

Application for Washtenaw County Bar Association Family Law Modest Means Program (2015)

The Washtenaw County Bar Association created the Modest Means Program for individuals of a modest income **who reside in the State of Michigan, have a current court case in Washtenaw County** and are in need of affordable legal assistance. Qualification for eligibility is based on the Federal Poverty Guidelines and is assessed by the staff at the Washtenaw County Bar Association. You must be working 20+ hours per week or collecting SSI or SSDI to qualify. Attorneys who choose to participate have agreed to an hourly rate of not more than \$75 per hour for legal work provided to Modest Means Program clients.

To apply, complete the application form and return it to the WCBA, P.O. Box 8645, Ann Arbor, MI 48107 along with your **current W-2 or 1099** (please black out your Social Security number). **If you qualify, there is a \$30 fee** which will give you the name and phone number of an attorney in your area. You will need to make an appointment to meet with the attorney. The attorney will receive a copy of your completed form, and **the attorney may ask additional questions to confirm your eligibility for this program. The attorney has the final say in the qualification process.** If the attorney determines that you are not eligible for the program due to income, assets, or debts, you may choose to hire that attorney at his or her normal hourly rate.

If you are determined by the attorney to be eligible for the Modest Means Program and you hire the attorney, you will be asked to pay a retainer (deposit against fees) of not more than \$500, up front. Please note that this is a refundable retainer. That is, if any portion of the retainer is unused at the conclusion of your case, it will be refunded to you by your attorney. Please note that the attorney has the right to ask for a higher retainer if this case goes to trial or an evidentiary or referee hearing. You may be asked by the attorney to sign a retainer agreement for services at the time of engagement with your attorney. Again, the retainer agreement will provide for an hourly rate not exceeding \$75 and a retainer deposit of no more than \$500. You will also be responsible for any court filing fees and other direct costs, such as long-distance phone charges and copying fees.

Please remember that Modest Means is not a Pro Bono program. You must be able to pay for any services you receive.

Name: _____

Address: _____

How long have you lived in Washtenaw County: _____

Home Phone # _____ May we leave a message at this number? Yes / No

Work Phone # _____ May we leave a message at this number? Yes / No

Cell Phone # _____ May we leave a message at this number? Yes / No

Marital Status: _____ Number of Minor Children: _____

Full Name of Spouse: _____

Any and all attorneys you have used for this case: _____

Any and all opposing counsel: _____

I need a referral for a Family Law lawyer to help with:

- Divorce, No Children Divorce, Children Annulment Separate Maintenance
 Custody Child Support Paternity Grandparents' Rights
 Post-Divorce, Custody or Parenting Time

2014 Federal Poverty Level as published by the Foundation for Health Coverage Education

Note: Pregnant women count as two people for the purpose of this chart.

48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

250% Federal Poverty Guidelines	
Family Size (# of dependents)	Gross Yearly Income
1	\$ 29,175
2	\$ 39,325
3	\$ 49,475
4	\$ 59,625
5	\$ 69,775
6	\$ 79,925
7	\$ 90,075
8	\$ 100,225

250% Federal Poverty Guidelines	
Family Size (# of dependents)	Gross Monthly Income
1	\$ 2,431
2	\$ 3,277
3	\$ 4,123
4	\$ 4,969
5	\$ 5,815
6	\$ 6,660
7	\$ 7,506
8	\$ 8,352

Are you receiving Public Assistance? **Yes / No** – circle one

Do you claim the child/children on your income taxes? **Yes / No** – circle one

<i>Employer</i>	<i>Address</i>

Gross Monthly Income: List ALL income, public assistance, unemployment, pensions, worker’s comp., interest, dividends, rents, etc.

Present Job	\$
Overtime/Tips	\$
Spouse’s Income	\$
Child Support	\$
Spousal Support	\$
Social Security	\$
Disability	\$
Other	\$

Property: Real Estate: I OWN / RENT my home – circle one

<i>Property</i>	<i>Loan Balance</i>	<i>Monthly Payment</i>
Mortgage/Rent	\$	\$
Second Mortgage	\$	\$

Vehicles:

<i>Year/Make/Model</i>	<i>Loan Balance</i>	<i>Monthly Payment</i>
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

Assets: Other than real estate & vehicles, list all other assets below, ***including:*** checking & savings accounts, stocks, bonds, insurance cash value, IRA’s, deferred compensation, retirement funds, 401K, and investment accounts.

<i>Type</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Bank Name</i>
Checking	\$	
Savings	\$	
Credit Union	\$	
401K	\$	
Other	\$	

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand if I knowingly list any false information on this financial statement, my attorney may decline representation or may seek to withdraw.

Signature

Date

Office Use Only: MM eligible: Yes/No MM Attorney _____ Mentor _____ Date _____ WCBA Staff _____
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