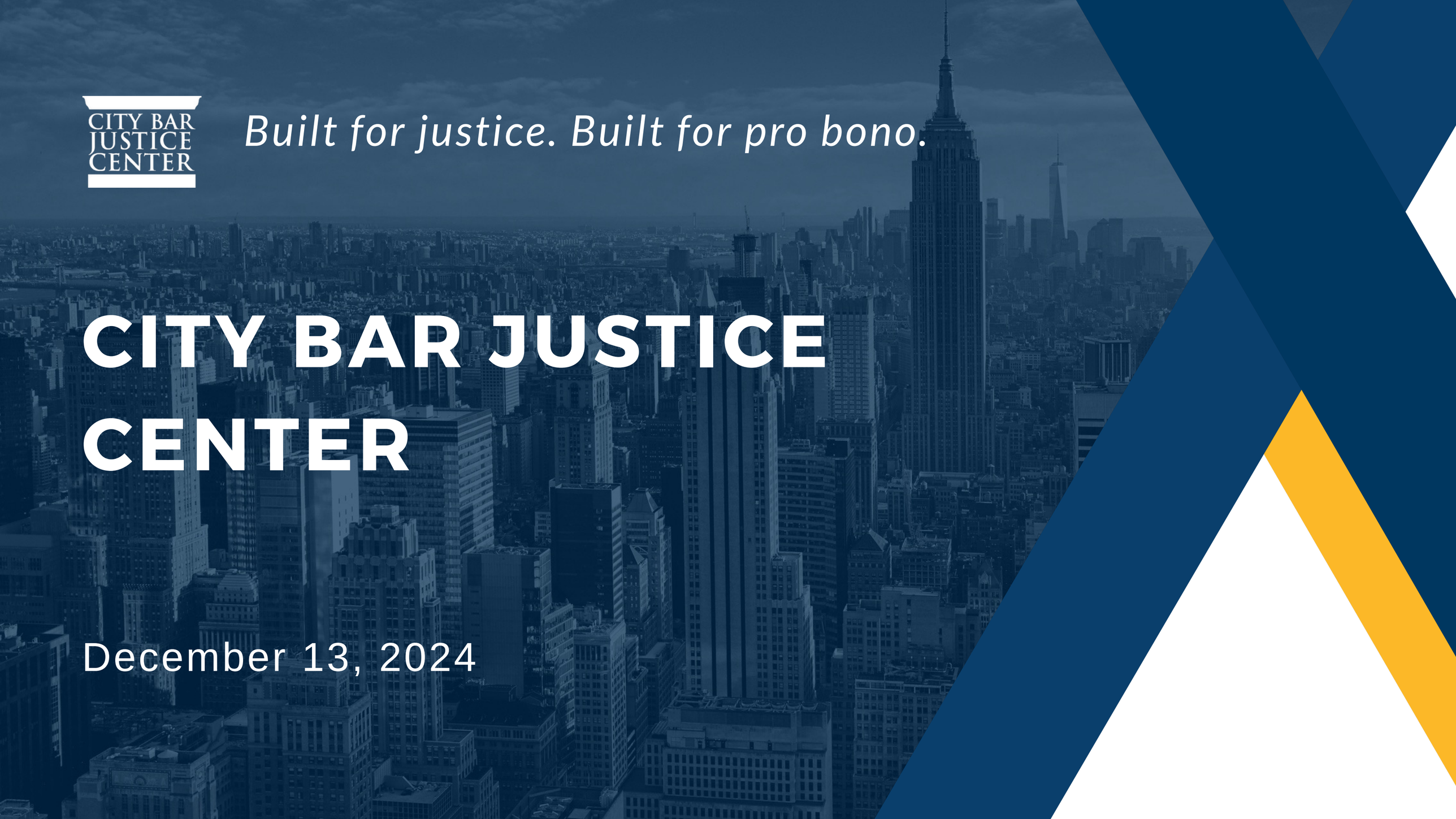


CITY BAR JUSTICE CENTER

*Built for justice. Built for pro bono.*

# CITY BAR JUSTICE CENTER

December 13, 2024

# ABOUT US

**Mission:** The City Bar Justice Center furthers access to justice by addressing unmet civil legal needs of New Yorkers struggling with poverty and other systemic socioeconomic barriers. The Justice Center mobilizes law firms, corporate legal departments, and other legal institutions to provide pro bono legal services; educates the public on pertinent legal issues; fosters strategic community relationships; and impacts public policy.

