

We Sow, You Reap:

Gathering a Bounty of Legal Information

May 9, 2024



MLA/DLA Conference



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State Law Library

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Learning Objectives

- Describe the resources provided by the Maryland Judiciary and its agencies
- Identify helpful resources within those provided by the Judiciary
- Distinguish between resources on similar topics

Do you receive legal questions from the public throughout your workday?



Poll Question

A self-represented litigant

(SRL; aka pro se):

is a person seeking legal information to help them advocate on their own behalf, without a lawyer.

An estimated **3 out of 5 people** in civil cases go to court without a lawyer.

Self-Represented Litigants

What can we provide to the self-represented?

Information

Self-Represented Litigants

How comfortable are you in knowing the difference
between

legal advice and ***legal information***?

1 = Not comfortable at all

5 = Very comfortable

Self-Represented Litigants

I Can

Describe court processes.

Inform litigants of several options without advising them which is best.

Direct litigants to applicable court rules and statutes.

Define key terms and concepts, or describe the role of Judiciary employees who may be involved in the case.

Provide copies of documents that are matters of public record.

I Cannot

Give information if I am unsure of the answer.

Advise litigants whether to take a particular course of action. (Cannot say what a litigant “should” do.)

Take sides in a case or proceeding pending before the court.

Provide information to one party that I would be unwilling or unable to provide the other.

Disclose the outcome of a matter submitted to a judge for decision until the outcome is part of the public record, or until the judge directs disclosure of the matter.

Source: Maryland Judiciary, A2J Department - <https://mdcourts.gov/mdatjc/whatcanidotohelpyou>

What Can You Do?



Maryland Court Help

Free. Online. In Person. By Phone.



Court Help Toolkit



Index of Court Help Topics



Court Help Video Library



Free Legal Webinars



Forms Finder and **Guide & File**



Court Help Centers

Connecting SRLs with Resources

- Research questions by web form, phone, email, or in person
 - Extended hours:
 - T, Th: 8:00 am - 9:00 pm
 - S: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- People's Law Library website
- Legal reference training for public librarians



State Law Library



Read About a Legal Topic



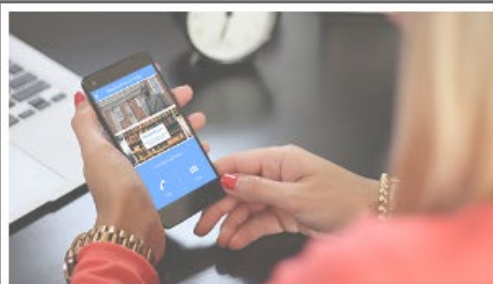
Court Help Centers



Video Library



Get Help From a Lawyer



Court Help App



Language Needs

Connecting SRLs with Resources:
mdcourts.gov/courthelp



Maryland Court Help

Free. Online. In Person. By Phone.



Maryland Court Help

Gratis. En Línea. En persona. Por teléfono.

Maryland Court Help:
mdcourts.gov/courthelp

Tips for interacting with the Maryland courts

- Preparing for court
- Requesting or working with a court interpreter
- Remote proceedings

Basics on criminal and traffic

Common civil case types, including family

Common procedural issues

- Requesting fee waivers
- Filling out the restricted information form

Court Help Topics



- Expungements
- Cannabis
- Evictions

Hot Topics

Links to common case types

- a **basic overview** of the legal topic
- **links to resources** regarding that topic
- information about which **court has jurisdiction**
- links to **applicable court forms**

Read About the Law - Index of Court Help Topics

This page lists articles on common legal topics. These pages will provide you with some general information. Detailed legal information is available through the People's Law Library website.

Civil Cases

Appealing an Administrative Decision
Appeals and Motions After Trial in the District Court
Bad Checks
Collecting on a Judgment
Discovery in the Circuit Court
Employment Issues
Housing
I Owe Money/Dealing with Debt
Judgments & Debt Collection
Land Records
Life Planning and Power of Attorney
Mandamus
Money Issues
Return of Property
Small Claims
Someone Owes Me Money
What to Do if You Are Sued in District Court
Wills and Estates

Criminal Cases

Cleaning Up Your Record
Criminal Cases - General Information
Expungement
Shielding Criminal Records

Family Cases

Other

Access to Court Records
Appeals to the Appellate Court of Maryland
Restricted Information Form

Resources

Accommodations
Court Forms
Court Help App
Court Help Centers
Court Help Videos
Family Court Help Centers
Filing Fee Waivers
Finding Legal Help
Guide and File
Language Needs
Mediation and ADR
Peoples-Law Library
Remote Hearing Toolkit
The Thurgood Marshall State Law Library
Webinars

Traffic

Read about a legal topic:
mdcourts.gov/courthelp/lawtopics



Maryland Court Help

Free. Online. In Person. By Phone.

Court Help Portal

This portal is designed to help you navigate the court process.

What do you want to do?

I would like to start a court case

Select a case type ▾

I need to work on my court case

I want to ▾

I need help with the papers I was served

Click on the option that matches all or part of the title on the papers you received.

