

Resources for Free Legal Help

Important: Courthouse access may be limited due to COVID-19, and you may be able to appear for your court hearing remotely by video or phone. You can find the latest information about courthouse operations at cookcountycourt.org. You can find out when your next court date is by calling the Circuit Clerk's Office at (312) 603-5030 or by visiting the Circuit Clerk's website at cookcountyclerkofcourt.org.

Contact a Help Desk

Due to COVID-19, help desk services are now available by phone unless otherwise noted.

Free Mediation Services: Free mediators are available in many areas of law through the Center for Conflict for Resolution. CCR can be reached at (312) 922-6464 x22, or by emailing newcase@ccrchicago.org.

FAMILY	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Relations Advice Desk Divorce & child custody/visitation cases ☎ (312) 738-9200 (<i>mention the help desk</i>) 💻 carpls.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Parentage & Child Support Advice Desk Child support & paternity issues ☎ (312) 796-3070 💻 illinoislegalaid.org (<i>go to "get legal help"</i>)
HOUSING & MONEY	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Court Advice Desk Evictions, money and debt, car accidents, wage garnishments, contract disputes ☎ (312) 738-9200 (<i>mention the help desk</i>) 💻 carpls.org 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Foreclosure Advice Desk Mortgage foreclosure cases ☎ (312) 570-6320 💻 illinoislegalaid.org (<i>go to "get legal help"</i>)
GUARDIANSHIP	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Guardianship Assistance Desk Guardianship of disabled adults ☎ (312) 376-1880 (<i>9am – 12pm, M – F</i>) 💻 illinoislegalaid.org (<i>go to "get legal help"</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Guardianship Assistance Desk Guardianship of minor children 🕒 <i>By appointment only</i> ☎ (312) 603-0135
SENIORS	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Justice Help Desk Legal advice & document preparation for most civil case types for people 60+ 🕒 <i>By appointment only (9am – 4pm, M – F)</i> ☎ (312) 986-4105 	
CRIMINAL RECORDS	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Expungement Advice Desk Expunge & seal criminal records ☎ (312) 738-2452 💻 cgla.net 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Expungement Advice Desk Expunge juvenile arrests and records ☎ (312) 229-6072 💻 legalaidchicago.org
OTHER LEGAL MATTERS	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Advocacy Remote help with Orders of Protection 🕒 8:30am – 5:00pm, Mon - Fri ☎ (312) 239-0413 <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy Advice Desk Bankruptcy & creditor issues 🕒 <i>By appointment only</i> 💻 (312) 341-1070 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Hearings Advice Desk Building code violations, vehicle impoundments & other municipal matters ☎ (312) 738-9200 (<i>mention the help desk</i>) 💻 carpls.org <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. District Court Advice Desk Lawsuits in federal court 🕒 <i>By appointment only</i> ☎ (312) 435-5691

Other Helpful Resources

<p>FREE LEGAL HELP</p> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> CARPLS Legal Aid Hotline Free advice & referrals from lawyers (you may have to wait up to 20 minutes) 🕒 9:00am - 7:30pm, Mon & Wed 9:00am - 4:30 pm, Tue, Thur & Fri 📞 (312) 738-9200 🖱️ carpls.org</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Legal Aid Online Apply for free legal help and access legal information & court paperwork from your computer or mobile device 🕒 Available 24/7 🖱️ illinoislegalaid.org</p>
<p>HIRE A LAWYER</p> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> JEP Lawyers Lawyers who charge fixed fees for flexible & customizable legal help 📞 (312) 546-3282 🖱️ jepchicago.org</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Limited Scope Referral Panels Lawyers who offer unbundled legal services in family law & eviction law 🖱️ chicagobarfoundation.org/limitedscope</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Chicago Bar Lawyer Referral Service 📞 (312) 554-2001 🖱️ lrs.chicagobar.org 💰 \$30 consultation fee (additional fees after)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Illinois State Bar LawyerFinder 📞 (800) 922-8757 🖱️ zeekbeek.com/isba 💰 \$25 consultation fee (additional fees after)</p>
<p>HELPFUL WEBSITES</p> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Cook County Circuit Clerk Find information about court dates 🖱️ cookcountyclerkofcourt.org 📞 (312) 603-4023</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cook County Circuit Court Find information about remote hearings 🖱️ cookcountycourt.org</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> E-Filing Website File court documents online 🖱️ efile.illinoiscourts.gov 📞 (312) 603-4023 ✉️ efilehelp@cookcountycourt.com</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Supreme Court Website Use easy forms & find self-help resources 🖱️ illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp</p>
<p>ADDITIONAL COURT SERVICES</p>  	<p><input type="checkbox"/> ADA (Disability) Accommodations Request a disability accommodation 📞 (312) 603-1915 ✉️ ocj.accommodations@cookcountyl.gov</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Remote Hearing Computers Free computers and help accessing remote court hearings are available in CL-16 (near the Starbucks in the Pedway)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Deaf/Hard of Hearing Access Request a sign language interpreter 📞 (312) 603-1918 VP (312) 603-9187 ✉️ ocj.accommodations@cookcountyl.gov</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Interpretation To request a free interpreter, ask the clerk or judge in your court case</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cook County Law Library 📞 (312) 603-5423 ✉️ law.lawlibrary@cookcountyl.gov</p>

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