



Legal Assistance, Resources & Information for **SCOTT COUNTY**

Legal Help – General

Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services

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

1-888-575-2954

Shakopee office (serves Scott County): 712 Canterbury Road South, Shakopee, MN 55379

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

Volunteer Lawyers Network (VLN)

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

(612) 752-6677 (intake by phone available M/W/Th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

Statewide legal services available for low-income people through a network of legal clinics and volunteer attorneys. Spanish legal services available. Assistance can range from brief advice to screening for full representation depending on income level, county of residence, legal issue, and merits of the case.

***Clinic assistance** is available for family, civil, housing, immigration, criminal expungement, bankruptcy, LGBTQ+, and youth legal issues. Visit <https://www.vlnmn.org/clinics> for a current clinic schedule.*

***Phone legal assistance** is also available in the following areas:*

- **Administrative Law** (DHS disqualifications)
- **Bankruptcy** (Chapter 7, Adversary Proceedings, Student loan hardship discharge)
- **Civil** (Consumer, Debtor-Creditor)
- **Employment**
- **Family**
- **Landlord-tenant**
- **Real Estate**
- **Immigration**
- **Tax** (State and Federal, once legal aid has declined to assist)

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 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.



Legal Help – General, *continued*

Housing and Conciliation Court Clinic - Scott County Law Library

<http://www.scottlib.org/778/Law-Library>

(952) 496-8713

Scott County Government Center, Room 102, 200 Fourth Ave. W., Shakopee, MN

Volunteer attorneys will meet with parties representing themselves in Scott County Housing or Conciliation Court. Volunteer attorneys will meet with parties for approximately 20 minutes and can answer questions on tenancy, rent escrow, getting your deposit back, what to bring to the Conciliation Court hearing, and what to expect during and after the hearing. The clinic will be offered on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 4 – 6 p.m. The clinics are first come, first served and no registration is needed.

Scott County Law Library

<http://www.scottlib.org/778/Law-Library>

(952) 496-8713

200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379

Bi-monthly legal help clinics for family law, criminal expungement, housing, and conciliation court. Call for appointment and details.

Scott County Courthouse

(952) 496-8200

200 Fourth Avenue West, Room JC115, Shakopee, MN 55379

Minnesota State Law Library

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

(651) 297-7651

Get help finding legal information: askalibrarian@courts.state.mn.us

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

*Our librarians can help you find legal information, court forms, and other materials by phone, email, or in person. In addition, we offer two clinics for those working on appeals: **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) 297-7651 to schedule an appointment. More information available on our website: <https://mn.gov/law-library/services/clinics/>.*

Minnesota Unbundled Law Project

<https://mnunbundled.org>

Directory of attorneys offering unbundled legal services (also known as limited scope legal services) that are customizable for your needs and budget. Practice areas include family; business; employment; real estate; benefits; housing; wills, trusts, and elder law; consumer protection and debt; and more. For more information about unbundled legal services, visit <https://mnunbundled.org/pages/faq>.



Legal Help – General, *continued*

Community Mediation Minnesota

<https://communitymediationmn.org/>

1-833-266-2663

Providing mediation and restorative justice resources to help resolve disputes involving neighbors, families, businesses, consumers, crime victims, landlords, tenants, or other matters.

Minnesota Department of Human Rights Mediation Program

<https://mn.gov/mdhr/intake/resources/atty-mediation.jsp>

(651) 539-1096 or 1-800-657-3704

No cost and voluntary alternative dispute resolution process by which the parties attempt to settle their discrimination disputes with the help of a trained mediator. Mediation takes place before the Department begins an investigation into allegations of discrimination and before a probable cause finding is made.

Minnesota State Bar Association Lawyer Referral

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

Free online lawyer search and referral service.

Ramsey County Bar Association – Modest Fee Service (serves Metro counties)

(651) 224-1775

Full representation for those who do not qualify for Legal Aid based on income.

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.

Children & Youth

YouthLink

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

(612) 252-1200

41 N. 12th St, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Free clinic for low-income youth (under 21) with legal problems (family, immigration, employment, public benefits, criminal, and housing). Also offers a drop-in center.



Children & Youth, *continued*

Youth Law Project

(612) 334-5970

430 1st Ave. #300, Minneapolis, MN 55401

The Project works with children/youth from birth to age 18, and to 21 for youth in foster care. Legal assistance for low income individuals who are unable to pay a private attorney.

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.

Criminal

Public Defender Office – First Judicial District

(952) 361-3810

Chaska office: 207 North Chestnut Street, Suite 201, Chaska, MN 55318

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

Volunteer Lawyers Network (VLN) – Criminal Expungement Education Seminar

<http://www.vlnmn.org/ce>

Scott County Courthouse, 200 4th Ave. W., Shakopee

Monthly Criminal Expungement Community Education Seminars – third Tuesday of odd months at 1:00 pm (alternates between Carver and Scott County Courthouses).