I recieved ▾

I need information on a legal topic

Choose a topic ▾

I want to look up a court case

Search now

I need other information

I want to ▾

The **new portal** will better organize the myriad of Court Help topics for easier navigation and use!

Court Help Portal

Articles

- Civil law topics most often encountered by MD residents

Explanations

- Common steps in the process of a legal situation

Connections

- Legal Services Directory
- Legal Clinic Calendar
- Court Help Centers
- Law Libraries

The People's Law Library of Maryland

Legal Self-Help Information for Marylanders. Hosted by the Thurgood Marshall State Law Library.

HOME HOW DO I...? LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTORY LEGAL CLINIC CALENDAR RESEARCH TOPICS ABOUT

Search Search

HOW DO I...?

- Evaluate My Situation
- Alternatives to Court
- Get Help
- Legal Research
- Start/Respond to a Case
- Discovery and Evidence
- Prepare for Court
- Judgments
- Appeals

LEGAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

Enter your county and the type of service you need. Or [CLICK HERE](#) to see all providers in the directory.

Keyword County Category

- Any - - Any -

FIND A SERVICE PROVIDER

MARYLAND COURT HELP CENTER

Free legal help with your civil matter.
8:30 am - 8:00 pm, Mon - Fri

Call or Chat In-Person

CHAT
with a volunteer
[Click here](#)

410-260-1392

RESEARCH TOPICS

HOW DO I...?
Evaluate My Situation, Alternatives to Court, Get Help, Legal Research, Start/Respond to a Case, More...

CONSUMER
Automobiles, Bankruptcy, Contracts, Credit, Debts & Loans, Identity Theft, More...

CRIMINAL
Expungement, Victim's Rights, More...

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Protective Orders and Peace Orders, Legal Options, Non-Legal Support, Safety Issues, More...

EDUCATION
Discipline, Enrollment & Registration, More...

EMPLOYMENT
Discrimination, Unemployment Benefits, Youth Employment, More...

LEGAL CLINIC CALENDAR
Find a free upcoming clinic near you
UPCOMING EVENTS

ASK A MARYLAND LAW LIBRARIAN
Submit a legal information question to the Thurgood Marshall State Law Library
CLICK HERE

The People's Law Library:
peoples-law.org

Research Topics

HOW DO I...? +

CONSUMER +

CRIMINAL +

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE +

EDUCATION +

EMPLOYMENT +

FAMILY LAW +

GOVERNMENT BENEFITS & SERVICES +

LANDLORD - TENANT +

LIFE AND HEALTH PLANNING +

OTHER LEGAL ISSUES +

REAL ESTATE AND OTHER HOUSING +

WILLS - ESTATES - PROBATE +

YOUTH LAW +

The People's Law Library: peoples-law.org

The People's Law Library: peoples-law.org

6: Temporary Protective Order Hearing.

You must attend a Temporary Protective Order hearing to extend the length and scope of protection contained in the Interim Protective Order. If the other side has not received a copy (i.e. been served), the Court will issue a Temporary Protective Order and serve the abuser with notice of the final hearing.

Read the Law: Md. Code, Family Law ("Fam. Law") § 4-504 and 4-504.1

- Step #2: Temporary Protective Order - Obtaining immediate protection during court business hours
- Step #3: Final Protective Order - Obtaining long-term protection
- Domestic Violence - A 6-Part Video Series (from the Maryland Courts)

Protective Order Generally

In Maryland, you can obtain an order of



The screenshot shows the top portion of the website. At the top right, there are three yellow 'A' icons and a language dropdown set to 'English'. Below this is a search bar with the text 'Search' and a magnifying glass icon. A 'Main Menu' dropdown is visible. Underneath are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, and LinkedIn. The main content area is titled 'RELATED ARTICLES & OTHER RESOURCES' and features a red 'Quick Exit' button. Below this, there are links for 'Domestic Violence' and 'Protective Orders'. The page is partially obscured by a dark blue overlay on the left and bottom, with red arrows pointing to specific elements.

Legal Services Directory

Keyword

ywca

County

Anne Arundel

Category

Domestic Violence

FIND A SERVICE PROVIDER

This is a listing of free and low cost legal service providers in Maryland. We also have a page with [resources](#) for people looking for mediators, self-help centers, fee-based legal assistance, as well as a listing of non-legal social services providers. The Thurgood Marshall State Law Library has a [listing](#) of the public law libraries in the state.

Organization Name	Phone	Website	Service County
YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County	410-626-7800	https://www.annapolisywca.org/	Anne Arundel

Finding Further Assistance

YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

Organization Description

The YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County offers a variety of programming to meet the social, emotional, educational and recreational needs of women and girls in the greater Annapolis area.

