

Washtenaw County Bar Association
LAWYER REFERRAL AND INFORMATION SERVICE REGISTRATION - 2010

WCBA Member?
 Yes No

Name _____ Phone _____ P- _____
Firm _____ Year admitted to Mich. Bar _____
Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____
Other states in which licensed to practice _____ FAX _____
Practice in other counties? (Specify) _____
Fluent in languages other than English? (Specify) _____ Deaf/Sign language: Yes _____ No _____
Saturday or evening appointments? Yes _____ No _____ Visit home, hospital or nursing home? Yes _____ No _____
Visit penal institution in Washtenaw County? Yes _____ No _____

CHECK CATEGORIES BELOW INDICATING AREAS OF LAW WITH WHICH YOU ARE FAMILIAR AND QUALIFIED TO PRACTICE AND IN WHICH YOU WILL ACCEPT REFERRALS:

BUSINESS

- ___B1 Incorporation/Choice of Entity
- ___B2 Corporate Law
- ___B3 Securities
- ___B4 Franchising
- ___B5 Non-Profit Corporations
- ___B6 Banking/UCC
- ___B7 Taxes
- ___B9 Liquor License
- ___B10 Corporate Bankruptcy

CONTRACT

- ___K1 Insurance/Plaintiff
- ___K2 Insurance/Defendant
- ___K3 General Contracts

CRIMINAL

- ___C1 General Criminal
- ___C2 Business Criminal
- ___C3 Appeals

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS/ERISA

- ___E1 Pension Plans/Profit Sharing
- ___E2 TIAA-CREF
- ___E3 Health Care Benefits
- ___E4 Other

FAMILY

- ___F1 Divorce
- ___F2 Custody/Support/Visitation
- ___F3 Paternity
- ___F4 Spousal Abuse
- ___F5 Child Abuse
- ___F6 Annulment
- ___F7 Grandparents' Rights
- ___F8 Prenuptial Agreements
- ___F9 Personal Protection Orders

GOVERNMENT

- ___G1 Licensing/Regulation
- ___G2 Local/Municipal/State
- ___G3 Medicare/Medicaid
- ___G4 Social Services
- ___G5 Social Security/Disability Ins
- ___G6 Veterans' Benefits
- ___G7 Military
- ___G8 International Law
- ___G9 Immigration
- ___G10 Public Utilities

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- ___I1 Computer Law
- ___I2 Patents
- ___I3 Copyrights/Trademarks
- ___I4 Trade Secrets

LABOR/EMPLOYMENT

- ___L1 Represent Employee
- ___L2 Represent Employer
- ___L3 MESC
- ___L4 MESC Appeals
- ___L5 Discrimination
- ___L6 Wrongful Discharge
- ___L7 Employment Contracts

MALPRACTICE

- ___M1 Medical Malpractice
- ___M2 Dental Malpractice
- ___M3 Legal Malpractice
- ___M4 Veterinary Malpractice
- ___M5 Other Malpractice

PERSONAL FINANCES

- ___\$1 Bankruptcy
- ___\$2 Debtors Rights
- ___\$3 Creditors Rights
- ___\$4 Consumer Protection
- ___\$5 Lemon Law
- ___\$6 New/Used Cars
- ___\$7 Taxes
- ___\$8 Identity Theft / Credit Fraud

PROBATE

- ___PR1 Will/Trusts/Estate Planning
- ___PR2 Probate of Estates
- ___PR3 Guardians/Conservators
- ___PR4 Adoption
- ___PR5 Mental Health/Mental Retardation
- ___PR6 Juvenile Court
- ___PR7 Emancipation
- ___PR8 Probate Litigation

TRAFFIC

- ___T1 Traffic Violations
- ___T2 License Restoration
- ___T3 OWI

List any restrictions to these categories or, if you practice in an area not listed, please specify area of law:

REAL ESTATE

- ___R1 Represent Tenant
- ___R2 Represent Landlord
- ___R3 Residential Sale/Purchase
- ___R4 Business Sale/Purchase
- ___R5 Fair Housing Plaintiff Defense
- ___R6 Condominium/Cooperative
- ___R7 Zoning
- ___R8 Foreclosure/Forfeiture
- ___R9 Condemnation
- ___R10 Builder/Construction
- ___R11 Titles/Boundary Disputes
- ___R12 Mobile Homes
- ___R13 Oil/Gas/Mineral Rights
- ___R14 Real Estate Litigation

SCHOOL PROBLEMS

- ___S1 Students' Rights
- ___S2 Elementary/Secondary
- ___S3 College/University
- ___S4 Student Loans
- ___S5 Special Education

