Circle NW, Suite 450
Washington, DC 20036

202-234-3062 (V)

1-866-719-4374 (Toll Free)

www.equalrightscenter.org

Civil rights education and outreach about fair housing, fair employment, equal access to public accommodations and government services, disability rights, and immigrant rights. Counseling, advice, advocacy, investigations, and enforcements.

Family Law Self Help Center - Montgomery County Circuit Court - Judicial Center

50 Maryland Avenue
South Tower, 1st Floor Room 1500
Rockville, MD 20850

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/circuitcourt/self_Representing/index.html

Free walk-in clinic, staffed by attorneys, which provides either general legal information, or limited legal advice, in family law disputes involving divorce, custody, visitation, and child support. Doors open at 8:00 a.m. Lawyers begin taking intakes at 8:30 a.m. No new intake after 4:00 p.m. The Center can help determine which family law forms are the most appropriate, help with the completion of the forms, provide information on how to navigate the system, and the law in general. Designed to assist individuals who want to represent themselves in SIMPLE family matters only. If the family law matter is too complex, or otherwise inappropriate for the Center (e.g., domestic violence, exceptions, emergency petitions, contested matters, or complex property or support issues), a staff attorney will attempt to refer the client to an appropriate agency or program. Individuals with contested or complex cases should retain their own attorneys.

Federal Public Defender - District of Maryland

100 South Charles Street
BankAmerica Tower II, Suite 900
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-962-3962 (V)

www.md.fd.org

Provide effective representation to persons charged with federal criminal offenses who have been determined by the court to be indigent.

Homeless Persons Representation Project (HPRP)

201 N. Charles Street, Suite 104
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-685-6589 (V)
1-800-773-4340 (V)

E-mail: info@hprplaw.org

www.hprplaw.org

Provide free civil legal advice and representation to persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness through in-house staff of attorneys, advocates, and legal assistants and through pro bono (volunteer) attorney program where legal services are provided by private attorneys.

Montgomery County Intake Office

Shepherd's Table
8210 Dixon Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-585-6463 (V)

Intakes take place on the first Wednesdays of the month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the third Fridays of the month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Services are limited to those living in the Montgomery County area.

House of Ruth Maryland - Domestic Violence Legal Clinic

240-777-9077 (Montgomery County Office)
1-888-880-7884 (Legal Hotline)
E-mail: info@hruthmd.org

www.hruth.org

Provide free legal representation and advice through staff and volunteer lawyers for victims of domestic violence. Help victims of domestic violence obtain protective orders, peace orders, divorce decrees, custody of their children and child support. The agency also provides shelter, individual and group counseling, support groups, housing and employment advice for battered women, children's services and community education. Disability Outreach Program provides assistance to victims of domestic violence that also have disabilities (physical, sensory, emotional, cognitive, and developmental disabilities).

Inmate Grievance Office

6776 Reisterstown Road, Suite 200A
Baltimore, MD 21215
410-585-3840 (V)

<http://dpscs.maryland.gov/agencies/igo.shtml>

Review all grievances filed by State of Maryland prisoners.

Law, Health Policy & Disability Center

280-1 Boyd Law Building
Iowa City, IA 52242
319-335-8469 (V)

<http://disability.law.uiowa.edu>

Research, education, training, technical assistance, and outreach. Concentrate on public policy and its impact on persons with disabilities, with an emphasis on employment, self-determination and self-sufficiency. Promote the effective use of communications technologies and policies to inform the public and reduce suffering in the face of tragedy.

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

1401 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-662-8600 (V)
1-888-299-5227 (Toll Free)

www.lawyerscommittee.org

Handle employment discrimination, fair housing issues and immigration rights through class action. They do not provide direct legal representation based on individual requests. Represent the interest of African Americans in particular, other racial and ethnic minorities, and other victims of discrimination.

Maryland Commission on Civil Rights

William Donald Schaefer Tower
6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 900
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-767-8600 (V)
1-800-637-6247 (Toll Free)

www.mccr.maryland.gov

Ensure equal opportunity to all through the enforcement of Maryland's laws against discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Call for discrimination concerns and to file a grievance/complaint. Free mediation services to complainants and respondents involved in charges of discrimination filed in any of their statewide offices.

Maryland Legal Aid

Montgomery County Office

51 Monroe Street, Ste. 1200
Rockville, MD 20850
240-314-0370 (V)
1-888-215-5316 (Toll Free)

Main Office

500 East Lexington Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-951-7777 (V)

www.mdlab.org

Legal services program offering free civil legal services to financially qualified low-income Marylanders. Services include: consumer rights, elder rights, employment, family, farmworkers rights, government benefits, healthcare, and housing. Legal help information and self-help materials available at www.peoples-law.org.