PROGRAM DETAILS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSISTANCE +

Website

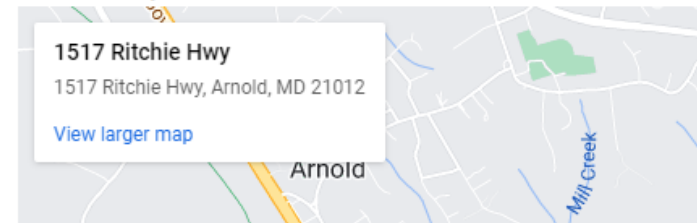
[YWCA](#)

Phone, Office

410-626-7800

Address

1517 Ritchie Highway Suite 201
Arnold, Maryland 21012



Finding Further Assistance

Legal Clinic Calendar

Topic County

Clinic Name	Date and Time	County	Venue
Baltimore County Virtual Family Help	Wed, 05/08/2024 - 8:30 am to Wed, 05/08/2024 - 3:30 pm	Baltimore	Baltimore County Circuit Court
Catonsville District Court Help Center	Wed, 05/08/2024 - 8:30 am to Wed, 05/08/2024 - 4:30 pm	Baltimore	Catonsville District Court for Baltimore County
Lawyer in the Library- Baltimore County - Woodlawn Branch	Wed, 05/08/2024 - 4:00 pm to Wed, 05/08/2024 - 6:00 pm	Baltimore	Woodlawn Library

[Finding Further Assistance](#)

Lawyer in the Library- Baltimore County - Woodlawn Branch

One-on-One Civil Legal Advice - FREE help for your civil legal issues including:

- Bankruptcy
- Child Custody & Support
- Debt Collection
- Expungements
- Foreclosure
- Government Benefits
- Landlord/Tenant
- Veterans' Benefits
- Wage Claims

First come, first served. No appointment necessary.

Attendees must wear masks and practice social distancing.

Clinic URL

[MD Legal Aid](#)

Where

Woodlawn Library

1811 Woodlawn Dr



Finding Further Assistance

Help Centers

- Staffed by **attorneys** who provide guidance/advice in a limited capacity

Law Libraries

- Staffed by **librarians** who can find information to supplement a direct request for more knowledge in a particular area of law

MARYLAND COURT HELP CENTER

Free legal help with your civil matter.

8:30 am - 8:00 pm, Mon - Fri

Call or Chat



410-260-1392

In-Person




ASK A MARYLAND LAW LIBRARIAN

Submit a legal information question to the Thurgood
Marshall State Law Library

[CLICK HERE](#)

Finding Further Assistance

<p>Law Topics</p> <p>What is service of process? Expungement? Rent Escrow? Each video in this series tackles a specific legal subject.</p>  <p>Learn More >></p>	<p>Court Basics</p> <p>From filing fees to court interpreters, videos in this series deliver fundamentals on how the court operates.</p>  <p>Learn More >></p>	<p>Family</p> <p>Videos on family matters, including Child Custody, Child Welfare, and Divorce.</p>  <p>Learn More >></p>	<p>Guardianship</p> <p>Considering becoming a guardian? Have you been appointed? This video series has the information you need for success.</p>  <p>Learn More >></p>	<p>Get Started</p> <p>Should you represent yourself? Or should you get a lawyer? These videos help get you on track to self-representation.</p>  <p>Learn More >></p>
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- Gain a **basic understanding of a legal topic** before seeking legal assistance
- **Videos on court basics** and procedural and substantive topics
- Each video page has links to a **tip or fact sheet, transcript, and court information**
- **Spanish captioning** available

Court Help Video Library:
mdcourts.gov/video

Find which family law form you need

(Case types include child custody, child support, divorce, marriage, domestic violence.)



Family Law Forms Finder

[Learn More >>](#)

Find which District Court form you need

(Case types include civil, criminal, peace/protective order, traffic, and expungement.)



District Court Forms Finder

[Learn More >>](#)



District Court Forms

1. General Information

Answer the following questions to identify, select and print the forms you will need to handle your case in District Court. Do not use this tool if you want to ask the court for an expungement.

* 1. What do you want to do today?

- I want to start a court case.
- I want to file papers or ask the court to do something in a case that already exists.
- See a list of all District Court forms.

