

The FREE LEGAL CLINIC

**at the
Law Courts in Halifax**

**1815 Upper Water St.
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 1S7**

**To make an appointment by
phone, call the Executive Office at
902-424-3690**

**There is more information about the Free
Legal Clinic on the Courts of
Nova Scotia website:**

**[http://courts.ns.ca/Self_Reps/NSCA-
NSSC_Free_Legal_Clinic.htm](http://courts.ns.ca/Self_Reps/NSCA-NSSC_Free_Legal_Clinic.htm)**

**The Nova Scotia Access to Justice
Co-ordinating Committee (A2JCC)
wishes to thank the volunteer
lawyers and their Halifax area law
firms for their enthusiasm and
support of this initiative.**

Blois, Nickerson & Bryson

**Merrick Jamieson Sterns Washington &
Mahody**

Boyne Clarke

Stewart McKelvey

Wickwire Holm

**The A2JCC notes that the
Province's legal professionals
already devote a significant
amount of their work hours to
providing free legal services to
disadvantaged Nova Scotians.
Without this additional effort, the
Free Legal Clinic would not exist.**

**The A2JCC also appreciates the
contributions of the law students
at Dalhousie University's Schulich
School of Law through "Pro Bono
Students Canada".**

Going To Court? Need Help?



**Get information and advice in
private, one-hour sessions
with a practicing lawyer**

Free Legal Clinic

**Halifax Law Courts
1815 Upper Water Street**

WHO IT IS FOR?

The Free Legal Clinic is for people who are planning to take their legal problems to court, have already started a legal action, or are already in court but have little or no experience with the court process. The Clinic is not “needs-based”. Your income has nothing to do with whether or not you qualify for its services.

KINDS OF LEGAL ISSUES

The clinic provides information and advice on civil law matters before the Supreme Court or Court of Appeal. It does not deal with matters of criminal law in either Court. Similar services (Duty Counsel) are available in most courthouses.

Family Law matters (except child protection appeals) going before the Court of Appeal qualify but not those in Supreme Court Family Division (similar help is already provided by Nova Scotia Legal Aid in the Supreme Court Family Division).

If you feel your situation may qualify you to get help from the Free Legal Clinic, you should make an appointment as early in the court process as possible.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications and appointments can be arranged in person at the Court Administration office of the Halifax Law Courts on Upper Water Street. Ask for the Prothonotary of the Supreme Court or the Registrar of the Court of Appeal.

To make an appointment by phone, call the Executive Office at 902-424-3690.

Judges, lawyers and others in the Province’s justice system are aware of this free service and may refer you to the Clinic early in the court process or at any point during your time in court.

WHEN IT IS OPEN

The clinic is open most Thursday mornings, except on holidays (check with the court administration office).

The private one-hour sessions are held between 8:30 AM and 12:30 PM **(by appointment only).**

THE VOLUNTEER LAWYER CAN/CANNOT

THE LAWYER CAN:

- Provide you with general information on the Rules of Civil Procedure and Courtroom Etiquette.
- Coach you on how to complete court forms.
- Coach you to be able to identify legal issues.
- Coach you to identify strengths and weaknesses in your case.
- Provide coaching and advice based on the information you provide.

THE LAWYER SOMETIMES CAN:

- Help you draft court forms or other documents.

THE LAWYER CANNOT:

- Replicate the quantity or quality of assistance you receive from a lawyer you retain privately.
- Commission or notarize documents for you.
- Assist you with legal problems that are unrelated to services the Free Legal Clinic provides.
- Serve or accept service of court documents for you.
- Predict decisions judges will make. Take responsibility for the information in any court forms or documents you prepare.