

## OTHER SERVICES (continued)

The **MIGRANT FARMWORKERS UNIT** assists farmworkers throughout South Jersey. Legal representation is provided in all cases that fall within SJLS' authorized categories of cases, as well as unique problems facing English as Second Language (ESL) populations and protection of rights through federal and state laws governing working conditions on farms.

**HOUSING PRESERVATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** – SJLS assists low-income residents facing potential loss of affordable housing due to causes such as rent increases, loss of housing subsidies and/or end of rent affordability restrictions, redevelopment, and code enforcement. SJLS also provides limited assistance to low-income community resident groups seeking to maintain and preserve affordable housing with organizational matters.

**TDD/TTY SERVICES** is available for the deaf and hearing impaired by using the Verizon Relay Service, which can be reached by dialing 711, and asking to be connected to the Centralized Intake Unit Office, (800) 496-4570, ext. 6501.

### **SJLS DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY REPRESENTATION IN:**

- Criminal Cases
- Traffic Violation Cases
- Municipal Court Cases
- Personal Injury Cases
- Commercial/Business Cases
- Other Civil Cases where legal representation is otherwise available

## SJLS LOCAL PROGRAM OFFICES

**Atlantic County Office**  
**Senior Citizens Advocate Center**  
1300 Atlantic Avenue, Mezzanine Fl.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Tel: (609)348-4200  
Fax: (609)345-6919  
SJLSAtlantic@lsnj.org

**Burlington County Office**  
107 High Street  
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060  
Tel: (609)261-1088  
Fax: (609)267-7812  
SJLSBurlington@lsnj.org

**Camden County Office**  
**Camden Senior Citizens Advocate Center**  
745 Market Street  
Camden, NJ 08102  
Tel: (856)964-2010  
Fax: (856) 338-9227  
SJLSCamden@lsnj.org

**Cape May County Office**  
**Senior Citizens Advocate Center**  
1261 Route 9 South  
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210  
Tel: (609)465-3001  
Fax: (609)465-9018  
SJLSCapeMay@lsnj.org

**Cumberland/Salem County Office**  
**Senior Citizens Advocate Center**  
415 W. Landis Avenue - 2nd Floor  
Vineland, NJ 08360  
Tel: (856) 691-0494  
Fax: (856) 691-5072  
SJLSCumberland@lsnj.org

**Gloucester County Office**  
**Senior Citizens Advocate Center**  
47 Newton Avenue  
Woodbury, NJ 08096  
Tel: (856)848-5360  
Fax: (856) 853-4259  
SJLSGloucester@lsnj.org

**Monmouth County Office**  
**Senior Citizens Advocate Center**  
303 West Main Street - 3rd Floor  
Freehold, NJ 07728  
Tel: (732)414-6750  
Fax: (732)414-6757/6758  
SJLSMonmouth@lsnj.org

**Ocean County Office**  
215 Main Street  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
Tel: (732)608-7794  
Fax: (732)608-9636  
SJLSOcean@lsnj.org

## SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

*More than 50 Years  
of Access to Justice*

*Serving Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May,  
Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and  
Salem Counties*

**ALL NEW APPLICANTS FOR  
SERVICES MUST FIRST CONTACT  
CENTRALIZED INTAKE UNIT  
FOR ASSISTANCE**



### **Centralized Intake Unit**

**Monday – Friday**

**8:30 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Toll Free:**

**1-800-496-4570**

**SJLS Program Website:** <http://www.lsnj.org/sils/>

**SJLS Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/SJLegalServices>

**SJLS Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/SJLSTweets#>



(May 2019)

## **WHO WE ARE**

*South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS)* is a private non-profit law firm whose mission is to provide high quality civil legal services to low-income residents of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem Counties.

## **WHAT WE DO**

SJLS provides free legal services aiding low-income clients in selected civil cases based on established priorities. SJLS most often provides advice, brief services or extended representation in the following legal areas:

- Supplemental Security Income Benefits
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families
- General Assistance
- Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- Unemployment Benefits
- Domestic Violence
- Landlord/Tenant Disputes
- Public Housing Rights
- Section 8 Housing Assistance
- Migrant Farmworker Rights
- Rights of the Elderly
- Bankruptcy
- Foreclosure
- Consumer Issues
- IRS Tax Disputes

## **HOW WE SERVE YOU**

At the initial review, we will decide if you are financially eligible. An intake staff member will obtain information about your income, family size, assets and the matter for which you are seeking help. All information you

provide SJLS remains confidential. If you are financially eligible, we then decide whether your case is one for which we can provide representation based on our established priorities. If the case is one which we cannot handle, we will attempt to refer you to an organization which will provide assistance. If your case is one that we usually handle, but because of limited resources we are unable to handle at present, we will try to find other legal representation for you.

