- Home Page
- Member Area
- About
- Join
- Committees
- Events
- Links
- Evans Competition
- Legal Assistance
- Contact

Quick Links

- About Us
- Calendar of Events
- Committee Chairs

Federal Legal Assistance Program

Sometimes all you need is a little help getting on the right track.

The Federal Legal Assistance Program offers free, confidential, independent guidance (up to two hours) from a lawyer to move forward in federal civil litigation if you are representing yourself.

- Social Security
- Employment Discrimination
- Civil Rights Violations
- Other Federal Civil Cases

For assistance, please complete the form below, or **print here** and return a signed copy of the agreement by mail (747 North Broadway, Milwaukee, WI 53202) or email (**pro.se@edwba.org**).

EDWBA Federal Legal Assistance attorneys are on call to help you navigate your federal civil case.

Although they cannot represent you, they can help you represent yourself. By using the Federal Legal Assistance Program, you can get free, confidential answers to your questions about federal civil litigation:

- · Filing a civil case
- · Writing litigation documents

- Understanding deadlines, court procedures, and rules
- Understanding statutes and case law
- Making and responding to discovery requests

In addition to the Federal Legal Assistance Program, the court has the following resources for pro se civil litigants on its website: www.wied.uscourts.gov:

- Click on the Pro Se Guides link for guidance about all aspects of the litigation process and references to additional sources of help.
- Click on the Forms link for civil forms you may need to file.
- Click on the Local Rules link for the special, local rules of civil procedure that govern civil cases in federal court in the Eastern District of Wisconsin.
- Be sure to also refer to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure at http://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frcp/.
- Other links on that page will take you to information on fees, courthouse hours, and other important information.

Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association Pro Se Federal Federal Legal Assistance Program

Acknowledgment and Agreement

The Federal Legal Assistance Program volunteer attorneys can provide you with the following kinds of information on a confidential basis:

- The volunteer attorney can provide general information about what to expect when involved in a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, including general information regarding court rules, time considerations, and court procedure. The volunteer attorneys are not affiliated with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.
- The volunteer attorney can assist you with completing forms and give you guidance on the formal requirements of papers you may file with the court.
- The volunteer attorney can help you understand papers issued by the court or filed by other parties.
- The volunteer attorney can direct you to other resources, but it is your responsibility to pursue those resources.

The Federal Legal Assistance Program volunteer attorneys provide only short-term limited legal services (up to a maximum of two hours) to those without an attorney. The volunteer attorney is not a substitute for hiring your own counsel

and does not have the ability to provide the same services as an attorney that you personally hire. This means that the Federal Legal Assistance Program attorney will not provide you with any of the following services:

- The volunteer attorney will not provide you with ongoing advice or assistance after the initial consultation, which will not last more than two hours. You should not assume that the volunteer attorney will provide you with services after your initial communication.
- The volunteer attorney will not conduct a factual investigation of your claims.
- The volunteer attorney will not provide a legal analysis of your claims or advise you to pursue a claim or defense; that decision is yours alone.
- The volunteer attorney will not sign any papers or contact any other parties on your behalf.
- The volunteer attorney will not provide you with any services that are not explicitly stated above.
- The volunteer attorney will not maintain any documents or files on your behalf.

I understand that the Federal Legal Assistance Program attorneys may provide short-term, limited legal services only, as described by this form, and I agree to having discussions with a Federal Legal Assistance Program volunteer attorney on the terms set forth in this form. I also understand the following:

- The volunteer attorney cannot promise any particular outcome.
- The volunteer attorney will not make an independent investigation of the facts, and is relying on my limited disclosure of the facts given the limited duration of the services provided.
- The volunteer attorney is limited in ways that an attorney that I retain would not be, and it is possible that full representation by counsel could identify options for resolution of legal issues that limited representation by a volunteer attorney will not.
- This document, and in particular the sections outlining the services that the Federal Legal Assistance Program attorney will and will not provide, states the full scope of the relationship between me and any Federal Legal Assistance Program attorney that may provide me limited, shortterm representation as described.

Federal Legal Assistance Program

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