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Lawyer Referral and Information Service

WHAT IS LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE?

Lawyer Referral Service is a non-profit agency sponsored by the Genesee County Bar Association since 1977, under the supervision of the American and State Bar of Michigan and endorsed by the Michigan Association of Bar Executives.

WHAT DOES IT DO FOR ME?

The Lawyer Referral Service determines the general legal problem you have described. Then, for a prepaid fee of \$30 it arranges an appointment with an attorney who handles your kind of legal problem. The attorney will provide you with a half-hour consultation for this charge. The \$30 fee is waived for personal injury and social security matters.

WHO CAN USE IT?

Anyone who needs an attorney and doesn't have one!

I ALREADY HAVE A LAWYER. SHOULD I USE LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE?

If you already know of an attorney, either through a personal experience or through a reliable recommendation, you should probably not use the Service. Lawyer Referral Service is not designed to help people who already have an attorney with whom they are satisfied. The Service is established to help people who have a legal problem and do not know an attorney. To a large extent, many individuals use Lawyer Referral Service once. When they have another legal problem they return to the lawyer who helped them without going through the Service. If for any reason you desire another attorney, you can use the Service as often as you like.

HOW IS LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE BETTER THAN PICKING AN ATTORNEY FROM THE TELEPHONE BOOK OR FROM HIS ADVERTISEMENT?

First, Lawyer Referral Service is an independent referral by a non-profit agency sponsored by the Genesee County Bar Association. Any other listing or advertising is basically a recommendation by an attorney for himself. Here are other reasons to use Lawyer Referral Service:

All Lawyer Referral Service lawyers must maintain malpractice insurance.

The lawyer on the service's list to whom you are referred has expressed a desire to handle your type of legal problem.

The Service's list is updated periodically to ensure the attorney desired area of practice includes your type of case. Only lawyers in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan receive referrals.

You know what the attorney will charge and the service to be rendered before you hire your lawyer.

Conferences are quickly arranged and immediately arranged in emergencies.

Lawyer Referral is not limited to a few lawyers but includes all lawyers in the community who are members of the Genesee County Bar Association and who are in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan and who are willing to take referrals.

Lawyer Referral attorneys maintain separate, independent law offices. Only by satisfying you, their client, are they able to continue their practice.

SO I SEE THE REFERRAL LAWYER – WHAT THEN?

Some legal problems cannot be solved by merely consulting an attorney. Many consultations result in further legal proceedings. You choose whether you retain the Referral lawyer for further proceedings. It is between you and your lawyer as to whether he or she is retained to do legal work and the charge for the further work.

I CAN GET A "REDUCED" RATE BY SECURING THE PLANT LAWYER FOR MY LEGAL WORK. WHY SHOULD I USE LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE AND HAVE TO PAY THE "GOING" RATE?

Lawyer Referral Service does not employ lawyers. Lawyers apply to be listed. The lawyer and/or law firm with whom you consult had no obligation to Lawyer Referral Service or to any organization or person except you, the client. As a result you know that no individual is benefitted by the referral except yourself. Lawyers to whom you are referred by the Lawyer Referral Service maintain their practice by satisfying clients. Their sole income is from their clients and not from any other entity.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE "DEAL" I CAN GET?

There are seldom "bargain" prices in any profession. Reduced rates mean reduced services. Few people would entrust a gall bladder operation to a physician who offered a "reduced" fee in exchange for reduced care. Most people want a good lawyer and a fair charge. Few people are willing to entrust their legal problems to a lawyer who solicits their case by promising a "reduced" fee.

YOU CONVINCED ME TO USE LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE. WHAT NEXT?

Simply call Genesee County Bar Association Lawyer Referral at **(810) 232-6000** or visit our office in downtown Flint. No appointment is needed. Pay your \$30 referral fee in advance and receive your appointment with a lawyer. The referral fee can be paid by check, cash, or money order.

To Be Referred, Call (810) 232-6000

Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(Closed from 12-1:00 p.m. for lunch)

30 Minute Consultation With A Practicing Attorney.

Referral Charge: \$30. Paid in advance to the Genesee County Bar Association to help defray costs of running the program. The \$30 fee is waived for personal injury and social security matters.

IF YOU HAVE A LEGAL PROBLEM AND DO NOT HAVE AN ATTORNEY, CONTACT THE GENESEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION L.R.I.S. AT (810) 232-6000.