

Pro Bono Volunteers

The M.E.D.A.L. Program offers an opportunity for attorneys to serve those who are currently serving or have served our country and our communities in uniform.

Military service members and veterans can face a variety of legal issues, which are sometimes the result of, or complicated by, their current or past military service.

The M.E.D.A.L. Program works to match pro bono volunteers with military service members or veterans who need legal assistance with select civil legal issues.

To support program volunteers, the Attorney General's Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance provides:

- Training and resources;
- Access to professional liability insurance in certain cases;
- Peer support and mentoring; and
- Screening of potential clients.

Our state's military service members and veterans deserve our appreciation and support.

To learn more about volunteering or how you can assist in other ways, please visit the Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance online at:

www.atg.wa.gov/volunteer-opportunities



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M.E.D.A.L. Program



Civil Legal Assistance for
Military Service Members
& Veterans



Overview

The M.E.D.A.L. (MILITARY ENGAGEMENT AND DIRECTED ADVOCACY BY LAWYERS) Program connects volunteer attorneys to eligible military and veteran families facing select civil legal issues.

If you have additional questions not answered in this brochure, please contact the Attorney General's Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance.

Military Service Members & Veterans

Am I eligible?

You are eligible to request assistance through the M.E.D.A.L. program if:

- You are currently serving or formerly served in any branch of the military (active duty, Reserves, or National Guard);
- You are domiciled or stationed in Washington State;
- Your income is at or below 400% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines; and
- You aren't otherwise represented by or able to pay for a private attorney.



What types of legal issues can the M.E.D.A.L. program help with?

Subject to volunteer availability, the M.E.D.A.L. Program offers help connecting to civil legal assistance with:

- Consumer Law;
- Employment Law;
- Estate Planning;
- Family Law;
- Landlord/Tenant;
- Servicemembers Civil Relief Act;
- Small Claims Assistance; and
- Some small business legal issues related to COVID-19

The program cannot help with criminal legal matters.

How do I request assistance?

To make sure help goes to those who need it the most, individuals requesting assistance from the M.E.D.A.L. Program are encouraged to explore options for legal assistance that may be available from other channels.

For example, current military service members should first visit a local military legal assistance office and consult with a military assistance attorney.

To request help in connecting to civil legal resources, military service members and veterans should complete the online form* available at www.atg.wa.gov/legal-assistance-veterans-military-personnel.

*The form is available in alternative formats upon request.

Who will be assisting me?

Under state law, the Attorney General's Office cannot provide direct legal advice or representation, but instead recruits and trains volunteer attorneys, and connects them to military service members in need of legal assistance.

M.E.D.A.L. Program volunteer attorneys are licensed members of the Washington State Bar Association authorized to practice law in Washington State.