**Team:** approximately ~50 - project directors, staff attorneys, project coordinators, and administrative staff, plus 10-20 interns and pro bono scholars and 1,800+ pro bono volunteers annually.

CITY BAR
JUSTICE
CENTER

# WHAT WE DO

Rooted in advancing economic, racial, and social equity, City Bar Justice Center legal assistance benefits more than 25,000 New Yorkers in need each year. Help provided includes:

- Brief legal advice and information
- Limited scope legal services
- Extended legal representation

- Community outreach and education
- Policy and community advocacy
- Referrals to other legal services or human services providers

# CITY BAR JUSTICE CENTER PROJECTS

## CANCER ADVOCACY PROJECT

CAP provides cancer patients, survivors, and their families with legal information and pro bono assistance on issues relating to advance directives, wills, health insurance appeals and cancer-related employment discrimination.

## CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY PROJECT

CBP provides legal assistance to consumers with outstanding debts, assists debtors filing pro se bankruptcy petitions, and provides pro bono representation to debtors in contested matters.

## ELDERLAW PROJECT

ELP aims to maintain the dignity and independence of elderly people by providing clients with end-of-life planning assistance. ELP also provides community education on areas of law that are important to seniors.

## FEDERAL PRO SE LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

The Federal Pro Se Legal Assistance Project is housed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. The Project assists pro se litigants with civil legal matters through review of papers, drafting assistance, research, referrals and advising.

## HOMEOWNER STABILITY PROJECT

HSP provides legal assistance to homeowners who are facing foreclosure, behind on their mortgage, property taxes or other housing expense; or seeking assistance with title, deed, inheritance, and other issues affecting homeownership stability.

## IMMIGRANT JUSTICE PROJECT

IJP assists individuals seeking asylum, survivors of violent crimes and trafficking in the U.S., and those seeking humanitarian protection and other forms of immigration relief.

## LEGAL CLINIC FOR THE HOMELESS

LCH provides advice, advocacy, and representation to residents of homeless shelters on a variety of matters related to public benefits.

## LGBT ADVOCACY PROJECT

The LGBT Advocacy Project offers free legal advice and representation to New Yorkers that identify as LGBTQ+ in the areas of life planning, discrimination, housing and foreclosure, and inheritance.

## NEIGHBORHOOD ENTREPRENEUR LAW PROJECT

NELP provides micro-entrepreneurs with legal assistance on matters including incorporation, contracts, and intellectual property rights to ensure their businesses start off on sound legal footing.

