

LEGAL AID OF EAST TENNESSEE MISSION STATEMENT

Legal Aid of East Tennessee's mission is to insure equal justice for elderly, abused and low-income people by providing a broad scope of legal assistance and advocacy. LAET works respectfully with individual clients and the client community to identify and meet their needs for legal representation and empowerment. In pursuit of its mission. LAET seeks out and works cooperatively with other attorneys, social service providers, community-based organizations, and government and business leaders.

OFFICE HOURS AND LOCATION

Legal Aid of East Tennessee offices are open from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

Executive Director, David Yoder
(865)637-0484

Associate Director – Debra House

311 W. Walnut Street Johnson City, TN 37604 (423)928-8311 1(800)821-1312 Fax (423)928-9488	1001 W 2nd North St. Morristown, TN 37814 (423)587-4850 1(800)821-1309 Fax (423)587-4857
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502 South Gay Street Suite 404 Knoxville, TN 37902 (865)637-0484 Fax (865)525-1162	Compton Place 307 Ellis Avenue Maryville, TN 37801 (865)981-1818 Fax (865)981-1816
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Knoxville Family Justice Center
400 Harriet Tubman
Knoxville, TN 37914
(865)215-6830

Associate Director - Russell Fowler

535 East Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37402 (423)756-4013 1(800)572-7457 Fax (423)265-4164	Erlanger Medical-Legal Partnership Office 975 E. 3 rd St., Box #375 Chattanooga, TN 37403 Erlanger patients only/ funding restrictions
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Linea Gratis en Español 1(866)408-6573

No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

This pamphlet is intended for general information only. The circumstances of every case are different and need to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. This is not a substitute for the advice of a lawyer. Also, the law may change and may be different from county to county.

 LSC BC 9/08



LEGAL HELP FOR EAST TENNESSEANS WITH LOW INCOMES



www.laet.org

Serving Bledsoe, Bradley, Blount, Carter, Cocke, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Loudon, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Counties.

Legal Help for East Tennesseans with Low Incomes

Some examples of cases we handle are housing, health care and public benefits, consumer and community based problems.

We cannot help everyone with every legal problem. There are some types of cases we do not handle. Some examples of cases we do not handle are criminal, fee-generating cases such as: car accidents in which you want to make the other person pay for your injuries or the damage to your car, cases for people in jail and cases for some people who are not citizens.

Legal Aid of East Tennessee does receive funding in some communities that allows us to serve people whose income is over the federal poverty level.

Even if we cannot represent you directly in a case, we may be able to tell you where to get help or give you advice that will help you handle the case yourself. If you are not sure, ask us.

Working With Volunteer Attorneys

Legal Aid of East Tennessee also has a volunteer lawyer program for each county. Many private lawyers have agreed to help us provide free legal help to low-income persons through this program. Your case may be referred to a volunteer lawyer who will represent you free of charge through the volunteer lawyer program.



Who Can Get Help Through Legal Aid of East Tennessee?

People who are in low-income households can get free legal help from Legal Aid of East Tennessee. When you call our office, you will be asked about your income and the income of others in your home. Your income must be under the current poverty guidelines to make you eligible. If you are within the guidelines, you will be asked about the type of legal problem that you have. If it is the type of problem we can handle, you will be able to talk to one of our lawyers or paralegals.

Community groups may also get help from Legal Aid of East Tennessee. If the members of your group are from low-income households, we may be able to help you with a specific legal problem. Also, we may be able to provide educational talks or programs to tell you about your legal rights.

How much does legal help cost?

Legal Aid of East Tennessee does not charge for legal help. You may have to pay court costs to take a case to court. You may also have to pay for some other expenses, such as copies of records and court reporters. However, you will not be charged for the lawyer's or paralegal's time or advice.