

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Georgia Legal Services provides community education programs to people age 60 or older at various locations in the counties we serve. Programs are given on topics about which we receive special requests, or areas we see a need to address. We provide updated information on changes in the law affecting people 60 and older.



We present these programs to people in senior citizen centers, nursing homes, and to retired citizens groups. When we present these programs, we also make arrangements to interview prospective clients about their legal problems. We also make homebound visits or visits to personal care homes or nursing homes if necessary. If you are unable to make arrangements to see us in person, please call us or have someone call us for you at 770-535-5717 or 1-800-745-5717.

## IF WE CANNOT TAKE YOUR CASE

We may not be able to accept your case because of limited resources or the issue in your case may not be an issue we can address at that time. If for any reason we cannot help you with your problem, we will offer to refer you to two attorneys in private practice who are on our referral list.

Georgia Legal Services Program has a client grievance procedure. You have the right to complain about being turned down for service. You may talk with the manager of the local office. No further review is available.

You have the right to complain about the services you receive from our lawyers and paralegals. This procedure starts with talking with the local manager. The manager must tell you in writing how to make a complaint. He or she must help you if you need help in making a complaint about services. You may also contact Legacy Link at 770-538-2650 or the State Legal Services Developer at 404-657-5328.

### GEORGIA LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Gainesville Regional Office

**705 Washington Street, N.W.  
Suite B1  
P.O. Box 1337  
Gainesville, GA 30503  
Local: 770-535-5717  
Fax: 770-531-6011  
Toll-Free: 1-800-745-5717  
<http://www.legalaid-ga.org>**

# THE ELDERLY LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



**Gainesville Regional Office**  
Georgia Legal Services Program®

**Serving Senior Citizens in**  
Banks, Cherokee, Dawson,  
Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham,  
Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun,  
Stephens, Towns, Union and  
White Counties



## WHAT IS THE ELDER LAW PROJECT?

Under Title III of the Older Americans Act and through a grant administered by Legacy Link, Inc., and Atlanta Regional Development Center, the Gainesville office of Georgia Legal Services Program provides free legal help in civil matters to persons 60 or older who live in Banks, Cherokee, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, and White counties.



### ELIGIBILITY

The Elder Law Project is designed to handle legal problems for citizens 60 years of age and older. There are no income guidelines.

We may ask you questions about the number of people in your household, your income and assets.

This information may be used in your case, but does not affect your eligibility for services. If you contact our office for service, we will set up an appointment for you with either a lawyer or paralegal based on the type of services you need. In most cases, the lawyer or paralegal may not be able to accept your case until it has been approved by our case acceptance committee.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

Your relationship with any member of the Georgia Legal Services Program staff is confidential. Any information that you give any staff member is considered "privileged communication" and will not be revealed to anyone without your consent.

### TYPES OF CASES HANDLED

#### We consider the following types of cases for elderly clients:

- ❖ Home Foreclosures
- ❖ Hospital Access/Health Issues
- ❖ Nursing Home Rights
- ❖ Advice on Collection Actions
- ❖ Termination of Guardianships
- ❖ Elder Abuse
- ❖ Housing Evictions
- ❖ Domestic Relations
- ❖ Food Stamps

- ❖ Medicaid/Medicare
- ❖ Social Security/Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- ❖ Public and Subsidized Housing
- ❖ Advance Directives for Health Care/Financial Powers of Attorney
- ❖ Simple Wills
- ❖ Utility Terminations

This office does not handle criminal cases. If you are charged with a crime and cannot pay an attorney, you should contact the public defender in your county.

This office generally does not handle fee-producing cases, in which the lawyer can get a fee from winning a lawsuit. If you have a case like this, we will probably refer you to a private lawyer.



If you have questions about whether we can help you, call our office at 770-535-5717 or 1-800-745-5717.

### HOW MUCH WILL THIS COST?

No fee is charged for any advice or other services provided to you by this office. You may be asked to pay for costs charged by the courts for filing certain papers, deeds or other costs. Your lawyer will discuss these costs with you.