



ADVOCACY CENTER

LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY (ELS)

The ELS Program provides free legal services to eligible senior citizens. The Advocacy Center (AC) is a statewide non-profit agency providing free legal services to senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for **free legal services**, an individual must

- be at least sixty (60) years old; AND
- reside in a parish with which AC has a contract to provide legal services; AND
- have a legal issue within the list of AC priorities.

SERVICES

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

Provide information regarding legal rights, and referrals to service providers, support groups and other advocacy agencies.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Provide information on AC and ELS services. Provide training on legal issues to seniors, family members, caregivers, and other professionals and service providers.

SYSTEMS ADVOCACY

Identify system-wide problems and advocate for change.

INDIVIDUAL CASE ADVOCACY

Services may include a review of records to determine the merit of the case, negotiation, and representation at administrative and court proceedings. AC selects cases from the following priority areas:

Abuse/Neglect

- advocate for persons in institutions and in the community, in select cases involving abuse/neglect

Assistive Technology

- advocate for the funding of assistive technology services and devices by Medicaid and Medicare

Health Care

- appeal Medicaid and Medicare denials of eligibility and payment for services

Legal Status/Self Determination

- defend against, limit or overturn interdictions, challenge inappropriate curators (guardians), in select cases
- prepare or revoke powers of attorney (representation/procurations and mandates) and living wills
- Elderly Protective Services hearings

Long-Term Care

- advocate for the rights of persons residing in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and board and care homes

Public Benefits

- represent clients to become eligible for and maintain benefits such as Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veterans Administration, Food Stamps

If you live in Orleans, Plaquemines or St. Tammany Parishes and need assistance, please contact us.

504-522-2337 (Voice/TDD)

Toll Free 1-800-960-7705 (Voice/TDD)

1010 Common St., Ste. 2600, New Orleans LA 70112-1724

To request services in Vietnamese, call 1-800-960-7705, extension 153.

Để đòi hỏi những công tác (dịch vụ) bằng tiếng Việt, xin gọi 1-800-960-7705, mở rộng 153.

For information in Spanish please call 1-800-960-7705, ext. 152

Para información en español por favor llame 1-800-960-7705, ext.152.

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