

# Rhode Island

## General

### RI Legal Services

Rhode Island Legal Services provides high-quality legal assistance and representation to low-income individuals and eligible client groups for the purpose of improving their economic condition and overall wellbeing by protecting and enforcing legal rights, stabilizing the family unit and communities where clients live, promoting self-reliance, ending domestic violence, preventing homelessness, affording dignity to all people, and reaching out to groups with added burdens on their ability to access the civil justice system.

Contact:

(401) 274-2652

(800) 662-5034

<https://www.helprilaw.org/>

### Volunteer Lawyer Program

The Volunteer Lawyer Program (VLP) is a public service program of the Rhode Island Bar Association designed to help people who have low-incomes obtain legal help when they need it. Its purpose is to provide legal assistance to those who cannot obtain legal representation either on their own or through other existing agencies. The Volunteer Lawyer Program handles non-criminal civil cases, including the following areas:

- Consumer -Housing/Landlord/ Tenant
- Benefits -Collections
- Bankruptcy -Guardianship
- Special Education -Employment
- License Registry -Family Law
- Tort Defenses -Wills

Contact:

(401) 421-7758

(800) 339-7758

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Disability

### The Rhode Island Disability Law Center (RIDLC)

RIDLC's mission is to assist Rhode Islanders with differing abilities in their efforts to achieve full inclusion in society and to exercise their civil and human rights through the provision of legal advocacy.

Our services include individual representation including litigation to protect rights or secure benefits, self-help information, education on priority legal issues, and systems change advocacy.

Contact:

Voice: (401) 831-3150 / TTY: (401) 831-5335

<https://www.ridlc.org/>

## Elder Law

Everyone aged 60 or older is eligible for a free, half-hour consultation with an attorney. In many communities, this Rhode Island Bar Association program, funded by the Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs and Rhode Island Bar Foundation, holds legal clinics at senior organizations or Ask A Lawyer programs designed to provide you with information concerning relatively simple matters. For immediate legal information, you may be referred to an attorney through the Lawyer Referral Service for the Elderly, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., by telephone: (401) 521-5040 or by email [eking@ribar.com](mailto:eking@ribar.com).

## Housing

### Foreclosure Prevention Project

The Rhode Island Bar Association's Foreclosure Prevention Project is specifically designed to help residents at risk of losing their homes. Coordinated with the Bar's Public Service Programs, volunteer attorneys directly represent clients in many areas of civil law to avoid foreclosure. These areas may include, but are not limited to, family law, benefits, bankruptcy, loan modifications and probate. When you contact the Bar regarding Project-related matter, a Bar staff member will, in strict confidence, discuss your legal issue. If you are eligible, the Bar staff member will contact an appropriate, experienced attorney. If the attorney accepts the case, you will be provided with the attorney's contact information and instructed to telephone the attorney to arrange an appointment. All attorney services provided to eligible clients are free of charge. However, you may be responsible for some court fees and/or minor litigation costs. For Foreclosure Prevention Project assistance, telephone: (401) 421-7758 or email: [jellis@ribar.com](mailto:jellis@ribar.com)

## Veterans

### Armed Forces Legal Services Project

The Rhode Island Bar Association United States Armed Forces Legal Services Project is specifically designed to provide those serving in the military and their families with legal assistance. Coordinated with the Attorney-Advisor at the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, volunteer attorneys directly represent military personnel by accepting civil law cases including family law, probate issues, landlord/tenant, real estate, contracts, consumer, bankruptcy, collections, employment, immigration/naturalization, and income tax. For additional information on this project, contact the Lawyer Referral Service at: (401) 421-7799 or by email [eking@ribar.com](mailto:eking@ribar.com).