

Referrals for People Without Lawyers at the Winnebago County Courthouse

Seventeenth Judicial Circuit - 400 W. State Street, Rockford, IL 61101; Hours - M-F from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

RESOURCES IN THE COURTHOUSE & COMMUNITY



Self-Help Assistance

- ☐ **Winnebago County Law Library and Self-Help Center**
 - Access to a computer and printing.
 - Find info on Illinois laws and court proceedings, as well as court forms.
 - Conduct legal research using Westlaw and printed legal materials.

☎ 815-319-4526

📍 400 W. State St. - Located in the Law Library, 3rd Floor

🕒 M-F: 8:00 am-5:00 pm

- ☐ **Illinois JusticeCorps**
 - Members provide assistance navigating the courthouse, giving general legal information and connecting people to helpful resources.
 - Provides referrals to local social service and legal organizations who may be able to provide assistance to self-represented litigants.

📍 Information Desk located inside the Law Library, 3rd Floor

- ☐ **Rockford Public Library**
 - Access to legal reference books and ILAO.
 - Assistance with federal and state legal research.
 - Access to computer terminals, court forms, and photocopying.

☎ 815-965-7606

📍 214 N. Church Street

🕒 M-Th: 9:00 am-8:00 pm; Fri.-Sat.: 9:00 am-5:00 pm

- ☐ **Winnebago County Clerk**
 - Obtain Vital Records, Marriage Licenses, and Voting Registration.

☎ 815-319-4250

📍 404 Elm Street, Suite 104

🕒 M-F: 8:00 am-5:00 pm



Emergency Orders of Protection

- ☐ **Assistance with Orders of Protection**

Obtain paperwork by going to:

 - The Domestic Violence Assistance Center (DVAC), in some cases, they may be able to assist in filling out necessary paperwork. Located at 400 W. State St. 815-516-2440.
 - The Winnebago County Self-Help Center located on the 3rd Floor of the Winnebago County Courthouse.
 - The Circuit Clerk's Office, Room 108 of the Winnebago County Courthouse.
 - Online at Illinois Legal Aid Online (ILAO).



E-Filing

- ☐ **Assistance with E-Filing**
 - **ALL civil court documents must be e-filed.**

☎ Circuit Clerk: 815-319-4500

📍 400 W. State St.

💻 E-filing can be completed anywhere with internet access at <https://tinyurl.com/ILE-Filing> with a registered username and passcode.

❓ If you believe you are unable to e-file, please bring concerns and questions to the Circuit Clerk's Office. The IL Courts Exemption from E-Filing for Good Cause form is available at <https://tinyurl.com/ILExemption>



Civil Process Service

- ☐ **Winnebago County Sheriff's Office**

☎ 815-319-6150

📍 650 W. State St.

🕒 M-F: 8:00 am-5:00 pm

💻 <http://www.winnebago.sheriff.com>



Forms

- ☐ **Winnebago County Court Website**
 - The Circuit Clerk's website includes many of the necessary forms to begin a case or file into an existing one.

💻 <https://tinyurl.com/WinnebagoForms>
- ☐ **Illinois Courts Website**
 - The Illinois Supreme Court's website provides plain language legal forms for self-represented litigants.

💻 <https://tinyurl.com/ILForms>



Language Access

- ☐ **Interpreter Requests**
 - If you have trouble speaking or understanding English **OR** need a sign language interpreter, the Court may be able to provide an interpreter for you.
 - To tell the court that you need an interpreter, complete the interpreter request form linked below.

💻 <https://forms.wincoilus.com/interpreterrequest>

❓ See the Trial Court Administration Office, Suite 215, for more information on submitting a request for an interpreter.



Housing Foreclosure

- ☐ **Foreclosure Mediation**
 - Free mediation services for homeowners in foreclosure.

☎ 815-319-4995

💻 <https://ilforeclosureprogram.org/>

RESOURCES IN THE COURTHOUSE & COMMUNITY



General Resources

- ☐ **Illinois Legal Aid Online**
 - Legal information, videos, forms and instructions for going to court. Available for free online in English, Spanish, and Polish.
 - Chat with volunteers to get help finding forms and legal information- click the green "chat with us" box to get started.
 - Select "Get Legal Help" at the top of the screen to get a legal aid or lawyer referral.

www.illinoislegalaid.org

- ☐ **Illinois LawyerFinder**
 - Assistance in finding an attorney who specializes in a specific area of the law. Receive a 30-minute consultation with a lawyer in your area for no more than \$25.

1-800-922-8757

<https://www.zeekbeek.com/isba>

- ☐ **Winnebago County Bar Association**
 - Assistance in finding an attorney who specializes in a specific area of the law.

<http://www.wcbarockford.org>



Veteran Services

- ☐ **Illinois Armed Forces Legal Aid Network (IL-AFLAN)**
 - Statewide hotline that provides legal information, advice, brief services (including the preparation and review of legal documents), and referrals to veterans, service members, National Guard, reservists, and their spouses and dependents.

855-452-3526 OR 855-IL-AFLAN

<https://tinyurl.com/AFLAN>



Free Attorneys

Pro bono attorneys may be able to represent an individual in a case free of charge.

- ☐ **Prairie State Legal Services**
 - Provides free civil legal services in certain areas of law to low-income persons and senior citizens in 36 counties in northern Illinois.

815-965-2902 or 1-800-892-2985

303 N. Main St., Suite 600

Mon-Fri: 8:30 am-5:00 pm

- ☐ **Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic**
 - Provides free legal services to domestic violence abuse victims who qualify.

815-962-9980

401 W. State St., #600

Mon-Fri: 8:30 am-5:00 pm



Family Services

- ☐ **Children's Safe Harbor**
 - No fee visitation exchange and supervised visitation programs.

815-316-7772

1416 20th St.

- ☐ **Kids' Place**
 - Free supervised drop-in center for kids age 2-12 for use when parents have business in the Winnebago County Court Complex.

815-961-2273; 815-516-2479

400 W. State St., lower level & 650 W. State St., lobby

- ☐ **MotherHouse Crisis Nursery**
 - 24 hour service that offers short term child care for children from birth-6 yrs of age for families experiencing a crisis, emergency or stressful situation.
 - Also offers parent education classes, parent support, individual therapy, and crisis counseling.

815-962-4858

424 7th St.



Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services

- ☐ **Domestic Violence Assistance Center (DVAC)**

- Free and confidential Order of Protection assistance for those who qualify.

815-516-2440

400 W. State St., 3rd Floor Old Courthouse

Mon-Fri: 8:00 am-5:00 pm

- ☐ **Family Peace Center**

- Multi-agency, multidisciplinary center that provides services to victims of interpersonal violence including, intimate partner violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder or dependent adult abuse, and human trafficking.

<https://rockfordil.gov/familypeacecenter/>

- ☐ **Remedies Renewing Lives**

- Provides case management, advocacy, and emergency shelter for domestic violence victims.

815-962-6102 (24 hour crisis hotline)

220 Easton Pkwy

Mon-Th: 9:00 am-5:00 pm; Fri: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

<https://www.remediesrenewinglives.org/>

- ☐ **Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling (RSAC)**

- 24-hour counseling for victims of sexual assault and abuse. Offers emergency services, emotional support, counseling, and referrals.

<http://www.rockfordsexualassaultcounseling.org>

NOTES:
