



## Legal Assistance, Resources & Information for

# BENTON COUNTY

### Legal Help – General

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#### **Central Minnesota Legal Services**

<http://www.centralmnlegal.org/>

1-800-622-7773 or (320) 253-0138

St. Cloud Office (serving Benton County)

110 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue So, Suite 205, St. Cloud, MN 56301

*Free civil (non-criminal) legal assistance to eligible clients in areas of family law, housing, government benefits and consumer law and employment law.*

#### **Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid**

<http://mylegalaid.org/get-help>

(320) 253-0121 or 1-888-360-2889

110 Sixth Avenue South, Suite 200, St. Cloud, MN 56301

*Free civil (non-criminal) legal assistance to low-income people.*

#### **Volunteer Lawyers Network (VLN)**

<https://www.vlnmn.org/>

(612) 752-6677 (intake by phone available MWT from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

*Statewide civil (including administrative law, bankruptcy, debtor/creditor, employment, and tax) and criminal expungement legal services available for low-income people through volunteer attorneys by phone. Some assistance available in-person locally and to those who are able to travel to*

*Minneapolis/St. Paul. Spanish legal services available. Call or check the website for more information.*

#### **Minnesota Courts Self-Help Centers**

<http://www.mncourts.gov/selfhelp/>

*Forms, videos and other information for individuals representing themselves in court.*

#### **Legal Advice Clinics**

<http://www.mncourts.gov/Help-Topics/Self-Help-Centers.aspx#tab06ClinicLocations>

*Directory of legal clinics and Self-Help Centers across the state.*

#### **LawHelpMN.org**

<http://www.lawhelpmn.org/>

*Help for low-income people with a broad range of civil (non-criminal) legal matters. Website provides information and resources on a variety of legal topics and can help connect individuals to legal aid and assistance. Live online chat help service available.*

#### **Benton County Law Library**

(320) 968-5205

615 Hwy 23 East, P.O. Box 189, Foley, MN 56329

#### **Benton County Courts**

(320) 968-5205

615 Hwy 23 East, P.O. Box 189, Foley, MN 56329



## Legal Help – General, *continued*

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### **Minnesota State Law Library**

<http://mn.gov/law-library/>

(651) 297-7651

Room G25, Minnesota Judicial Center, 25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155

***General Appeals Self-Help Walk-in Clinic*** - held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month from 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

*This is a brief advice clinic for people who are representing themselves. There is no income-qualification required for attendance. **Unemployment Appeal Legal Advice Clinic** - service for people who have already had a hearing with the Unemployment Law Judge and have also requested reconsideration and it has been denied. BEFORE filing an appeal with the Minnesota Court of Appeals, call or attend a clinic and get advice about how to proceed. Clinics held: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursdays of the month via telephone and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month in person. Call (651)296-2775 to schedule an appointment. More information available on our website: <https://mn.gov/law-library/services/clinics/>.*

### **Minnesota State Bar Association Lawyer Referral**

<http://www.mnfindalawyer.com/>

*Free online lawyer search and referral service.*

### **Minnesota Legal Advice Online (MLAO)**

<http://www.mnlegaladvice.org/>

*Volunteer attorneys answer legal questions via email for individuals who meet income qualifications.*

### **United Way 211**

<http://www.211unitedway.org/>

Dial 2-1-1

*Operators available 24/7 to provide targeted referrals to legal services and resources.*

## Criminal

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### **Public Defender Office – Seventh Judicial District**

(320) 255-3753

St. Cloud office: 816 West St. Germain Street, Suite 410, St. Cloud, MN 56301

*Legal services by court appointment for low-income people involved in criminal and juvenile delinquency cases.*



## Disability & Health

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### **Benton County Human Services – Adult Services**

<http://www.co.benton.mn.us/294/Adult-Services>

(320) 968-5087

531 Dewey Street, P.O. Box 740, Foley, MN 56329

### **Minnesota Disability Law Center**

<http://mylegalaid.org/about/our-work/disability-law>

1-800-292-4150 or (612) 332-4668 (TDD)

*Free civil (non-criminal) legal assistance to individuals with disabilities statewide on legal issues related to their disabilities.*

### **Disability Hub MN**

<https://disabilityhubmn.org/>

1-866-333-2466

*A free, statewide, information, referral and assistance service called Disability Hub MN is now available to help people with disabilities, chronic illnesses and their representatives connect to community services.*

### **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)**

<http://www.namistcloud.com/>

(320) 654-1259 or Helpline: 1-800-273-8255

P.O. Box 771, St. Cloud, MN 56302

*Education, advocacy, support, and referrals for people with mental illness and their families.*

### **Cancer Legal Care**

<http://www.cancerlegalcare.org/>

(651) 917-9000

6 Pine Tree Drive, Suite 120, Arden Hills, MN 55112

*Cancer Legal Care provides caring and compassionate legal services at no cost to Minnesotans affected by cancer.*

