



Medical Legal Community Partnership Los Angeles (MLCP-LA)

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Agenda

- **MLCP-LA Overview**
- **Screening for Legal Barriers**
- **Referral Process**

Medical Legal Community Partnerhsip – Los Angeles



MLCP-LA Goals

- **Help for DHS Patients**
 - Free legal help
 - Improve patients' wellbeing by addressing the social determinants of health.
 - Focus on interventions likely to improve health, safety, income, housing, and food
- **Support for DHS care team to identify and address patients' legal needs**
 - Training
 - Technical Assistance

Common Barriers



Housing

Evictions

Harassment

Poor housing conditions

Utilities



Income

Bankruptcy

Public benefits

Employment problems



Legal Status

Naturalization with a focus
on those with disabilities

Petitions for survivors of
domestic violence,
trafficking, or violent crimes

Common Barriers



Education and Expungements

Individualized Education
Plans

Criminal record clearing



Family Law and Safety

Divorce

Restraining orders



Health Coverage and Access

Denial of services

Medical debts
Insurance (incl. Medi-Cal)
terminations and eligibility
questions

MLCP-LA Cannot Help with:

**Criminal
Defense**

**Personal
Injury Cases**

**Patient
Represented
by Attorney**

**Medical
Malpractice**

**Legal
Malpractice**

**Patient is not
LA County
Resident**

Types of Help Available

Patient Referral

- Legal help for a DHS patient or their household member with a legal problem
- MLCP-LA works with patient and may engage DHS staff for support

Technical Assistance

- General question related to barriers impacting patient
 - Is this an appropriate referral?
 - What income support exists for a patient who recently lost their job?

Services provided by legal team assigned to DHS clinical site where patient receives care.

Steps to Legal Assistance

1. Patient at DHS clinical site presents with legal barriers
2. Care team refers patient to MLCP-LA through site-specific process (usually via BHI or social work) or patient self-refers
3. If available: BHI or SW screen for other social needs and refer to MLCP-LA
4. Legal team triages for urgency, explores common issues, conducts intake, and requests additional info or documents
5. Legal services offered vary based on merits of case, legal remedies available, patient capacity, and other factors. Types of services include:
 - a. Information, advice and brief service;
 - b. Connections to more appropriate resources;
 - c. Extended services and representation

MLCP-LA Resources

bit.ly/MLCP-LA-Webinars

[English MLCP-LA Flyer](#)

[Spanish MLCP-LA Flyer](#)

DHS staff questions about potential referrals or referral process?

E-mail: legalhelp@dhs.lacounty.gov

Call: (818) 485-0575

Participant Common Barriers	Need Help
Education and School Special education including Individualized Education Plans (IEP) disability related school issues; school expulsions and hearings	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Law and Safety Divorce; custody; paternity; domestic violence restraining orders	<input type="checkbox"/>
Criminal Record Clearing Expungements: cleaning up criminal records and reclassifying felonies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guardianships, Conservatorship, and Elder Abuse Conservatorship and alternatives: Assigning responsible person to care for another adult who cannot make their own decisions; Guardianship: Assigning someone other than child's parent to have custody of minor child Elder abuse: Elder abuse restraining orders, consumer fraud, and elder abuse title fraud	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Care Access Denials of services, medications, or equipment; Medi-Cal and insurance terminations; bills; VA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing & Homelessness Evictions (Unlawful Detainer); foreclosures; poor housing conditions; terminations of subsidized benefits like Section 8; illegal rent increases	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income and Food Stability Disability Benefits: State Disability Insurance (SDI); Social Security; SSI/SSDI/CAPI; VA Public benefits: CalWORKs; WIC; CalFresh/Food Stamps; General Relief; foster care; child care Employment Problems: medical leave; unemployment insurance; unpaid wages	<input type="checkbox"/>
Income Stability: Consumer Law Bankruptcy, consumer fraud, student loans due to school fraud; credit card debt lawsuits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Immigration Special petitions for survivors of domestic violence, trafficking or violent crimes (VAWA, U-Visa, T-Visas); Naturalization (becoming citizen)	<input type="checkbox"/>
COVID-19 Job Protections; unemployment; disability; financial assistance; public benefits; housing protections	<input type="checkbox"/>

MLCP-LA cannot help with: **Defense of Criminal Cases**, **Personal Injury** (car accidents, slip & fall), or **Medical Malpractice** (looking to sue a provider due to something gone wrong).

