



Law Offices of

**THE METHODIST LAW CENTRE**

Labor Law  
Worker's Compensation  
Civil Service Board  
Employment Law  
Church Law  
Elder Care Law  
Real Estate, Probate, Wills  
& Estates and Trusts  
Social Security Disability  
Civil Rights

Gainesville, FL 32608  
Tampa, Florida 33672  
(352) 559-5544 phone  
(813) 223-1200 phone

Florida \* Alabama  
Georgia \* Sarasota  
St. Petersburg \* Ocala  
(800) 792-2241 toll free

[www.methodistlawcentre.com](http://www.methodistlawcentre.com)

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**ATTORNEY-CLIENT REPRESENTATION AGREEMENT**

**PREAMBLE**

The **Methodist Law Centre** is non-profit Independent Christian Ministry that is chartered by the **National Association of Christian Ministers (NCAA)**. Its mission is to provide legal services to persons who are in need and to take on difficult cases which are difficult to find competent legal representation but which have merit and can possible be of public interest as a whole. The purpose of the Methodist Law Centre is, among other things, to provide a forum for clergymen, church organizations, human rights advocates, and other third parties to have a platform to support distressed litigants who are prosecuting their civil rights cases in the courts.



**THE ORDINARY PEOPLE SOCIETY- T.O.P.S.** is an independent and separate non-profit organization/ church that works in cooperation with The Methodist Law Centre in order achieve the Law Centre's same objectives to provide a forum for clergymen, church organizations, human rights advocates, and other third parties to have a platform to support distressed litigants who are

prosecuting their civil rights cases in the courts. T.O.P.S. and the Methodist Law Centre are separate organizations that work together in support of human rights and civil rights advocacy and litigation.

The objective of both **the Methodist Law Centre** and **T.O.P.S.** is to provide logistical, financial, moral, and public relations support the civil rights activities and cases prosecuted by the **The Poor and Minority Justice Association (PMJA)- Legal Defense Fund, LLC, which** is owned and operated by The Methodist Law Centre.

- The Client understands that certain “costs” incurred by the P.M.J.A. Legal Defense Fund, LLC might include the reimbursement to T.O.P.S. or The Methodist Law Centre for **REASONABLE PRE-APPROVED EXPENSES** incurred by those organizations during the course of the litigation. All such expenses shall be PRE-APPROVED by the Client, in writing (email or letter—the Client must state, “I agree to these expenses and to reimburse [the Third Party]), before the PMJA Legal Defense Fund, LLC will assume responsibility to reimburse those either **T.O.P.S.** (or its affiliates or agents) or the **The Methodist Law Centre**—as valid liens—from any recovery attained from litigation.

The PMJA Legal Defense Fund, Inc. is the “**Civil Rights and Human Rights Division**” of the Methodist Law Centre. All future communication to Third Parties will reflect that the Client is being represented by the **PMJA Legal Defense Fund, Inc.**—not the Methodist Law Centre.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This is an Attorney Services Representation Agreement between Mr. Clifford Ellis and \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)(the “Client(s)”) and the **PMJA LEGAL DEFENSE FUND, LLC** (“Law Firm”).

In this agreement, the Client and the Law Firm shall collectively be referred to as the “Parties.”

### I. PRO HAC VICE

This Agreement **shall NOT become effective until** the undersigned attorney has received a written verification from an Attorney who is licensed to practice law in the State of Alabama and who has agreed to sponsor the undersigned attorney in a Pro Hac Vice agreement.

The Client understands that the “sponsoring” attorney’s name must appear on the pleadings in any lawsuit or case. The “sponsoring attorney,” who is licensed in the State of Alabama, also has a very important role to play throughout the litigation of a case.

### II. State Court or Federal Court (State of Alabama)(Civil Rights)

This is an Attorney-Client Agreement for the handling of a Constitutional Civil Rights Claim against the State of Alabama and (or) its Local Government Agencies.

The nature of the civil rights case involves a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (“Deprivation of Rights under Color of Law.”) and the deprivation of rights under state laws for the State of Alabama.

The case will be filed and litigated in the U.S. District Court, District of Alabama or an appropriate State Court within the State of Alabama.

The Attorney shall perform the following services:

- Draft an and file an “Original Complaint,” as may be necessary, at the appropriate time, before the passing of any appropriate Statute of Limitations under 42 U.S.C. Sect. 1983.
- Answer any Correspondence from Opposing parties
- Conduct Pre-Trial Conferences and Discovery
- Conduct any Mediation conferences that are ordered
- Interview and prepare witnesses for trial
- Conduct the Hearing/ Trial
- Prepare all Pre-hearing/ Post-hearing Briefs

The Attorney reserves the right to first conduct “reasonable” discovery prior to filing any lawsuit.

The Attorney reserves the right to turn down further representation if, after further discovery and legal research, the Client’s case is deemed non-meritorious or other mitigating circumstances prohibit the the wise and prudent litigation of the case.

The Attorney shall seek a litigation budget of \$7,500.00 to cover travel expenses and discovery costs, and shall rely upon the fund-raising efforts of Third Parties, such as T.O.P.S., the Methodist Law Centre, and others, to help raise these monies to cover expenses, on behalf of the Client. The Attorney shall log, document, and disclose each monetary contribution that he receives on behalf of the Client, to the Client.

The total Attorney Fees due from the Client shall be \$0.00, which is a **non-refundable retainer fee**.

The Client shall pay \$00.00 due on or before N/A..

**CONTINGENCY FEES:** In the event of a settlement or court judgment, the Client agrees to pay 33 1/3% of any settlement attained “prior to filing a formal lawsuit in court”; and 40 % of any settlement or judgment that is attained “after the filing of a formal lawsuit in court.”

**CURRENT EXPENSES:** the Client, Clifford Ellis, agrees to negotiate a reasonable amount for the reimbursement of any cost or expenses already attained by T.O.P.S. or by Marilyn Yolanda Gidley (Yogies Media HipHop & Civil Rights)—and to “sign and date” any amount agreed upon, so that the undersigned Attorney can “protect their liens,” if any, upon this file.

Go forward, the Client, Clifford Ellis, must pre-approve, in writing, any future expenses incurred by T.O.P.S. or by Marilyn Yolanda Gidley (Yogies Media HipHop & Civil Rights), and present the said written pre-approval to the undersigned law firm.

CLIENT RIGHTS: the client has been given a Client-Rights Form and been advised that he or she will have recourse with The Florida Bar should the Law Firm not discharge its obligations under this agreement.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022, at \_\_\_\_\_ County, Florida.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CLIFFORD ELLIS**

Dothan, Alabama  
C/o T.O.P.S.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Roderick O. Ford, Esq.**

PMJA Legal Defense Fund, Inc.  
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# 149

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Email: [admin@methodistlawcentre.com](mailto:admin@methodistlawcentre.com)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

**END OF DOCUMENT**