Maryland Office of People's Counsel

William Donald Schaefer Tower
6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 2102
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-767-8150 (V)
1-800-207-4055 (Toll Free)
E-mail: DLInfo OPC@maryland.gov
www.opc.state.md.us

Represent Maryland's residential consumers of electricity, natural gas, telephone and private water services. Investigate consumer complaints, help resolve consumer problems with utility services and help consumers locate financial aid for utility aids. The Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission) holds public hearings to allow utility customers to provide comments on a pending case involving their utility. No fee for services.

Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA)

Speakers Bureau

520 W. Fayette Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-685-7878 (V)
1-800-492-1964 (Toll Free)

www.msba.org/public/speakersbureau/default.aspx

Provide speakers at no charge to business and community groups and schools on a variety of legal topics. Also publish free brochures about common legal problems and questions.

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, Inc.

120 W. North Avenue, Suite 305A
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-752-1633 (V)
E-mail: info@mdvla.org
www.mdvla.org

Provide lawyer referral services and pro bono legal assistance to income-eligible artists and arts organizations, and present educational workshops and seminars that focus on the legal aspects of arts related issues such as copyright, contracts, and entity formation, including nonprofit, tax-exempt corporations. A small fee is required to cover administrative costs.

Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service

410-547-6537 (Intake)
1-800-510-0050 (Toll Free)
www.mvlslaw.org

Intake Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free or low-cost legal representation in civil matters to Marylanders with limited income. Each eligible client is matched with a volunteer lawyer who has the appropriate skills and expertise to provide quality representation.

Montgomery County ADA Compliance

Nancy Greene, ADA Compliance Officer
101 Monroe Street, 9th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
240-777-6197 (V)
240-777-6196 (TTY)
E-mail: adacompliance@montgomerycountymd.gov
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dgs-ada/home.html

In Montgomery County the Department of General Services has overall responsibility for ensuring that the County's programs, services and activities are accessible for people with disabilities. The Department's ADA Compliance Team provides training and technical assistance to County departments, ensures that buildings and facilities are built and maintained in accordance with the ADA, provides information and assistance to the public on the accessibility of County programs and services and administers the County's Title II grievance procedure. The Office of Human Resources has responsibility for ensuring that the County's employment policies, procedures and practices are implemented in compliance with the ADA.

National Association of the Deaf (NAD) – Law and Advocacy Center

8630 Fenton Street, Suite 820
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-587-1788 (Videophone - ZVRS)
301-328-1443 (Videophone – Sorenson)
301-328-6380 (Videophone – Convo)
301-587-1789 (TTY)
www.nad.org

Clearinghouse for general legal information about deaf-related issues. Advocate on legislative and public policy issues of concern to the deaf and hard of hearing community, particularly at the national level and often in collaboration with other national organizations. Cover a wide range of issues including, but not limited to, captioning, early intervention, education, employment, emergency preparedness, health care, technology, and transportation. Attorneys represent deaf and hard of hearing individuals in disability discrimination civil rights cases that are carefully selected to establish powerful legal principles of equality and equal access. Attorneys also consult with lawyers who represent deaf or hard of hearing clients.

National Federation of the Blind

200 East Wells Street
Baltimore, MD 21230
410-659-9314 (V)
www.nfb.org

Promote and protect the rights of the blind through information services, legislative advocacy, and litigation, inform blind individuals of available governmental and private services as well as facts about laws and regulations concerning them, and work to change legislation that discriminates against the blind.

National Partnership for Women and Families

1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20009
202-986-2600 (V)

E-mail: info@nationalpartnership.org
www.nationalpartnership.org

Provide free legal information on health care, work and family, reproductive health, and workplace fairness. Do not provide any direct legal services. In select cases, file friends-of-the court briefs or provides free legal representation.

Office of Consumer Protection

Montgomery County Government

100 Maryland Avenue, Room 330

Rockville, MD 20850

240-777-3636 (V)

240-777-3681 (Anonymous Tip Line)

E-mail: consumerprotection@montgomerycountymd.gov
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ocp

OCP investigates and resolves thousands of consumer complaints regarding automotive sales and repairs, new home construction, home improvements, credit and financial issues, retail sales, internet services, and most other consumer transactions. OCP issues civil citations and subpoenas, executes settlement agreements, conducts administrative hearings, and initiates legal action through the County Attorney. OCP works with agencies that prosecute criminal cases. OCP provides pre-purchase information on its web page including the number of complaints filed against each merchant. OCP issues news releases, email alerts, and provides speakers to community organizations. Investigators are available for consultation by telephone, email, and in person.