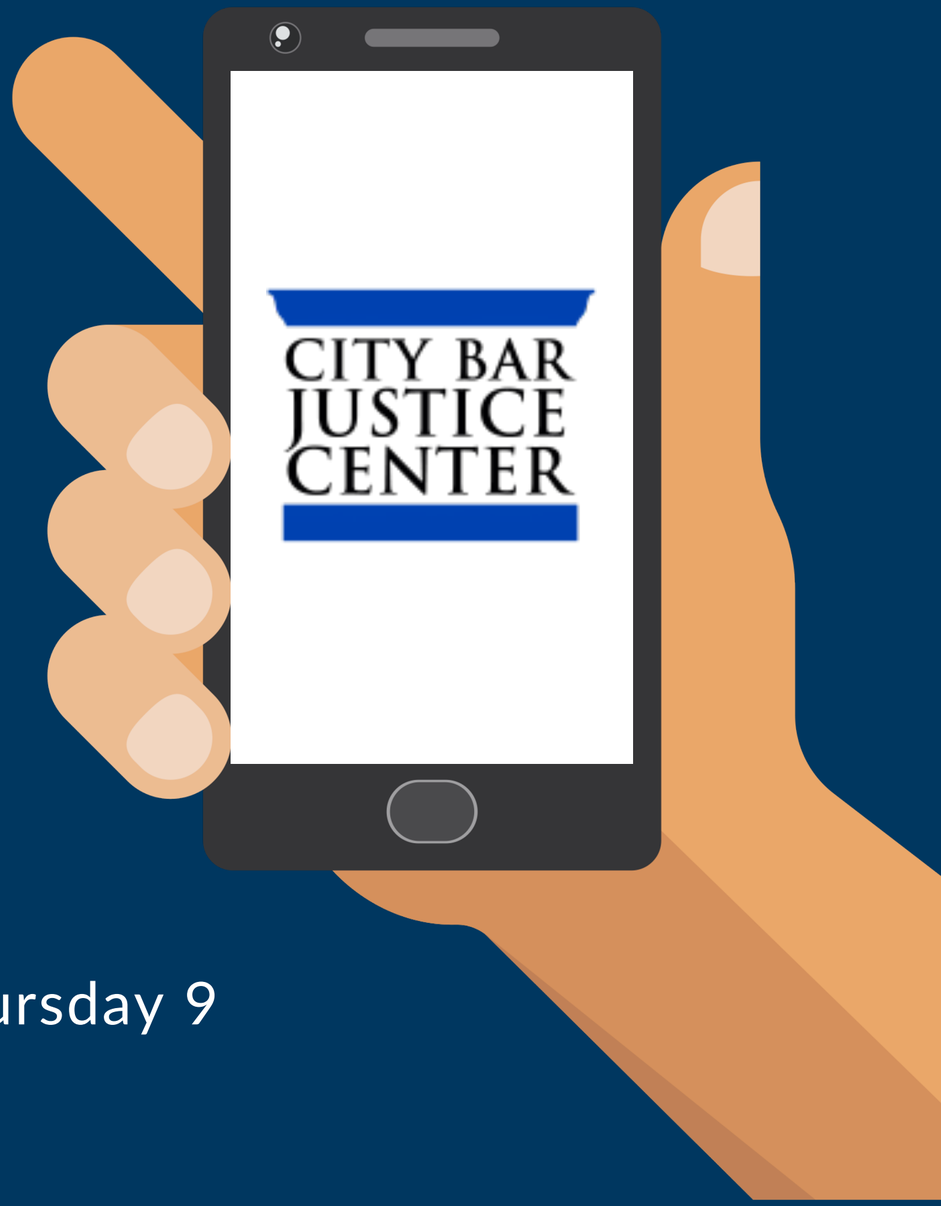
## PLANNING AND ESTATES LAW PROJECT

PELP provides legal advice and assistance to New Yorkers facing economic barriers with matters pertaining to end of life planning, wills and estates.

## VETERANS ASSISTANCE PROJECT

VAP assists veterans of limited resources with legal assistance on issues related to their claims for benefits from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs.

# CONTACT US FOR FREE LEGAL ADVICE!




Apply for help online at

www.citybarjusticecenter.org/legal-hotline

Call us at 212 626 7383 Monday through Thursday 9 15 am to 4 45 pm Friday 9 am to 1 pm

The Legal Hotline is staffed with attorneys ready to help New Yorkers of limited income with civil legal matters for FREE including:

CITY BAR JUSTICE CENTER

01 Matrimonial and family law

02 Housing and landlord/tenant issues

03 Consumer debt and bankruptcy

04 Civil Court matters

Apply for help at www.citybarjusticecenter.org/legal-hotline

# PLANNING & ESTATES PROJECT

## PELP’s Mission

**Combat poverty by helping individuals with limited resources claim assets their loved ones left behind**

**Promote generational wealth**

**Provide peace of mind through free life planning**

# What PELP does:

Life Planning Documents

(Examples: Will, Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy)