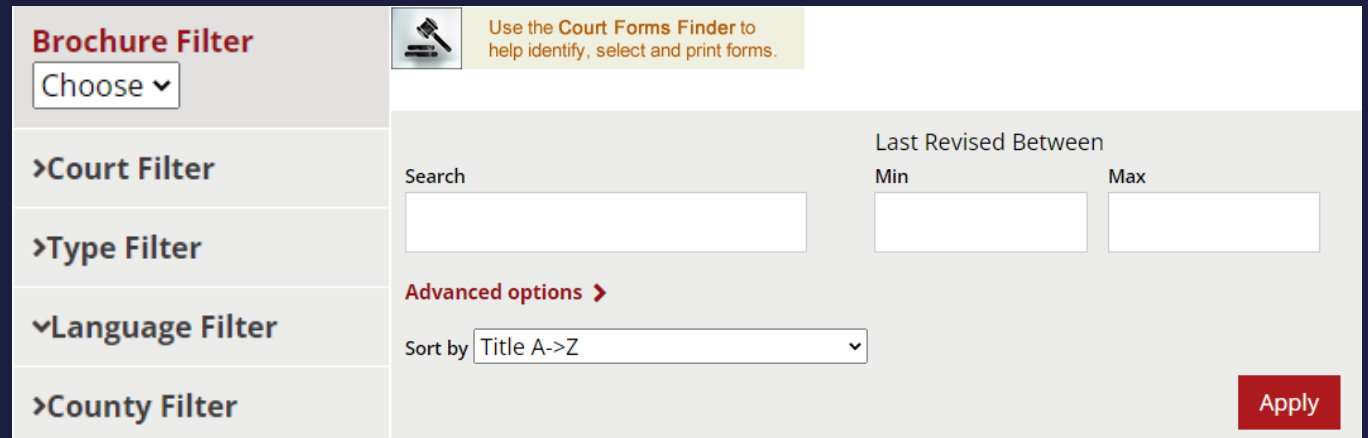
Next

Court Forms Finder:
mdcourts.gov/courtforms/finder

Use filters to narrow down forms:

Does an SRL already know what form they need?

SRLs can use the **Court Form Search bar** to find forms!



The screenshot displays the 'Court Forms Search' interface. On the left, there is a vertical sidebar with the following filters: 'Brochure Filter' (with a 'Choose' dropdown), '>Court Filter', '>Type Filter', 'vLanguage Filter', and '>County Filter'. The main search area on the right includes a 'Search' input field, a 'Last Revised Between' section with 'Min' and 'Max' input fields, and a 'Sort by' dropdown menu currently set to 'Title A->Z'. A red 'Apply' button is located at the bottom right. A yellow banner at the top right of the search area contains a gavel icon and the text: 'Use the Court Forms Finder to help identify, select and print forms.'

Court Forms Search:
mdcourts.gov/forms

Guide & File Interview Index

Click on the **box (Form No.: Legal Issue)** listed below for the form you would like to use the Guide & File application to complete (filing options are also included). New interview topics will be added as they become available.

Family Issues

CC-DR-001: I want to file for child support. +

CC-DR-004: I want custody of a child. +

CC-DR-020: I want to file for divorce. +

CC-DR-050: I need to respond to a case filed against me involving divorce, child custody, child support, or visitation. +

Criminal Issues

CC-DC-CR-072A/B/C/D: I want to expunge my records. +

DC-099: District Court Commissioner Application for Representation by the Public Defender +

Housing Issues

DC-CV-083: I need my landlord to make repairs. +

DC-CV-116: I want to shield my failure to pay rent case records. +

Civil Issues

- Tool to assist SRLs in **completing forms online**
- Guides SRLs through **a series of questions**, or “interview,” and copies those answers **directly into the appropriate court form**
- Completed forms can be filed in person, by mail, or electronically

Guide and File:
mdcourts.gov/guideandfile

CIVIL - DOMESTIC CASE INFORMATION REPORT

DIRECTIONS

Plaintiff: This Information Report must be completed and attached to the complaint filed with the Clerk of Court unless your case is exempted from the requirement by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maryland pursuant to Rule 2-111(a).

Defendant: You must file an Information Report as required by Rule 2-323(h).

THIS INFORMATION REPORT CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AS A PLEADING

FORM FILED BY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PLAINTIFF <input type="checkbox"/> DEFENDANT	CASE NUMBER _____ (Clerk to insert)
CASE NAME: <u>Jane Doe</u> Plaintiff vs. <u>John Doe</u> Defendant	
PARTY'S NAME: <u>Jane Doe</u>	PHONE: <u>410-260-1126</u>
PARTY'S ADDRESS: <u>1111 Nice Town Ln</u>	Nice Town, MD 11111
PARTY'S E-MAIL: <u>alvarezkimberly65@yahoo.com</u>	
If represented by an attorney: PARTY'S ATTORNEY'S NAME: _____ PHONE: _____	
PARTY'S ATTORNEY'S ADDRESS: _____	
PARTY'S ATTORNEY'S E-MAIL: _____	

I am not represented by an attorney

RELATED CASE PENDING? Yes No If yes, Case #(s), if known: _____

PLEADING TYPE

New Case: Original
Existing Case: Post-Judgment Amendment
If filing in an existing case, skip Case Category/ Subcategory section - go to Issues section.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Spoken Language Interpreter - Attach form CC-DC-041
 If you require an accommodation for a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act - Attach form CC-DC-049

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INFORMATION

Is this case appropriate for referral to an ADR process under Md. Rule 17-101? (Check all that apply)
A. Mediation Yes No
B. Arbitration Yes No
C. Settlement Conference Yes No
D. Neutral Evaluation Yes No
If no, explain why: Not necessary.

IF NEW CASE: CASE CATEGORY/SUBCATEGORY (Check one box.)

Domestic Family

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alimony/Spousal Support | Agency/IV-D | Change of Name | Independent Proceedings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name | <input type="checkbox"/> Amend Birth Certificate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breach | <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity/Parentage | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult | <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Sex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support - Private | <input type="checkbox"/> UIFSA | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor | <input type="checkbox"/> Correct Death Certificate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Custody | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Declare Deceased |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Divorce | Adoption | | <input type="checkbox"/> Dispose Body |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emancipation | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption - Independent | | <input type="checkbox"/> Amend Marriage Certificate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enforce Foreign Order | <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption - Private Agency | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Legal/Medical | | Guardianship | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity/Parentage | | <input type="checkbox"/> Guardianship of Adult Person and/or Property | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recognition as Legal Child | | <input type="checkbox"/> Guardianship of Minor Person and/or Property | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visitation | | | |

Mark this box if this form contains Restricted Information.

