



Legal Assistance, Resources & Information for **BIG STONE COUNTY**

Legal Help – General

Central Minnesota Legal Services

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

Client Intake 1-800-622-4011

Willmar office (serves Big Stone County)

415 7th Street Southwest, Suite 101, Willmar, MN 56201

Free legal help to low-income and senior citizen clients for civil (non-criminal) legal problems including family law, government benefits, housing, and other matters.

Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid

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

(320) 235-9600 or 1-888-360-3666

415 S.W. 7th Street, P.O. Box 1866, Willmar, MN 56201

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.

Big Stone County Law Library

In Big Stone County Courthouse: 20 2nd Street Southeast, Ortonville, MN 56278



Legal Help – General, *continued*

Big Stone County Courthouse

(320) 839-2536

20 Southeast 2nd Street, Suite 107, Ortonville, Minnesota 56278

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 3rd 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 4th 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

Public Defender Office – Eighth District

(320) 231-6064

Willmar office: 432 Southwest Litchfield Avenue, Willmar, MN 56201

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



Disability & Health

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.

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.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

<https://namimn.org/>

Information: 1-888-NAMI-Helps (1-888-626-4435) or Helpline: 1-800-273-8255

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

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

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

Big Stone County Family Services

(320) 839-2555

340 Second St NW, Ortonville, MN 56278

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.

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

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

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

Hotline: (952) 858-8222

Landlord/tenant hotline provides pre-recorded information related to rental statutes and rights. Individuals may leave a message and a volunteer will return the call to help answer questions.

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

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

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, continued

Immigration Path 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

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.



Seniors, *continued*

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

Legal Corps

<http://legalcorps.org/>

(612) 206-0780

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

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.

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.

Farmers Legal Action Group

<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 for family farmers and their communities.

Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners (LAMP)

(651) 695-7672

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

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.



Other Organizations, *continued*

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.

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.

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.).

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.



Legal Help – Federal Court

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

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