



Alabama State Bar

Lawyers Render Service

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2014 Annual Meeting

July 9-12, 2014

Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa

ASB Lawyer Referral Service

Please read this information carefully before seeking your referral.

The Lawyer Referral Service is a program of the Alabama State Bar. Its purpose is to assist members of the public who can afford to pay a lawyer but do not have one in finding an attorney who handles their type of matter. It is the **only** lawyer referral service operated by the Alabama State Bar. All panel members of the Lawyer Referral Service are licensed in Alabama and are members in good standing of the Alabama State Bar. **The Lawyer Referral Service does not have free attorneys.**

HOW DOES THE LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE WORK?

When you call the Lawyer Referral Service's toll free number (**1-800-392-5660**) you will be asked to briefly state your problem. All information will be held in the strictest confidence. After listening to your problem, the Lawyer Referral Service representative will ask for your name, address, telephone number and any other necessary information. You will then be given the name of one lawyer located near you, if one is available, who practices in the area of law that relates to your problem. The service does not have attorneys who handle all types of legal problems in all areas of the state. **The service does not provide lists of attorneys.**

When you request and receive a referral through the Alabama State Bar's website, you must agree to the [Terms of Service](#), and choose the area of law and the type of problem. You must enter your name, address, and email address, and you must indicate the county in which you are having the legal problem. You will receive the name and phone number for one lawyer who practices in the county you indicated, if one is available. The service does not have attorneys who handle all types of legal problems in all areas of the state. **We regret that we cannot provide referrals through email.** Please read the remainder of these instructions and then go to the bottom of this page for an online referral, or call the toll free number to speak with a referral representative.

When you receive a referral, it is your responsibility to contact the lawyer to make an appointment to discuss your legal problem. The Lawyer Referral Service cannot make appointments for callers. When you call to make your appointment with the lawyer, be sure to tell him or her that the Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral Service has referred you.

WHEN IS THE LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE OPEN?

The Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral Service's toll free number operates Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Referrals through the website are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

HOW MUCH WILL MY LAWYER CHARGE?

The Lawyer Referral Service is designed to serve anyone who can afford the services of a lawyer. A person who has a legal problem and cannot afford to pay for legal counsel should contact [Legal Services](#).

Lawyers who participate in the ASB Lawyer Referral Service agree to charge no more than \$50 for an initial 30-minute consultation. The purpose of the initial consultation is to access your legal problem, determine if additional legal services are needed and explain your legal options. **If your problem requires work beyond the initial consultation and you decide to hire the lawyer, you and the lawyer must negotiate to determine how much his or her legal services will cost.** Be

sure to discuss any additional fees; if the lawyer tells you that you need additional legal work but does not discuss additional fees then you should ask. Lawyers charge based on the time and type of work involved, the difficulty in solving the problem, and your needs as a client. The Lawyer Referral Service encourages you to ask for a written fee agreement before you proceed with any legal work beyond the first 30-minute consultation.



MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

Some attorneys who participate in the ASB Lawyer Referral Service offer a 25% discount to members of the United States Armed Forces. **If you are a member of the U. S. Armed Forces, please call 800-392-5660 for a referral.** At this time, the online Lawyer Referral Service does not indicate which lawyers provide legal representation for members of the military at a discounted rate.

WHAT DO I NEED FOR MY APPOINTMENT?

- *Be prepared.* When you call the lawyer for an appointment, ask what documents you should bring to the first 30-minute consultation. Be ready to give the lawyer all background information relating to the situation. You may wish to prepare a list of questions to ask the lawyer.
- *Be efficient.* If you do hire a lawyer, don't make unnecessary phone calls to the lawyer. Most lawyers charge for time spent on the phone with a client. Keep a list of all items you want to discuss with your lawyer and be prepared to cover them in one phone call or ask them at your next scheduled meeting.
- *Keep records.* File all material you receive from your lawyer in one place. Your file is often the best way to find answers to questions about your case.

CLICK HERE TO RECEIVE YOUR REFERRAL ONLINE Lawyer Referral Service members will sometimes include many counties in their coverage area. If you feel that you need a lawyer closer to the site of your legal problem, please call us at 800-392-5660 and we will attempt to narrow down your search.


REFERRALS FOR MATTERS OUTSIDE ALABAMA

The ASB Lawyer Referral Service cannot help you to find a lawyer for a legal matter outside the State of Alabama. If you need a lawyer outside Alabama, please consult the [American Bar Association Lawyer Referral Directory](#).

Thank you for using the Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral Service.

Alabama State Bar
Lawyer Referral Service
 415 Dexter Avenue
 Montgomery, AL 36104
 800-392-5660

415 Dexter Avenue • Montgomery, Alabama 36104 • (334) 269-1515 • Fax (334) 261-6310 • (800) 354-6154

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