CIRCUIT COURT FOR Queen Anne's County, MARYLAND

Located at 200 N. Commerce Street Centreville, MD 21617 Telephone 410-758-1773
Court Address

Case No. _____

Jane Doe

Plaintiff
1111 Nice Town Ln
Street Address
Nice Town, MD 11111 410-260-1126
City, State, Zip Telephone
alvarezkimberly65@yahoo.com
E-mail

vs.

John Doe

Defendant
1111 Nice Town Ln
Street Address
Nice Town, MD 11111 410-260-1126
City, State, Zip Telephone
alvarezkimberly65@yahoo.com
E-mail

COMPLAINT FOR ABSOLUTE DIVORCE

(Family Law § 7-103)

MDEC counties only: If this submission contains Restricted Information (confidential by statute, rule or court order) you must file a Notice Regarding Restricted Information Pursuant to Rule 20-201.1 (form MDJ-008) with this submission, and check the Restricted Information box on this form.

NOTE: Use this form to initiate an absolute divorce case. Mark the "Restricted Information" box at the top of this or any other form you file that includes financial or other confidential information such as part of a social security or federal tax identification number. Only list the last four digits of account/ID numbers. Visit mdcourts.gov/divorce.

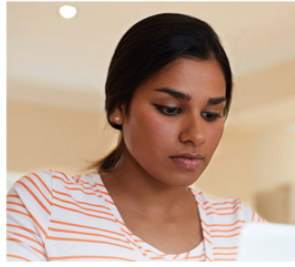
I, Jane Doe, state that:
Name

1. The defendant and I were married on 4/18/2022 in Centreville/Queen Anne's/MD,
Date of marriage City/County/State where married
United States in a civil religious ceremony.
Country where married

2. Check all that apply:

- I have lived in Maryland since 4/1/2022
Month/Year
 My spouse has lived in Maryland since 4/1/2022
Month/Year
 The grounds, or legal reasons, for divorce occurred in Maryland.
(for a list of grounds see number 13 below)
 The grounds for divorce occurred outside Maryland and either my spouse or I have been a resident of Maryland for at least six (6) months prior to the date this complaint was filed.

3. I know of the following cases, or I have been involved (as a party, witness, etc.) in the following cases about me, my spouse, or the child(ren). Examples include cases such as custody, child support, guardianship, domestic violence/protective order, paternity, divorce, visitation (child access), CINA, delinquency, termination of parental rights, adoption or other cases:



Maryland Court Help

GUIDE & FILE easy court forms

A free service of the Maryland Courts.*

Simple. Fast. Free.

Interviews guide you to complete court forms.

* Court filing fees may still apply.

Handling a court case yourself?

Maryland Guide & File is a new tool developed by the Maryland Courts to help you complete court forms online.

The application guides you through a series of questions called an "interview." When you're done, the program automatically generates all the forms you will need, along with detailed instructions on what to do next.

Download, print, sign, and file your documents with the court.

Find Maryland Guide & File at:
mdcourts.gov/guideandfile



Selected Interview: Complete Interview

Children Information
This page contains questions regarding the children and your relationship with the children.

For how many children are you requesting custody?*

0

What is your relationship to the children for which you will request custody?*

- Mother
- Father
- Parent
- Grandparent
- Guardian
- Other

Guided interviews make it easier to complete court forms.

Why Use Maryland Guide & File?

- **Convenient.** Use it from any computer with internet access.
- **Smart.** The application knows the forms you need based on your answers.
- **Start and finish when you want.** Create an account to save your work and return later.
- **File your forms.** Completed forms can be filed in person or by mail. Some interviews can be e-filed directly from the application. (Not available for cases filed in Baltimore City.)

Resources include:

- Getting Started –
 - Quick Reference Guide & Video
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Guide & File Flyer for Litigants

Guide and File Resources:
mdcourts.gov/guideandfile

MISSION & VISION JOBS SITE INDEX ACCESSIBILITY  English 

MARYLAND COURTS
Fair, Efficient, & Effective Justice For All


ENHANCED BY Google  Opinions Search Search Tips

HOME USING THE LIBRARY RESEARCH ABOUT US PEOPLE'S LAW LIBRARY ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN



Thurgood Marshall State Law Library

361 ROWE BOULEVARD
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
410-260-1430 | 888-216-8156
LAWLIBRARY@MDCOURTS.GOV

Search Catalog 

ENHANCED BY Google 

Audubon prints on display



Research at Your Fingertips

Welcome to the Thurgood Marshall State Law Library. We are open for visitors without an appointment.

Our public computer stations are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Staff will impose a 15-minute limit if patrons are waiting.

