
MCLAC

Monroe County Legal Assistance Center

The Rochester Area Office of LawNY

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www.mclac.com

*MCLAC is a not-for-profit law office serving
low-income families and individuals, the elderly, and victims of discrimination.*

MCLAC Re-Entry Project's Mandate; *“Our target population is persons’ re-entering society from incarceration and persons’ with criminal records. Our goal is to address the legal issues and/or obstacles and/or unlawful discrimination persons’ re-entering society or living with the mark of a criminal record face that often cause undue hardship and which are often the same causes of recidivism.”*

What MCLAC's Re-Entry Project does:

- **The MCLAC Project's focus is on what is loosely defined as “Collateral Sanctions” or “Collateral Consequences of Criminal Convictions”.**
 - **Collateral Consequences or Collateral Sanctions often include such things as denial of public or private employment, denial of public officer-ship, ineligibility for licensure, permits or contracts, disqualification from public benefits, public education, or participation in programs, and elimination or impairment of civil rights, such as voting and/or serving in juries.**
 - **For the purposes of MCLAC's Re-Entry Project private discrimination is considered a Collateral Consequence that falls within the parameters of the Project's scope.**

How the Re-Entry Project may assist prospective clients

** Please note that MCLAC's Re-Entry Project only represents Low Income legal* residents of New York State (preferably Monroe County residents but the Project is not restricted to Monroe County). In addition, due to limited resources the Re-Entry Project's representation is based upon the merits of each individual case and availability of staff.*

1. A person with a criminal record (herein after “PCR”) is notified by a New York State Agency that his/her licensure or employment approval may be denied due to his/her criminal record. The MCLAC Re-Entry Project assists and represents individuals in obtaining information in regards to their criminal records and assist individuals in understanding and correcting these criminal records.

The MCLAC Project assists and represents individuals in responding to NYS Agencies inquires into the accuracy and subsequent rehabilitation pertaining to applicant's criminal records. The MCLAC Project assists and represents eligible individuals with compiling relevant evidence of rehabilitation and responding to NYS Agencies inquires pertaining to criminal records for the purpose of licensure or employment.

* MCLAC's Project may provide representation to non-citizens of the US, however, the prospective client must provide MCLAC with some proof of either legal status or pending legal status prior to any services being provided.

2. **CERTIFICATES OF RELIEF FROM DISABILITY, CERTIFICATES OF GOOD CONDUCT, AND CLEANING UP/SEALING RAPSHEETS**
 - a. MCLAC's Re-Entry Project will provide Training Sessions on the aforementioned topics that will be open to both Service Providers and "PCR's"
 - b. The Project will provide brief "advise and counsel" on difficulties, obstacles, or problems encountered while attempting to obtain the abovementioned.
 - c. In very limited circumstances the Project will provide direct representation for applications to the courts or parole board for the aforementioned.
3. The MCLAC Re-Entry Project maintains several state-wide and local collaborative projects and the Project may refer eligible "PCR" to relevant legal and community-based service providers in circumstances where the MCLAC Project may not offer assistance or representation due to lack of resources or geographical difficulties.

What MCLAC's Re-Entry Project does not do;

1. **Criminal Defense Representation (trial or appeal)**
2. **Any Direct Criminal Punishment, such as challenging;**
 - a. Fines
 - b. Imprisonment
 - c. Terms and/or Conditions of Imprisonment
 - d. Probation
 - e. Parole
 - f. Supervised Release
 - g. Sex Offender Registry
 - h. Restitution
 - i. Forfeiture Imposed as Part of Sentencing
 - j. Financial Assessment
3. **Any Civil Matters Without a Nexus between the Criminal Record and Civil Matter, such as;**
 - a. Divorce
 - b. Bankruptcy
 - c. Small Claims Court Actions
 - d. Personal Injury and/or Tort Actions
 - e. Etc.

GENERAL INTAKE HOURS: 9AM – 5PM Monday/Tuesday/Thursday*

Phone Intake # (585) 325-2520. Office: 1 W. Main St. 4th Floor, Rochester, NY 14614

** There are no Intake Time Restrictions on Service Providers who contact the Re-Entry Project on behalf of their clients.*

For any questions please contact:

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