Mitchell Hamline Pro Se Self-Help Clinic - Expungement

<http://mitchellhamline.edu/self-help-clinic/>

(651) 695-7609

875 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

Assistance for self-represented parties. Call for schedule as service times vary throughout the year.



Criminal, continued

Second Chance Saturday Criminal Records Workshop

<https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/cjl/scs>

Volunteer Lawyers Network and Criminal Justice League

(612) 752-6677

University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC)

2001 Plymouth Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN (Along bus lines 7, 19 and 32).

Monthly criminal records workshop held every third Saturday of the month from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm.

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.

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.

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.



Domestic Abuse

Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women

<http://svabw.org/>

(952) 873-4214

Legal advocacy and referrals for victims (and families) of domestic abuse.

Sexual Violence Center

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

HOTLINE: (612) 871-5111 or (952) 448-5425

Legal advocacy services and free legal clinic for survivors of sexual violence offered once a month – call for appointment.

Violence Free Minnesota (formerly Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women)

<https://www.vfmn.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

Scott County Human Services

<https://www.scottcountymn.gov/193/Health-Human-Services>

(952) 445-7751

200 Fourth Ave West, Room 300, Shakopee, MN 55379

Scott County Law Library Family Law Legal Advice Clinic

<http://www.scottlib.org/781/Legal-Clinics-Classes>

(952) 496-8713

200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379

Free family law advice consults with volunteer attorneys available by appointment only on the second Monday of each month from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Call (952) 496-8713 to schedule an appointment.

Family Law Advice by Phone – Volunteer Lawyers Network

(612) 752-6677

Low-income people who have a court case in Carver, Dakota or Scott County can get a free 20-minute legal advice consult on family law matters from the Volunteer Lawyers Network. To schedule an appointment, call the VLN Intake Line at (612) 752-6677 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.



Family, continued

Scott County Law Library Divorce Clinic

<http://www.scottlib.org/781/Legal-Clinics-Classes>

(952) 496-8713

200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379

Free monthly divorce clinic is held on the fourth Saturday of every month during the school year (January-April and September-December) from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Open to individuals who do not qualify for legal aid for assistance with divorce paperwork. Registration is required. Call (952) 496-8713 to schedule an appointment.

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.

Mitchell Hamline Pro Se Self-Help Clinic

<http://mitchellhamline.edu/self-help-clinic/>

(651) 695-7609

875 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105

Assistance for self-represented parties for the following legal issues: child support modification, dissolution/divorce, establishing custody and parenting time, and modifying parenting time. Call for schedule as service times vary throughout the year.

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).



Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender

Outfront Minnesota (GLBT Youth)

<https://www.outfront.org/home>

(612) 822-0127 or 1-800-800-0350

310 E. 38th St., Suite 209, Minneapolis, MN 55409

Provides advocacy, assistance, and referrals to help guide youth through the legal process.

Gender Justice

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

(651) 789-2090

200 West University Ave., Suite 200, St. Paul, MN 55103

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

Trans/Queer Legal Clinic (Volunteer Lawyers Network)

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

Walk-in or [make an appointment](#).

Free clinics held on the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7:30 pm at the Exchange (3405 Chicago Ave. S., Minneapolis) and the fourth Monday of each month from 2-4 pm at Family Tree Clinic (1619 Dayton Ave. #205, St. Paul).

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.



Housing & Homelessness, *continued*

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.

Housing and Conciliation Court Clinic - Scott County Law Library

<http://www.scottlib.org/778/Law-Library>

(952) 496-8713

Scott County Government Center, Room 102, 200 Fourth Ave. W., Shakopee, MN

Volunteer attorneys will meet with parties representing themselves in Scott County Housing or Conciliation Court. Volunteer attorneys will meet with parties for approximately 20 minutes and can answer questions on tenancy, rent escrow, getting your deposit back, what to bring to the Conciliation Court hearing, and what to expect during and after the hearing. The clinic will be offered on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 4 – 6 p.m. The clinics are first come, first served and no registration is needed.

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 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.



Immigration, continued

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 612-625-5000.

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.

Upper Midwest Pension Rights Project

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

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

1265 Grey Fox Road, Suite 2, Arden Hills, MN 55112

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.



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.

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.

Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners (LAMP)

(651) 695-7672

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

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.

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.

Twin Cities Christian Legal Aid

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

(612) 927-3104

First Covenant Church

810 S. 7th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Free civil (non-criminal) legal assistance to qualified individuals at ministry locations around the Twin Cities.

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.



Other Organizations, *continued*

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.).

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.