### **JustUs Health (formerly Minnesota AIDS Project and Rainbow Health)**

<https://www.justushealth.mn/>

(612) 373-2437

*JustUs Health's Legal Services provide legal advice, brief services, and direct representation for HIV-related legal matters.*



## Domestic Abuse

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### **Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women**

<http://www.mcbw.org/>

24-Hour Phone Line: (866) 223-1111

*24-hour hotline for victims of domestic abuse throughout Minnesota helps connect individuals to resources and services available to them.*

### **Standpoint (Formerly Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project)**

<http://www.standpointmn.org/>

1-800-313-2666 or (612) 343-9842

*Statewide program serving battered women, their advocates, attorneys and the general public in Minnesota.*

## Family

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### **Benton County Human Services – Family & Child Services**

<http://www.co.benton.mn.us/343/Family-Child-Services>

(320) 968-5087 or 1-800-530-6254

After hours emergency line: (320) 968-7201

531 Dewey Street, P.O. Box 740, Foley, MN 56329

### **Hennepin County Bar Association Low Fee Family Law Project**

(612) 752-6666

*Statewide low-fee full representation on family law matters for those who meet eligibility requirements (must be employed or on Social Security and have an income between 125-250% of the federal poverty guidelines). A \$500 retainer fee, \$30 administrative fee, and \$55 per hour billable rate is required.*

### **Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Law Center**

<http://www.icwlc.org/>

(612) 879-9165

*Legal representation to parents, family members, Indian custodians and children, who are involved in legal matters governed by the ICWA.*

### **Children's Law Center of Minnesota**

<http://www.clcmn.org/>

(651) 644-4438

450 N Syndicate St, Suite 315, St. Paul, MN 55104

*Free advocacy and legal representation for foster care youth in Minnesota.*



## Family, *continued*

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### **School Law Center**

<http://www.schoollawcenter.com/>

(651) 222-6288

452 Selby Ave., St. Paul, MN 55102

*Statewide legal representation for individual students, their families and groups of students and/or families or agencies serving students and their families in all areas of education law.*

### **Office of Ombudsperson for Families**

<https://mn.gov/ombudfam/>

(651) 603-0058 or 1-888-234-4939

1450 Energy Drive, Suite 106, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

*Assistance with child protection matters, social service issues, and failure to comply with the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) or the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA).*

## Housing & Homelessness

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### **HOME Line (Tenant Hotline)**

<http://www.homelinemn.org/>

Call: (612) 728-5767 or (866) 866-3546; [Email an attorney](#)

*Statewide tenant's rights organization that provides free legal advice to renters in Minnesota.*

### **Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans**

<http://www.mac-v.org/>

1-833-222-6228

*Assistance throughout Minnesota to positively motivated veterans and their families who are homeless or experiencing other life crises.*

### **Minnesota Multi Housing Association (MHA)**

<http://www.mmha.com/>

Landlord/tenant hotline: (952) 858-8222

*Landlord/tenant hotline provides pre-recorded information on security deposits, leases, giving notice, discrimination and other topics related to rental statutes and rights.*

### **Minnesota Home Ownership Center**

<http://www.hocmn.org/>

(651) 659-9336 or 1-866-462-6466

*Home help services in Minnesota including first-time home buyer assistance, foreclosure process assistance and home mortgage assistance.*



## Immigration

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### **Immigration and Refugee Helpline**

(651) 287-3715

*Attorneys are available by phone Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for people seeking legal help with immigration issues. Service is available in English, Spanish, or Somali.*

### **Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota**

<http://www.ilcm.org/>

1-800-223-1368 or (651) 641-1011

*Free brief legal advice and full legal representation to immigrants and refugees in Minnesota who qualify for services.*

### **The Advocates for Human Rights**

<http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/>

(612) 341-9845

330 Second Avenue South, Suite 800, Minneapolis, MN 55401

*Legal services for low-income asylum seekers and immigrant detainees.*

### **Immigration Pathways to Freedom, Standpoint**

<http://www.standpointmn.org/path-to-freedom>

(612) 343-9842 or 1-800-313-2666

*Direct services, support and representation to victims seeking U and T Visas, Removal of the Condition of Residency, Legal Permanent Residency, Violence Against Women Act Self-Petition and Citizenship, among other petitions.*

### **Center for New Americans – University of MN Law School**

<https://www.law.umn.edu/james-h-binger-center-new-americans>

*Federal Immigration Litigation Clinic, Detainee Rights Clinic, & Immigration and Human Rights Clinic*

*The education and outreach program educates noncitizens about their legal rights.*

*For more information, call 612-625-1000.*

### **United Cambodian Association of Minnesota**

<http://ucamn.org/>

(651) 222-3299

1385 Mendota Heights Rd Suite 500, Mendota Heights, MN 55120

*Bilingual and bicultural legal and immigration assistance to low-income refugees and immigrants living in Minnesota.*



## Seniors

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### **Estate & Elder Law Services (Volunteers of America)**