The internet and our databases are accessible via WiFi. If you bring a laptop, time

ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN

✉ lawlibrary@mdcourts.gov
☎ 410-260-1430
888-216-8156 (MD toll-free)

[Library Hours](#)

[Ask a Maryland Law Librarian](#)

State Law Library Website
mdcourts.gov/lawlib

HOME	<u>USING THE LIBRARY</u>	RESEARCH	ABOUT US	PEOPLE'S LAW LIBRARY	ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN
Visiting the Library MDEC E-Filing Support	Reference Services		For Judiciary		For Librarians

HOME	USING THE LIBRARY	<u>RESEARCH</u>	ABOUT US	PEOPLE'S LAW LIBRARY	ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN
Catalog Collections	Gateway to Maryland Law Special Collections Room		Databases		Research Guides

HOME	USING THE LIBRARY	RESEARCH	<u>ABOUT US</u>	PEOPLE'S LAW LIBRARY	ASK A LAW LIBRARIAN
About our Namesake Library Staff Public Information Act Requests	History Policies and Guidelines		Special Collections Room News and Reports		Library Committee Conf. of Md. Law Lib. Dir.

State Law Library Website
mdcourts.gov/lawlib

Gateway to Maryland Law

The Thurgood Marshall State Law Library has an extensive collection of primary and secondary sources focusing on Maryland law. Many of these resources are available online, but some require physical presence at the Library to access.

Maryland Code | County and Municipal Codes | Court Rules | Case Law | Regulations | Attorney General Opinions | State Publications | Task Force Reports | Incorporated by Reference | Law Reviews and Journals

State Law Library Website

mdcourts.gov/lawlib/research/gateway-to-md-law

Contents

1. **Getting Started:** Legal Information vs. Legal Advice
2. **Public Law Libraries**
3. **Self-Help**
4. **Attorneys**
5. **State Government Structure**
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7. **Primary Sources of Law**
8. **State Constitution**
9. **State Legislative Law**
10. **Local Law**
11. **State Judicial Law** (Courts), including forms information
12. **State Regulatory Law** (Executive Branch and Agencies)

Maryland Public Library Toolkit

mdcourts.gov/lawlib/using-library/for-librarians/public-library-toolkit

John J.
Audubon's
Birds of
America

John James
Audubon's Birds of
America contains
435 life-size
watercolors of North
American birds. It is
considered to be the
archetype of wildlife
illustration. [Learn
more.](#)



Birds of America - Black-
Throated Blue Warbler

Martenet's Map of Central
and Southern Maryland

Benoît de Maillet's
Telliamed

Jury Wheels

Maryland's Constitution
of 1867

Special Collections Room

mdcourts.gov/lawlib/research/special-collections-room

Free 1-hour classes taught by attorneys from the Maryland Court Help Centers

Topics include:

- Filing for divorce
- Child custody
- Filing a case in the District Court
- Filing for expungement

Free Online Classes (Webinars)

FREE 1-hour classes taught by attorneys from the Maryland Court Help Centers. Watch [live](#) or [on demand](#).

Live Classes



Filing for Divorce in Maryland

January 19, 2023 3:00 p.m.

March 22, 2023 11:00 a.m.

An attorney from the Maryland Courts Help Center will guide you through the Absolute Divorce form.

Register



Child Custody

February 23, 2023, 1:00 p.m.

An attorney from the Maryland Courts Help Center will provide information about child custody laws in Maryland.

Register

On Demand Classes



Responding to a Complaint for Custody in Maryland

In this class, an attorney from the Maryland Court Help Center will walk you through filling out the Answer and Counter Complaint forms.

Watch Now

Free Legal Help Webinars:
mdcourts.gov/legalhelp/webinars

Law on the Frontlines
Legal Reference for Public Libraries



Via Carva

Best Practices for Legal Reference

TMSLL/CMCLLD/MdA2JC 2024 02 rev

Law on the Frontlines Legal Reference for Public Libraries

Law on the Frontlines
Legal Reference for Public Libraries



Learn about:

- Access to Justice and why it matters to public libraries
- Legal reference interviews
- Resources for legal information
- Making referrals

Law on the Frontlines
Legal Reference for Public Libraries

YOU ARE IN:
Research

Catalog

Gateway to Maryland Law

Databases

Research Guides

Collections

Special Collections Room

Gateway to Maryland Law

The Thurgood Marshall State Law Library has an extensive collection of primary and secondary sources focusing on Maryland law. Many of these resources are available online, but some require physical presence at the Library to access.

[Maryland Code](#) | [County and Municipal Codes](#) | [Court Rules](#) | [Case Law](#) |
[Regulations](#) | [Attorney General Opinions](#) | [State Publications](#) | [Task Force Reports](#) |
[Incorporated by Reference](#) | [Law Reviews and Journals](#)

Maryland Code and Laws of Maryland

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



- [Maryland Code and Rules](#)
- [Maryland County Codes](#)
- [Maryland Law Collections](#)
- [Maryland Law Reviews and Journals](#)
- [Maryland Municipal Codes](#)
- [Maryland Publications](#)
- [Scanned Collections](#)
- [Task Force Reports](#)


Gateway to Maryland Law

Maryland Law Libraries

Thurgood Marshall State Law Library 

Circuit Court Law Libraries

Allegany County	Charles County 	Prince George's County 
Anne Arundel County 	Dorchester County	Queen Anne's County
Baltimore City 	Frederick County	St. Mary's County
Baltimore County 	Garrett County	Somerset County
Calvert County	Harford County	Talbot County
Caroline County	Howard County 	Washington County 
Carroll County 	Kent County	Wicomico County
Cecil County	Montgomery County 	Worcester County

 indicates the library is staffed.

