

SERVICES WE PROVIDE:

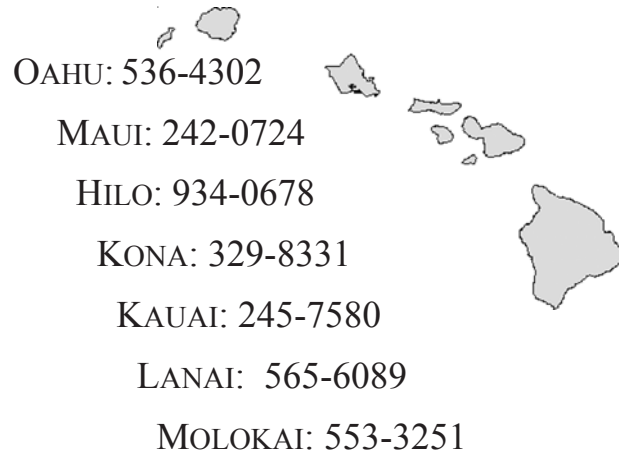
Depending on your legal needs, we may be able to provide you with various levels of service. Legal Aid services include:

- Referral to another agency that may be better able to assist you with your problem
- Providing counsel and advice about your legal needs
- Offering informational brochures and self-help packets to help you solve your legal problems without an attorney
- Signing you up for a legal self-help clinic or workshop on specific legal issues
- Looking over your court forms or other paperwork
- Making a phone call on your behalf to a state or community service agency
- Full representation on your legal issue



STATEWIDE INTAKE HOTLINE:

HOURS: 9-11:30 AM & 1-3:30 PM M-F



The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii was founded in 1950 by community leaders--including Judges Sam King and Betty Vitousek. Their mission to provide equal access to justice for all Hawaii residents still guides Legal Aid today.

Legal Aid helps people with their legal problems so they can focus on improving their lives. We specialize in family, housing, employment, public benefits, and consumer rights, empowering people to: get out of abusive situations; fight illegal evictions; secure medical and financial entitlements; and handle creditors and collectors.

Each year, Legal Aid responds to up to 20,000 inquiries. Our clients are people who have incomes under 125% of the federal poverty level, or anyone who is 60 or older.

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII



FACTS ABOUT THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII

The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii is the state's largest public-interest legal service provider, dedicated to helping Hawaii's low-income population with their critical civil legal needs.

www.legalaidhawaii.org

WHAT IS THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF HAWAII?

Who is eligible for services from Legal Aid?

Legal Aid helps individuals and families who are determined to be eligible for services. We do not charge attorney fees. For certain services, like our self-help clinics, we may charge a small administrative fee. You may be eligible for services if:

√ Your household income is less than 125% of the federal poverty guidelines. The amount of income that is allowed changes periodically as the federal poverty guidelines increase.

√ There are also no conflict of interest issues. This means that we cannot have assisted anyone who either called us regarding a legal problem they had with you in the past, or is involved in your current legal problem.

In certain situations, you do not need to meet Legal Aid's income eligibility requirements. Even if you are over the income for Legal Aid normal services, we can give you advice in the following areas:

√ If you are facing foreclosure of a home

√ If you are losing a public benefit (e.g., welfare, state disability, or food stamps)

√ If you are a senior (age 60 or older), call our Senior Legal Hotline at 536-0011 on Oahu or 1-888-536-8011 on Neighbor Islands

If you do not meet Legal Aid income guidelines, you may be able to get further assistance from Legal Aid's Affordable Lawyers Project for a low fee, depending on your legal problem.

How do I get services from Legal Aid?

Accessing our recorded scripts: Legal Aid has recorded scripts that provide general information in four (4) broad legal areas: Family, Housing, Consumer, and Public Benefits. To access these scripts, call 527-8000 on Oahu. On neighbor islands, call the intake number and press option 1 to enter an extension; then enter Ext. 200. Follow the directions to get to the script you want.

Receiving advice from Legal Aid Staff: Call our statewide intake hotline. Legal staff will help you explore your legal options. When you call, we will first determine your eligibility, take a brief application, and then discuss your legal problem. Often, people get the help they need from the first phone call. In addition to giving you advice, our legal staff will see if Legal Aid or another local legal agency can represent you in your matter--or teach you how to complete it on your own. Keep in mind that calls are taken in the order they are received. Depending on when you call, the wait can be a few seconds or a few minutes. While you wait, you can access our recorded scripts by following the provided instructions.

Self-Help Materials: Our legal staff will often mail you relevant brochures that help you understand your legal problem and the steps to resolve it. These brochures and simple court forms are also available to walk-in clients at Legal Aid's Center for Equal Justice.

Walk-in and Self-Help Services: The availability of walk-in appointments depends on the island you live on and staff availability. Some offices also have a Center for Equal Justice (CEJ) where legal staff help clients complete court paperwork and assist with a wide variety of legal matters. The CEJ offers over 100 self-help written materials, computers, access to court forms, and a copier.

Our Areas of Legal Expertise:

Although a non-profit, The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii is one of the largest law firms in the state. We provide legal assistance to low-income individuals and families in the following areas:

Family: divorce, spouse & child abuse, custody, visitation, child support, restraining orders, paternity, guardianships, child snatching, powers of attorney, wills, advance health care directives

Public Benefits: Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF), General Assistance (GA), Aid to Aged, Blind, Disabled (AABD), Social Security retirement/disability, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Quest, Medicaid, Medicare

Consumer: bankruptcy, debt collection & debtor's rights, foreclosures, garnishments, repossessions, public utilities rate setting and terminations

Housing: eviction, repairs, lockouts and utility shut-offs (private tenancies and public and subsidized housing), affordable housing preservation and creation, security deposits, housing discrimination

Miscellaneous: unemployment benefits, wrongful terminations, and others

We do not handle criminal law, immigration problems, prisoner rights issues, and lawsuits for money damages—including worker's compensation and personal injury.