→ Legal documents to record your wishes if you are ***incapacitated*** (Power of Attorney and Health Care Proxy) or ***deceased*** (Will)

Surrogate's Court

→ Prepare petitions for you to file at the Surrogate's Court to claim your loved one's estate

# ELDER LAW PROJECT

## ELP’s Mission

**Maintgain the dignity and independence of elderly people by providing client with end of life planning assistance.**

**ELP also provides community outreach education on areaas of law that are important to seniors.**

NEW
YORK
CITY
BAR
LEGAL
REFERRAL
SERVICE

# About Us

## New York City Bar Legal Referral Service (LRS)

The LRS has helped individuals and businesses meet their legal needs for more than 75 years.

The LRS handles approximately 75,000 points of contact with the public per year.

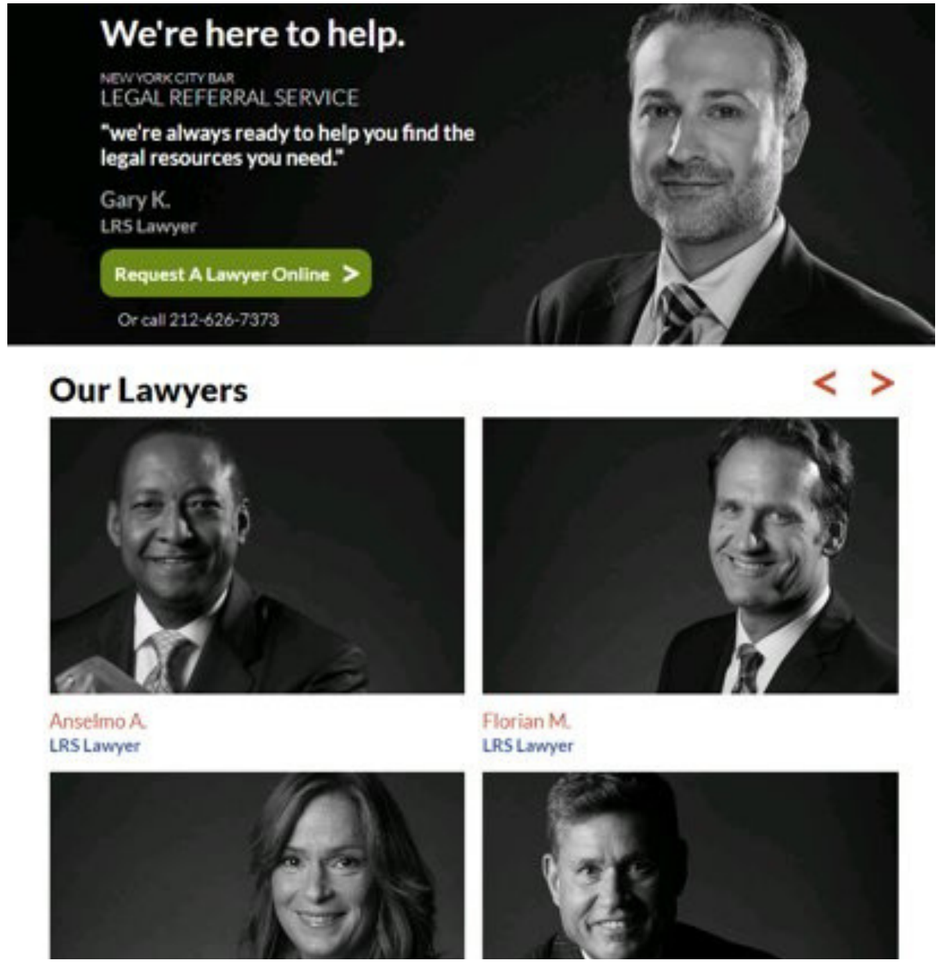
Yearly on average, the LRS refers over 25,000 potential clients to LRS lawyers.

# Screened & Approved LRS Lawyers

LRS lawyers have significant experience in their areas of practice.