Thurgood Marshall State Law Library

Member, Conference of Maryland Court Law Library Directors

MDEC e-Filing Support from the Thurgood Marshall State Law Library

Access: [Click here for details.](#)

Staff: Yes, full time

Address: 361 Rowe Blvd, Annapolis MD 21401

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Holiday closures posted on Library website

Phone: (410) 260-1430

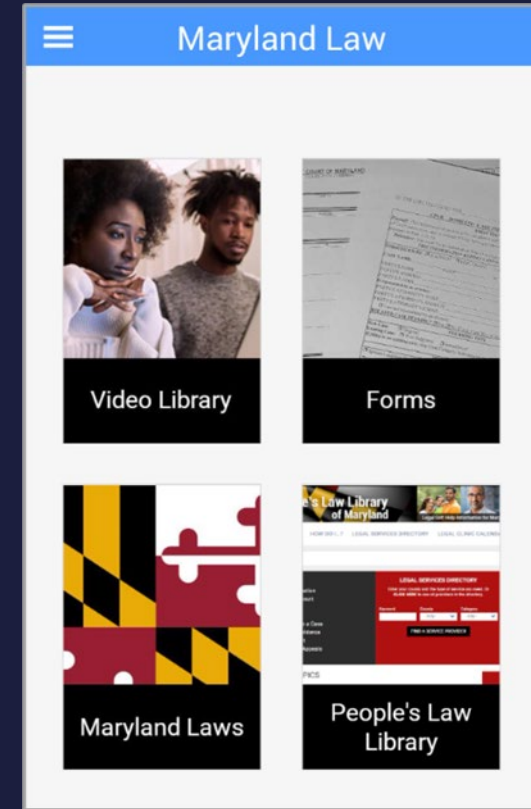
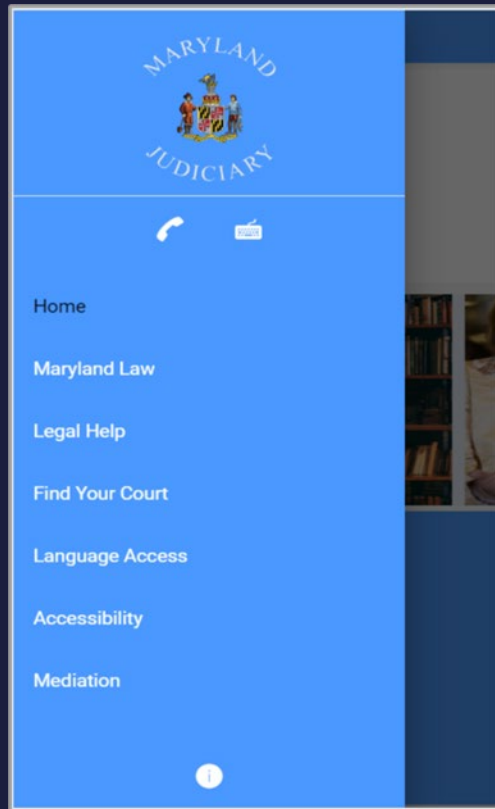
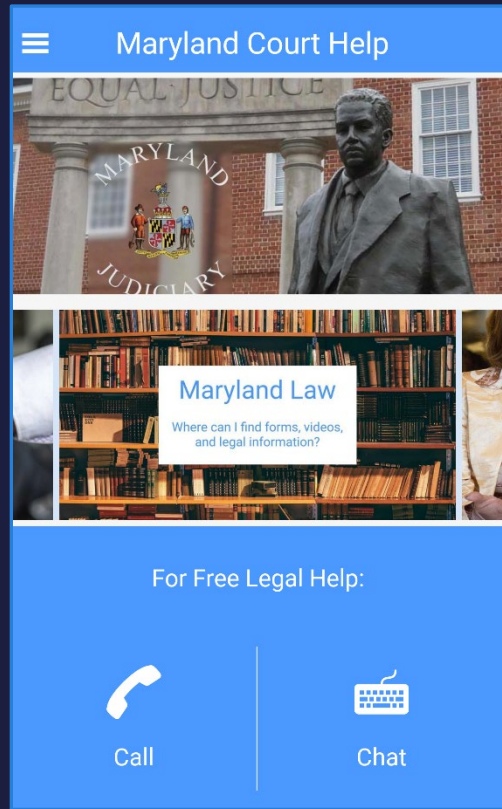
Photocopies: Copiers available, \$.50 per page

Computers: Computers with internet access and printers are available for public use.

Printing is \$.50 per page. Wifi is available.

