

NLSLA CLINICS AND CENTERS

Self-Help Legal Access Centers assist people with family law matters (divorce, custody disputes, and paternity actions), housing matters (evictions), and other legal matters such as name change and claim of exemption. Self-Help Legal Access Centers are located in the Van Nuys, Pomona, Chatsworth, and Antelope Valley Courthouses. Self-Help Legal Access Centers are open Monday-Friday 8:30am-12:30pm and Mondays Thursdays 1:30pm-4:30pm. o Volunteers are expected to commit for a minimum of six months, or one semester if they are a student, for at least 2 shifts/week.

Domestic Abuse Self-Help (DASH) Clinic assists litigants with domestic violence restraining orders. Litigants are provided information to shelters, counseling, and other social services available to victims of domestic violence. DASH clinics are located in the Van Nuys, Pomona, Chatsworth, and Antelope Valley Courthouses. Clinics are open Mondays-Fridays 8:30am-12:30pm. o Volunteers are expected to commit for a minimum of six months, or one semester if they are a student, for at least 1 shift/week.

The Consumer Debt Clinic assists low-income litigants who have been served with credit card lawsuits within the last 30 days. We provide information on what it means to be sued for a debt, the legal process if they file an Answer, how to prepare an Answer, and the consequences of a judgment. We also discuss ways creditors can collect, ways litigants can protect themselves, and negotiations. The Consumer Debt Clinic is open Fridays from 9:00am-12:00pm in the Chatsworth Courthouse. Volunteers are expected to commit for a minimum of six months, or one semester if they are a student.

Shriver Housing Self-Help Center assists qualifying individuals with various aspects of the eviction process. Staff provide legal education, interview litigants, review court records and prepare appropriate pleadings. The Center is located in the Los Angeles Superior Court (Stanley Mosk Courthouse). The Center is open Mondays-Thursdays 8:30am-4:30pm and 8:30 - 12:30 on Fridays. Volunteers are expected to commit for a minimum of six months, or one semester if they are a student, for at least 2 half day shifts, or one full day per week.

Unemployment Clinic assists with unemployment benefits eligibility assessment, application assistance, and claims troubleshooting. Representing claimants at California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board (CUIAB) hearings.

Clean Slate Clinics assist individuals who have been negatively impacted by the criminal justice system. Our services include clearing criminal records and restoration of civil rights, including assistance with the preparation of expungement forms, Props 47 and 64 petitions, corrections to consumer background reports, and reduction of felonies to misdemeanors. Volunteers are expected to commit to one clinic per month for a minimum of three months or one semester if they are a college or law student. All trainings, supervision and client appointments are virtual.

Housing Clinics: NLSLA conducts several virtual housing clinics each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 12:00 p.m and the second and fourth Wednesday from 1:00 to 4:00. The clinics assist tenants with housing issues in LA County. Housing Clinic volunteers may provide legal assistance in one of two ways (i) advice and counsel on pre-litigation matters and/or (ii) limited and full scope representation in an eviction case. The housing issues that volunteers can expect to see during their client appointments include advice/counsel, preparation of responses to termination notices, illegal lockouts, habitability complaints, Section 8 benefits, and landlord harassment. An experienced housing attorney will be available throughout the clinic to answer questions, work with each volunteer to assess and identify all legal issues and provide guidance on the appropriate legal remedy in each case.

All volunteers are required to complete a series of training modules prior to starting the clinic and commit to staff one clinic a month for a minimum of 3 months. The trainings will cover all aspects of the eviction process, including service of a notice, preparation of an answer, affirmative defenses, COVID related issues and the unlawful detainer trial. Exemptions may be available for those with prior housing experience.