

FAMILY LAW CLINIC

AGREEMENT FOR LIMITED LEGAL SERVICES

The Clinic provides free, limited help to low-income people *who are representing themselves* in Hamilton County Domestic Relations Court.

In order to receive help from the Clinic, you must provide truthful information about your income, household size, assets, and citizenship (Please note: You do not need to be a U.S. citizen to receive help. This information is collected by the Legal Aid Society.)

If you already have a lawyer, you cannot receive help at the Clinic.

What Volunteer Lawyers Do:

- Answer basic questions, give legal information, and advice, inform you of court procedures, and help complete court forms.
- Clinic volunteers will rely on the information you provide about your case. They will not do any investigation or legal research.
- Everything you share in private with a volunteer lawyer will be kept confidential.

Note: Interns, court staff, and non-lawyer volunteers may help in the Clinic but are not lawyers and cannot give legal advice.

What Volunteer Lawyers Do Not Do:

- Go to court with you or take any other action for you.
- Help you with any other case or matter (i.e. Domestic Violence Orders or Appellate Issues.)

Conflict of Interest

- You must tell the volunteer lawyer if you are aware that he/she has already helped someone else in your case.
- A volunteer lawyer will not be able to help you if he/she knows they have a conflict of interest involving someone in your case.
- However, the rules for lawyers providing brief service in a clinic allows them to help a person as long as they are unaware of any conflict of interest that they or their firm might have.
- Lawyers in the clinic do not have to check their office records to make sure they do not have a conflict of interest.
- Other people in your case may receive help at the Clinic, although the Clinic will make every effort to have them be seen by a different lawyer.
- You and the other party in the case may want a volunteer lawyer to help you work out the details of an agreement. In that situation, the volunteer lawyer may be able to give general *information* to both of you, but not legal *advice*.

What Happens to Your Application:

- The Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati and the Volunteer Lawyers Project are partners with the Domestic Relations Court for the Clinic. Your application will be given to Legal Aid and put in their database to track the work of volunteer lawyers. This information is kept confidential. This does not make you a client of Legal Aid.

By Signing Below, I am Stating:

1. I understand and agree to follow the terms stated above; and
2. That the information provided in my Family Law Clinic Application is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Date

Print Name