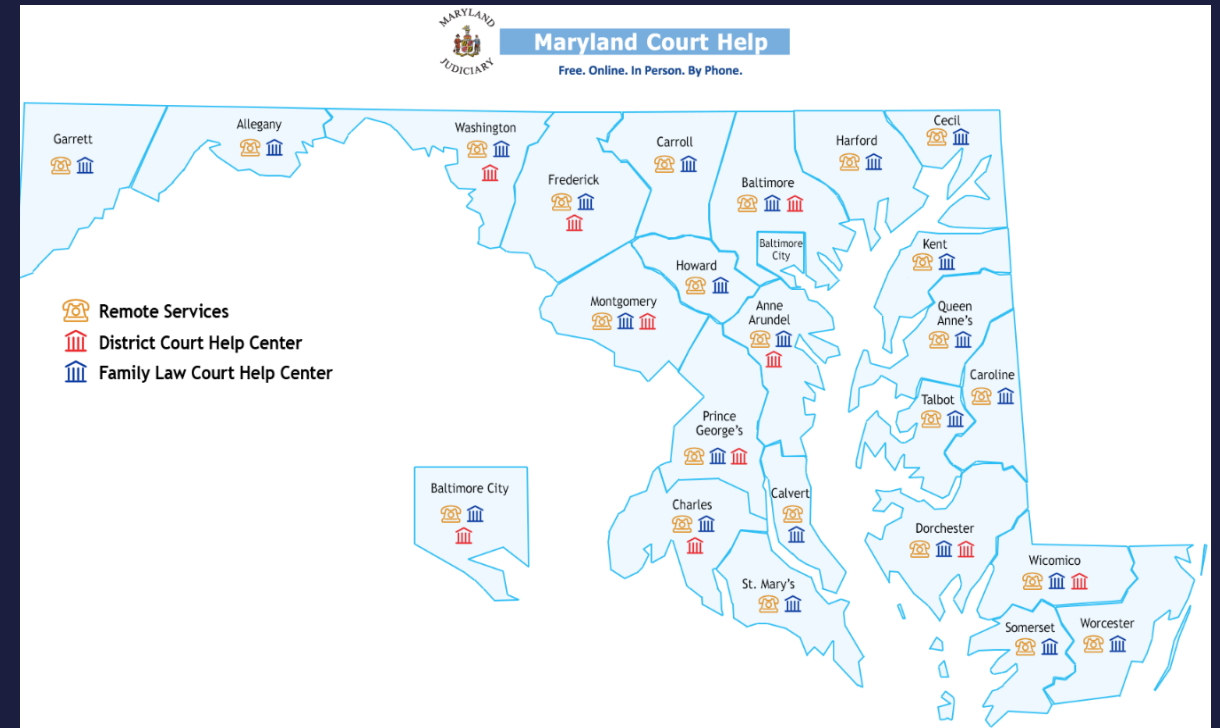
Where is your closest law library?

mdcourts.gov/ccll



Maryland Court Help App
mdcourts.gov/courthelp/mobileapp

- **10 District Court Help Centers**
 - 2 “All Civil” Centers – Frederick and La Plata
- **24 Family Law Court Help Centers**
- **Call and chat are available**
 - Mon - Fri at 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM



Maryland Court Help Centers:
mdcourts.gov/helpcenter



Court Language Services

For the Public

Request an interpreter or learn how the court supports language needs

Español | Français | русский
| 한국어 | 中文



[Learn More >>](#)

Court Interpreters

Resources for court interpreters



[Learn More >>](#)

Apply to Become a Court Interpreter

Information on how to apply for the court interpreter program



[Learn More >>](#)

Toolkit for Judges and Court Staff

CourtNet (Intranet)

Tools and resources to help judges and court staff assist persons with limited English proficiency



[Learn More >>](#)

Services include:

- Language Identification Guide
- Language Line
- Flyers, forms, brochures, and other information are available in **Spanish, French, Russian, Korean, and Chinese**
- Video Remote Interpreters
- ASL Interpreters

Language Services & Portals:
mdcourts.gov/languageservices

Order copies of Access to Justice materials:

- Public Access to Court Records brochures
- Court Help Center flyers
- Flyers and pocket cards advertising the App, the Court Help Videos, and Guide & File
- Language services posters, flyers, and language line materials

Legal Information for the Public

- **Public Access to Court Records Brochures**
- Court Help Materials:
Maryland Court Help Centers (Remote Services - Phone & Chat) - 8.5x11 flier
 - **English**
 - **Spanish**
 - **French**
 - **Russian**
 - **Korean**
 - **Chinese**
 - **Amharic**
 - **Haitian Creole**
 - **Portugese**

Order Forms

- **Online Order Form: Court Help Materials**
- **Online Order Form: Public Access to Court Records Brochures**
- **Online Order Form: Court Support**
- **Online Order Form: Language Services**

Publication Orders:

mdcourts.gov/accesstojustice/publications

What questions do you have?



Q&A

**Thurgood Marshall State Law
Library**

Access to Justice

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410-260-1430

Brittany.west@mdcourts.gov
410-260-2508



Thank you!