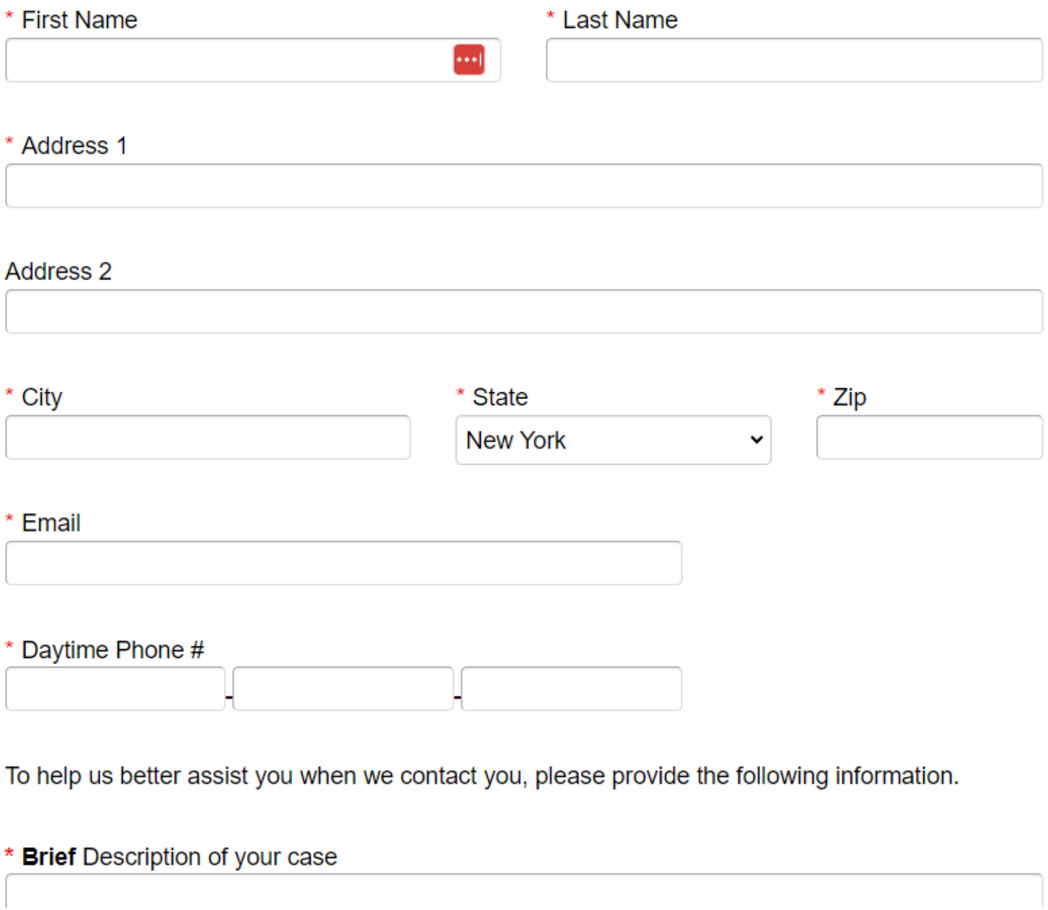
They must be in good standing with the Office of Court Administration, must have malpractice insurance, and must be in practice for more than 2 years.

They provide LRS-referred clients with an initial consultation of up to 30 minutes for $35 or no cost, depending on the area of law.



NEW YORK CITY BAR LEGAL REFERRAL SERVICE

# How the Public Gets Legal Help




Members of the public call us or complete our Online Request Form.

They discuss their legal issue with one of our referral counselors or write a brief description of the issue and the results they want to see.

They get referred to a lawyer or appropriate resource.

# STAY ENGAGED & CONNECTED

To learn more about the City Bar Justice Center:

- Visit our website
- Subscribe to our newsletter
- Follow us on social media @CityBarJusticeCenter:

Facebook

LinkedIn

Threads

Instagram

# CONTACT US

**Libby Vazquez**
Director of Legal Services

# Thank You