Maryland Office of the Public Defender

Montgomery County – District 6 Office

191 East Jefferson Street

Rockville, MD 20850

301-563-8900 (V)

Silver Spring Office

8552 Second Avenue

Silver Spring, MD 20910

301-563-8710 (V)

www.opd.state.md.us

Provides representation of an indigent individual in the following situations: criminal or juvenile proceedings in which a defendant (or party) is alleged to have committed a serious offense; criminal or juvenile proceeding in which an attorney is constitutionally required to be present prior to presentment being made before a commissioner or judge; in a post-conviction proceeding for which the defendant has a right to an attorney; in any other proceeding in which confinement under a judicial commitment of an individual in a public or private institution may result; or in a proceeding involving children in need of assistance.

Public Justice Center

1 North Charles Street, Suite 200

Baltimore, MD 21201

410-625-9409 (V)

www.publicjustice.org

Civil legal aid office that provides advice and representation to low-income clients, advocates before legislatures and government agencies, and collaborates with community and advocacy organizations.

State's Attorney's Office - Montgomery County

Judicial Center

50 Maryland Avenue

Rockville, MD 20850

240-777-7300 (V)

E-mail: states.attorney@montgomerycountymd.gov
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sao/

Educate the public on criminal-justice issues.

Represent the cities and counties of Maryland in all criminal prosecutions and handle complaints of domestic violence and problems with child support.

Assign a prosecutor as a liaison to every school in the County.

University of Maryland – School of Law Clinic Program and JustAdvice® Project

510 West Baltimore Street, Suite 360

Baltimore, MD 21201

410-706-3295 (V)

410-929-4809 (JustAdvice® Project)

E-mail: JustAdvice@Project@law.umaryland.edu

www.law.umaryland.edu/programs/clinic/initiatives/justadvice

Law students practice under supervision of law school faculty and provide legal representation to low-income clients in family law matters before district, circuit and appellate courts. Child custody, child support, divorce and protection from domestic violence. **JustAdvice® Project** hosts two three-hour sessions each week at various locations. Customers receive up to 30 minutes with an experienced attorney to discuss their legal issue. During this meeting, customers can gain a better understanding of the legal issues they face and receive advice on how to proceed in order to resolve those issues. The JustAdvice® Project will assist with family law, housing, criminal, employment, expungement, insurance, SSI, tax, elder law cases. Besides providing legal advice, the JustAdvice® Project can also help with expungement of court records for only the cost of court filings. You are highly encouraged to schedule an appointment. However, walk-ins are also welcome. Walk-ins please note that they do not accept appointments one hour prior to the end of session. For example, if a session ends at 3:00 p.m., a walk-in must arrive before 2:00 p.m. in order to receive legal advice.

U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

1801 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20507
1-800-669-4000 (Toll Free)
1-800-669-6820 (TTY)
1-844-234-5122 (ASL Videophone)
E-mail: info@eeoc.gov
www.eeoc.gov

Provides information and assistance on equality in the hiring of people with disabilities. Authority to investigate charges of discrimination against employers who are covered by the law. Provide outreach, education and technical assistance programs on discrimination. Call and ask for attorney of the day.

Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs

11 Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036
202-319-1000 (V)
202-319-1011 ext. 8001 (Spanish)
E-mail: WLC@washlaw.org
www.washlaw.org

Represent both individuals and groups seeking to vindicate their civil rights on issues pertaining to equal opportunity employment, fair housing, disability rights, prisoner rights, immigrant and refugee rights, public education, and handle discrimination complaints including MetroAccess complaints.

Women's Law Center of Maryland

305 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201
Towson, MD 21204
410-321-8761 (V)
E-mail: admin@wlcmd.org
www.wlcmd.org

Advocate for the rights of women through policy analysis, advocacy, litigation, education, research, judicial selection, legislative advocacy, and direct services. Handle a limited number of family law cases and protective orders.

Employment Law Hotline: 1-877-422-9500 (V)

Legal information about rights in the workplace.

Family Law Hotline: 1-800-845-8550 (V)

Free service for people with basic family law questions.

Legal Forms Helpline: 1-800-818-9888 (V)

Assist callers who are filing a family law case without a lawyer to complete form pleadings. Free service

Protection Order Advocacy & Representation:

410-783-0377 (Baltimore City)

410-887-3162 (Baltimore County)

410-386-2440 (Carroll County)

Represent victims of domestic violence at protection order hearings in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Carroll County Circuit Courts.