

JUSTICE FOR UNREPRESENTED LITIGANTS

Joint Hearing Judiciary and Budget Subcommittee No. 5 on Public Safety February 25, 2020

Hon. Kevin C. Brazile

Presiding Judge

Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles



COUNTY MIRRORS OUR STATE

- Populous and Diverse: Over 10 million people from 140 distinct cultures, speaking more than 220 languages and dialects;
- Varied: 4,083 square miles, both Rural and Urban;
- Extreme & Wide-Ranging Socio-Economic Environments: From Beverly Hills to Skid Row.

Options for Litigants

When facing legal issues, LA County residents have the following options:



Private Attorneys



Legal Service Agencies



Self-Help via the Court



Litigant Capacity



Complexity of Case



Significance Of Legal Issue

Self-Help Needs Spectrum

Courts must provide a menu of services that meet litigants where they are

Increased Self-Help Center funding has allowed our Court to re-engineer Self-Help Services to maximize collaboration to increase the availability and quality of services Court-wide

Trained and hired additional paralegals, intake screeners, attorneys, and full-time Justice Corps Fellows

Bilingual staff increases our ability to provide direct services in the most requested languages

Spanning 14
Courthouses,
integrated with
County-funded
Legal Aid SelfHelp partners

Continuous collaboration and use of technology to increase efficiency and capacity

SPECTRUM OF SERVICES

• IN PERSON:

- Nearly 7,000 educational group workshops and clinics offered each year;
- One-on-One assistance to complete required form packets;
- Information and guidance on court requirements and procedures
 - Over 245,000 total self-help services provided on annual basis.

• ONLINE:

- Guide and File and Law Help Interactive tools for easy completion of Court forms.
- Interactive chatbot (Gina) that provides ticket-specific help and options for hundred of thousands of traffic litigants

LANGUAGE ACCESS EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL



I Speak ...

Arabic

MI

Du

Je parle français

ESTE ES SU "BOLETO" PARA EL TALLER DE DISOLUCIÓN PASO 2



Resource Center for Self-Represented Litigants 7339 S. Painter Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602 Cuarto 300

Nombre Del Presentador: Fecha Del Taller:

M pale kreyòl avisyen

□ Respondiendo □ Enmendando

Caso Existente #:

TALLER DE LA SERIE DE DISOLUCIÓN 2 HORARIO:

Martes a las 8:00 a.m.

Taller sin cita – nada más las primeras 4-5 personas serán admitidas ***NO SERÁ admitido al Taller Paso #2 si este documento no está completado***

IMPORTANTE:

Tiene que traer los siguientes documentos o no será admitido a su cita.

- 1) Este documento completado. ***Este documento NO es un documento legal. No será parte de su archivo con la corte y tampoco se le dará una copia a su cónyuge. ***
- 2) Una copia de su reembolso de impuestos de los últimos dos años (si los ha hecho) para entregarlos a su cónvuge – por favor tache los números de seguro social de usted y sus hijos y cualquier número de cuenta y ruta bancaria.
- 3) Sus dos más recientes talones de cheque
- 4) Documentos relacionados a lo siguiente: Bienes inmuebles (casas, terrenos) – e.g. el título, descripción legal, resumen de los pagos de la hipoteca



أنا أتحدث اللغة العربية

Armenian Ես խոսում եմ հայերեն

আমী ঝংলা কথা ঝেলতে পারী

Ja govorim bosanski

Bulgarian Аз говоря български

ကျွန်တော်/ကျွန်မ မြန်မာ လို ပြောတတ် ပါတယ်။

ខំនិយាយភាសាខ្មែរ

我講廣東話 (Traditional) 我讲广东话 (Simplified)

Parlo català

Govorim hrvatski

Mluvím česky

من دری حرف می زنم

Ik spreek het Nederlands

من فارسى صحبت مي كنم

Je parle français

Ich spreche Deutsch

Μιλώ τα ελληνικά

હુ ગુજરાતી બોલુ છ

Haitian Creole M pale kreyòl ayisyen

אני מדבר עברית

में हिंदी बोलता हैं।

Kuy has lug Moob

Beszélek magyarul

Parlo italiano

私は日本語を話す

Korean 한국어 합니다

man Kurdii zaanim

man Kurmaaniii zaanin

ຂອຍປາກພາສາລາ

Es runâju latviski

Að kalbu lietuviškai

我識國語 我讲国语/普通话 (Simplified)

35 0 300 300 600 5

Norwegian Jeg snakker norsk

من فارسى صحبت مى كنم.

Mówie po polsku

Portuguese Eu falo português do Brasil

Eu falo português de Portugal

ਮੈਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦਾ/ਬੋਲਦੀ ਹਾਂ।

Romanian Vorbesc româneste

Я говорю по-русски

Ја говорим српски

SELF-HELP ONLINE RESOURCES







JusticeCorps

Leveraging Volunteers for 15 Years







Self-Help Guiding Principles

Our approach to provide these services is not adhoc, it is guided by the following principles:

- Litigant empowerment
- Realistic expectations
- Moving cases forward
- Practical problem solving
- Leveraging technology
- Promoting efficiency for both the Court and litigants

JUSTICE FOR UNREPRESENTED LITIGANTS

- One size does not fit all
- California has built a robust and expansive Self-Help system, thanks in part to your continued interest and prioritization of Self-Help
- Because of our Self-Help programs, litigants are walking into Court better prepared
- We welcome the Legislature's continued interest in Self-Help – There is a lot more we can do together