TORTS

- Plaintiff Defense
- ___P1 Personal Injury
- ___P2 Premises Liability
- ___P3 Product Liability
- ___P4 Workers Compensation
- ___P5 Railroad/F.E.L.A.
- ___P6 Dram Shop
- ___P7 Auto Negligence
- ___P8 General Negligence
- ___P9 Slander
- ___P10 Police Brutality

OTHER

- ___O1 Admiralty
- ___O2 Aviation
- ___O3 Civil Appeals
- ___O4 Civil Rights
- ___O5 Collection
- ___O6 Elder Law
- ___O7 Medical Care Planning
- ___O8 Nursing Home Law
- ___O9 Entertainment/Sports Law
- ___O10 Environmental Law
- ___O11 Federal Court
- ___O12 Handicapper Rights
- ___O13 HIPAA

PLEASE READ AND SIGN REVERSE OF REGISTRATION--Return this form with your registration fee and a copy of the declaration page of your liability insurance policy to WCBA, P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

The annual registration fee for WCBA members is \$75; non-members \$150.

LAWYER REFERRAL AND INFORMATION SERVICE (LRIS) RULES

Each LRIS panel member agrees to these rules:

1. Attorney referral membership is open to all attorneys who are members in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan, who agree to abide by the LRIS Guidelines, and who pay the required fees. The annual registration fee is \$75 for WCBA members and \$150 for non-WCBA members. Fees are due January 1 each year, or upon joining the service, and are not pro-ratable.
2. Each participating attorney agrees to carry professional liability insurance in an amount no less than **\$100,000/300,000**, and to furnish a copy of the declaration page of the policy to the WCBA office when enrolling or renewing with the LRIS, and at any time between enrollments when a policy expires and is renewed or replaced. Any change in insurance coverage must be communicated to the LRIS immediately.
3. Client will pre-pay a \$30 referral fee directly to the WCBA, which will entitle the client to up to one-half hour of consultation with an attorney. The referral fee is paid to the Bar Association to help pay for the service staff, telephone, supplies, etc. Upon receipt of the \$30 referral fee, client will be connected / directed to an attorney in the appropriate area of practice.
4. In a matter for which a referral is made, the panel member agrees to pay to the LRIS ten percent (10%) of any fee received **over \$300**. This fee is to be paid within 30 days of receipt by the panelist.
5. No further fee shall be charged for the first half hour of consultation. Fees for additional time and services shall be as agreed between client and attorney. Panel members agree to charge LRIS client's fees identical to those charged non-LRIS clients for similar services. Attorneys are prohibited from increasing their fees to LRIS clients to compensate for the percentage fees. Clients will be informed of the percentage fee policy by the LRIS office.
6. Each attorney shall be required to return an information sheet as to the disposition of said referral. In the event of the failure to return the information sheets (furnished by the LRIS), the attorney will not receive any further referrals until all reports are returned.
7. Each attorney shall agree to promptly notify the Washtenaw County Bar Association LRIS of any change in professional status, address, or telephone number.
8. Any attorney who wishes to withdraw from participation in the LRIS is asked to do so in writing.
9. Each attorney participant agrees to accept one pro bono referral during the year.
10. If the panel members decide that special services are required or for any reason declines to represent the client, that client should be referred to the LRIS for another referral, which will be provided without charge.
11. Each Participating attorney agrees to the conditions of the State Bar of Michigan LRIS Rule #4 – Eligibility Requirements and Conditions of Panel Membership, except where the rule conflicts with the rules of the Washtenaw County LRIS.

The LRIS makes no representations as to the number of frequency of referrals which will be made. Referrals are based on attorney availability, geography, area of law and similar considerations.

An attorney who fails to comply with any of the aforementioned guidelines may be suspended or removed from the LRIS after notice and opportunity to respond.

I agree to abide by the rules of the Washtenaw County Bar Association Lawyer Referral and Information Service as stated above.

_____ Date

_____ Attorney's Signature

HOW A REFERRAL IS MADE

Two factors determine how an attorney is selected for a referral. Factor one is geographic location. Factor two is the area of law handled by the attorney. A client calls the WCBA for a referral. The next attorney on the rotation in the appropriate geographic area who handles that field of law is selected.

The WCBA Staff will then provide the name and number to the caller and inform the caller that he/she should contact the attorney's office directly to arrange an appointment. The WCBA Staff will also call the attorney's office and give notice of the pending call. The WCBA sends a status report to the attorney, who is required to return it to the WCBA office. A brightly-colored LRIS tag is supplied to affix to your client file to remind you that the client is an LRIS referral.

WHAT THE LRIS DOES NOT PROVIDE: When clients call, they sometimes request the name of the BEST lawyer to handle the problem. WE DO NOT DO THIS. We do not rate or qualify attorneys. We so inform clients, and we also inform them that if they hire an attorney from the referral service, they must make payment arrangements directly with that lawyer. We do not discuss attorney fees with the client.