

Referrals for People Without Lawyers at the McLean County Courthouse

Eleventh Judicial Circuit - 104- W. Front St., Bloomington, IL 61701; Hours - M-F from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

RESOURCES IN THE COURTHOUSE & COMMUNITY



Self-Help Assistance

Law Library

- Receive general legal information and court forms.
- Walk-in assistance, no appointment necessary.
- Conduct legal research on Westlaw and in print materials.
- Complete e-filing at public computer terminals.

104 W. Front St., Room 665

309-888-4801

Mon.-Fri.: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Illinois JusticeCorps

- Members provide assistance navigating the courthouse, giving general legal information, and connecting people to helpful resources.
- Members also provide referrals to local social service and legal organizations and assist with e-filing court forms.

Located in the Law Library, 104 W. Front St., Room 665



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, you can ask the circuit clerk, court personnel, or tell the judge.

See the Circuit Clerk's Office for more information on submitting a request for an interpreter.



Emergency Orders of Protection

Assistance with Orders of Protection

- Emergency Orders of Protection are heard by judges from 8:30 am-4:30 pm - see the Circuit Clerk's office for more information.
- Advocates from Mid Central Community Action available to assist with court preparation and hearings to obtain emergency OPs.

104 W. Front St.

Mon.-Fri.: 8:30 am-4:30 pm

*4:00 pm is the latest an OP can be filed



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 Lawyer Finder

- 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>

McLean County Bar Association

- Find an attorney who specializes in a specific area of the law in McLean County.

309-888-5265

<https://www.mcleancountybarassociation.com/>

Illinois Court Help

- Court guides can connect you to the resources and information you need to go to court in Illinois.

Call or text 833-411-1121

Mon.-Fri.: 10:00 am-2:00 pm

<https://www.ilcourthelp.gov/>

Access to Justice Commission

- The ATJ website provides legal information, court forms, and referrals to free or low-cost legal help.

<https://atjil.org>

Eviction Help Illinois

- Free legal help for Illinois renters facing potential eviction and landlords without lawyers.

<https://evictionhelpillinois.org>



E-Filing

Assistance with E-Filing

- **ALL civil court documents must be e-filed unless you are eligible for an exemption.**
- Document scanning and e-filing assistance is available in the courthouse. Ask the Circuit Clerk for assistance.

309-888-5301

Circuit Clerk's Office: 104 W. Front St., 4th Floor

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 Clerk's Office. The IL Courts Exemption from E-Filing for Good Cause form is available at <https://tinyurl.com/ILExemption>



Forms

McLean 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://www.mcleancountyil.gov/circuitclerk>

Illinois Courts Website

- The Illinois Supreme Court's website provides plain language legal forms for self-represented litigants.

<https://tinyurl.com/ILForms>



RESOURCES IN THE COURTHOUSE & COMMUNITY



Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services

- Mid Central Community Action**
 - Offers domestic violence services in McLean County, including: emergency shelter; court advocacy; counseling services; adult/youth support & education; and community awareness.
 - 309-829-0691 (office) or 309-827-7070 (24 hour crisis hotline)
 - 104 W. Front St., Room 605; 1301 W. Washington St.
 - <http://www.mccainc.org>

- YWCA Stepping Stones**
 - Provides 24-hour assistance for sexual assault and sexual abuse victims and their families in McLean County.
 - Services include counseling; medical and legal advocacy; and support groups.
 - 309-662-0461 (office) or 309-556-7000 (24 hour crisis hotline)
 - 1201 N. Hershey Rd.
 - <https://ywcamclean.org>

- McLean County State's Attorney Victim Witness Division**
 - 309-888-5400
 - 104 W. Front St., Room 605
 - <https://www.mcleancountyil.gov/statesattorney>



County Offices

- McLean County Sheriff's Office**
 - Civil process service for a fee.
 - 309-888-5034
 - 104 W. Front St.
- McLean County Clerk**
 - Obtain Vital Records, Marriage Licenses and Passports.
 - 309-888-5190
 - 115 E. Washington St., Room 102



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, their spouses and dependents.
 - 855-452-3526 OR 855-IL-AFLAN
 - <https://ilaflan.org>

- Veterans Assistance Commission of McLean County**
 - Provides temporary (emergency) financial assistance, as well as non-financial services to veterans and their families, including: mortgage/rent payments; utility payments; food; and VA claims.
 - 309-888-5140
 - 200 W. Front St., Room 400D
 - Mon.-Th.: 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Fri.: 8:00 am-4:00 pm
 - <https://www.mcleancountyil.gov/index.aspx?nid=98>



Free Attorneys

Some services require income qualification.

- Prairie State Legal Services**
 - Provides free civil legal services to low-income persons and senior citizens in 36 counties in northern and central Illinois.
 - 309-827-5021 or 1-800-874-2536
 - 201 W. Olive St. #203
 - Mon.-Fri.: 8:30 am-12:00 pm and 1:00 pm-5:00 pm
 - <https://www.pslegal.org>
- Free Legal Answers**
 - Ask volunteer attorneys a specific question about your Illinois civil legal issue.
 - <https://il.freelegalanswers.org>



Family Services

- Children's Home & Aid**
 - Serves low-income families with services, including child & family counseling; parent support; early childhood care; and foster care.
 - Free child care for kids six weeks-12 yrs old available to any parent or guardian who has official court business.
 - 309-827-0374; 309-888-5598
 - 403 S. State St. & 104 W. Front St., Room 305
 - <https://www.childrenshomeandaid.org>

- Family Community Resource Center**
 - Provides educational programs for troubled families; 24-hour assistance for families experiencing difficulties; and intervention between caseworkers and families.
 - 309-821-1616
 - 509 W. Washington St.
 - <http://thefcrc.org/wp>

- McLean County Child Protection Network**
 - Supports CASA volunteers (appointed by judges) to watch over and advocate for abused and neglected children.
 - 309-445-2280
 - <https://mcleancpn.org>

60+

Elder Initiatives

- Prairie State Legal Services**
 - Legal assistance for older adults, helps with certain areas of civil law.
 - Aged 60 +and older.
 - Applications taken by phone
 - Phone advice 888-965-7757; 309-828-1022; 24-hr crisis hotline: call 2-1-1
 - 201 E. Grove St., Suite 200
 - <https://www.pathcrisis.org>

Notes:

