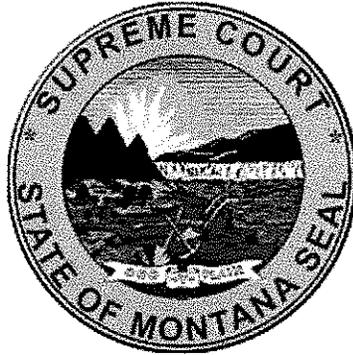


## State of Montana Court Help Law Program

*Assisting self-represented litigants with access to Montana legal resources and information.*



The Court Help Law Program is an initiative of the Montana Supreme Court which assists Montanan residents with civil (i.e. non-criminal) legal problems. Assistance is provided without regard to income. Our goal is to give you the information you need to understand your legal rights and responsibilities and help you resolve your legal problems if you do not hire an attorney. Examples of legal problems the program can assist with include:

- Dissolution of Marriage (divorce)
- Parenting Plans (custody)
- Consumer Credit
- Name Changes
- Landlord-Tenant Disputes
- Orders of Protection
- And much more...

In addition to helping you find legal forms and instructions, the program can also provide referrals to other community resources (e.g. MLSA, Office of Consumer Protection, etc.).

Please note, however, that the Court Help Law Program cannot provide you with legal advice or represent you in court.

**Give us a call at (406) 444-9300 to get started. We provide phone assistance from Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm, and hold office hours and appointments on select Fridays, 10 am - 4 pm, in the Jefferson, Beaverhead, and Deer Lodge county courthouses.**

**We look forward to hearing from you!**

We will help you if we can, and we will treat everyone equally. However, we are allowed by law to help you in certain ways.

CAN	CANNOT
<b>CAN</b> give information	<b>CANNOT</b> give legal advice
<b>CAN</b> answer general questions about how the court works	<b>CANNOT</b> explain judicial decisions, let you speak to the judge outside of the courtroom or talk to the judge about what will happen on your case
<b>CAN</b> provide you with contact information for legal service programs	<b>CANNOT</b> refer you to specific lawyers, contact programs or lawyers for you, or give answers that involve legal advice
<b>CAN</b> give you general information about court rules, terminology, procedures, and practices	<b>CANNOT</b> advise you as to how the court rules and procedures will be applied to your case
<b>CAN</b> give you legal definitions	<b>CANNOT</b> give you legal Interpretations
<b>CAN</b> give procedural definitions	<b>CANNOT</b> give you procedural advice
<b>CAN</b> give you cites of statutes, court rules, and ordinances	<b>CANNOT</b> complete research of statutes, court rules, and ordinances
<b>CAN</b> give you public case information	<b>CANNOT</b> give you confidential case information
	<b>CANNOT</b> deny access, discourage access or encourage litigation
<b>CAN</b> give you forms and instructions on how to complete them	<b>CANNOT</b> fill out forms for a party, except for persons with disabilities
<b>CAN</b> review your form by checking for signatures, notarization, correct county name, and case number	<b>CANNOT</b> correct forms for you or tell you what corrections should be made
<b>CAN</b> usually answer general questions about court deadlines	<b>CANNOT</b> change an order issued by a judge

Court clerks do not know the answers to all questions about court rules, procedures, and practices. If a Court Clerk does not know the answer to a particular question or is unable to provide you with an answer **you will be directed** to talk with an attorney.