<http://www.voamnwi.org/estate-and-elder-law>

(612) 676-6300

*Attorneys assist clients with wills, trusts, estate planning, probate, powers of attorney, health care directives, guardianship, conservatorship, special needs trusts, Medical Assistance planning, and real estate matters. All individuals are eligible to receive services at private-pay rates and those with disabilities or age 60 and older may qualify to receive services at subsidized rates based on monthly income and asset level.*

### **Senior Linkage Line**

<http://www.seniorlinkageline.com/>

1-800-333-2433

*Free statewide telephone information and assistance service on Medicare, prescription drug expense assistance, health insurance counseling, forms assistance, long-term care insurance and planning, caregiver planning and support, and grandparents raising children.*

### **Upper Midwest Pension Rights Project**

<http://www.midwestpensions.org/>

1-866-783-5021 or (651) 641-8612

2365 N McKnight Rd, Suite 3, North Saint Paul, MN 55109

*Regional pension counseling project to provide free legal counseling services to individuals with retirement and pension plan issues.*

## Other Organizations

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### **Legal Corps**

<http://legalcorps.org/>

(612) 206-0780

*Free legal help to low-income owners of small businesses and small nonprofit organizations in Minnesota.*

### **Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners (LAMP)**

(651) 695-7672

*Civil (non-criminal) and family law services to those incarcerated in MN correctional facilities.*

### **Wills for Heroes**

<http://www.willsforheroes.org/>

Call (612) 672-3493 for information about Minnesota programs and clinics.

*Free wills and other estate planning documents to first responders and their spouse or domestic partner.*



## Other Organizations, *continued*

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### **Veterans Legal Services**

Statewide assistance through Central Minnesota Legal Services

Minneapolis (612) 332-8151; St. Cloud (320) 253-0138

*Services to veterans on civil (non-criminal) legal matters such as consumer debt, family, housing, and benefits. Ask for veterans legal services when calling.*

### **Farmer's Legal Action Group (FLAG)**

<http://www.flaginc.org/>

(651) 223-5400 or 1-877-860-4349

6 West 5th Street, Suite 650, St. Paul, MN 55102-1404

*Legal services and support to family farmers and their communities.*

### **Debtor Lawsuit Answering Service (Volunteer Lawyers Network)**

(612) 752-6677

*Advice and assistance for debtors who have been sued and those wondering about filing bankruptcy.*

### **Springboard for the Arts**

<http://springboardforthearts.org/>

Lowertown: (651)-292-4381, 308 Prince Street, Suite 270, St. Paul, MN 55101

Fergus Falls: (218) 998-4037, 201 West Lincoln Ave, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

*Legal advice for low income persons who need help with business organization, contracts, artist tax audits, copyright and trademark infringement, artist immigration, music royalties, and leasing and buying property.*

### **Insurance Law Clinic – University of MN Law School**

(612) 625-9375

*Free legal assistance to persons facing insurance denials for all types of insurance claims (auto, homeowners, accident, etc.).*

### **Gender Justice**

<http://www.genderjustice.us/legalassistance>

(651) 789-2090

550 Rice Street, Suite 105, St. Paul, MN 55103

*Gender Justice provides legal representation for transgender and other clients relative to employment discrimination, health care, and other necessities.*

### **Agricultural Worker Project**

Statewide help through Southern MN Regional Legal Services

1-888-575-2954 or (651) 894-6854

*Staff attorneys provide statewide legal representation, advice and referrals to low-income migrant farm workers. Services available in English and Spanish.*





## Legal Help – Federal Court

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### **Minnesota Federal Public Defender**

(612) 664-5858

United States Courthouse: 300 South Fourth Street, Room 107, Minneapolis, MN 55415

### **United States District Courts – District of Minnesota**

[www.mnd.uscourts.gov](http://www.mnd.uscourts.gov)

### **Federal Pro Se Project - Federal Bar Association Minnesota Chapter**

*Collaboration between the Minnesota District Court and the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association to help provide civil pro se litigants with an opportunity to have a meaningful consultation with a volunteer lawyer. Parties may be referred to the program by letter from court after filing a civil case in the District of Minnesota.*

### **US Bankruptcy Courts**

<http://www.uscourts.gov/services-forms/bankruptcy>

*Bankruptcy Advice Clinics held bi-weekly at the Minneapolis and St. Paul Federal Courthouses. For more information about these clinics, visit this site: <http://www.mnb.uscourts.gov/bankruptcy-advice-clinics> or contact the Volunteer Lawyers Network at (612) 752-6677.*

### **Federal Court Pro Se Resources**

<http://www.mnd.uscourts.gov/Pro-Se/Disclaimer.shtml>

*Pro Se Civil Guidebook, forms, federal rules and more.*

### **The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program**

<http://www.vetsprobono.org/apply/>

(888) 838-7727

*Provides assistance to unrepresented veterans or their family members who have filed appeals at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.*