## **OTHER SERVICES SJLS PROVIDES**

SJLS provides **COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION** programs, workshops, and materials throughout the seven county Southern Jersey region to residents, organizations and community groups on a wide range of legal issues affecting the rights of low income individuals and families. Contact our local county program offices listed on the back of this brochure for further information.

**SENIOR CITIZENS ADVOCATE CENTERS (SCAC)** are located within our local program offices in Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, and Salem Counties to provide legal assistance to county residents who are 60 years of age or older and meet established guidelines.

The **LOW INCOME TAXPAYER CLINIC** of South Jersey Legal Services (LITC) provides free consultation and/or extended representation to clients with tax controversies with the Internal Revenue Service, including tax assessments, audits, tax liens and levies, identity theft, refund disputes, collection alternatives representation in U.S. Tax Court and Federal District Court.

**PRIVATE ATTORNEY INVOLVEMENT (PAI) PROGRAM** of SJLS recruits private attorneys throughout South Jersey who agree to provide *pro bono* representation, for no fee, of eligible clients referred by SJLS. Private attorneys referred under the PAI Program handle the same type of civil legal cases as SJLS. The PAI Program also operates:

- *The Honorable Judith H. Wizmur Pro Bono Bankruptcy Project* in collaboration with Rutgers Law School and the bankruptcy bench and bar.
- *The Children's SSI Project* assists children who have been denied Supplemental Security Income benefits.
- *Debt Advice Clinics* (Atlantic, Burlington, Camden and Gloucester Counties).
- *The Divorce Project* assists individuals with uncontested, no issue divorces.
- *The SJLS Guardianship Project for Children* assists parenting with obtaining guardianship over their disabled children who will soon turn 18 years of age (Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, Monmouth and Ocean counties).
- *Family Assist Project* provides 30-minute family advice consultations in collaboration with volunteer family law attorneys.
- *The Expungement Project* assists individuals with obtaining an expungement of their New Jersey *criminal* records.

## OTROS SERVICIOS (continuación)

La **CLINICA DE CONTRIBUYENTES DE BAJO INGRESO** de Servicios Legales del Sur de Nueva Jersey (CCBI) ayuda a clientes con consultas gratis y/o amplias representaciones con controversias fiscales con el IRS, incluyendo evaluaciones de impuesto, privilegios de impuestos y gravámenes, robo de identidad, disputas de reembolso, colección alternativa y juicios ante el Tribunal Fiscal de EE.UU.

La **UNIDAD DE TRABAJADORES AGRÍCOLAS MIGRANTES** asiste a trabajadores agrícolas en todo Sur Jersey. Representación legal es presentada en todos los casos que caen dentro las categorías de casos autorizados por SLSJ, al igual que problemas específicos que enfrentan Ingles como el Segundo Lenguaje (ISL) poblaciones y protección de derechos a través de leyes de estatales y federales que gobiernan las situaciones de trabajo en las granjas.

**SERVICIOS DE TDD/TTY** son disponibles para las personas sordas y con discapacidad auditiva utilizando el Servicio de Retransmisión de Verizon, que se puede acceder marcando 711 y pedir ser conectado a la Oficina de Unidad de Admisión Centralizada, (800) 496-4570, ext. 6501.

### SLSJ NO PROPORCIONA REPRESENTACION EN:

- Casos Criminales
- Casos de Violaciones de Trafico
- Casos en la Corte Municipal
- Casos de Lesiones Personales
- Casos de Negocio/Comerciales
- Otros Casos Civiles en cual representación legal es de otra manera disponible.

### OFICINAS LOCALES DE SLSJ

**Oficina del Condado de Atlantic**  
**Centro de Defensores de Personas Mayores**  
1300 Atlantic Avenue, Mezzanine Fl.  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Tel: (609)348-4200  
Fax: (609)345-6919  
SJLSAtlantic@lsnj.org

**Oficina del Condado de Burlington**  
107 High Street  
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060  
Tel: (609)261-1088  
Fax: (609)267-7812  
SJLSBurlington@lsnj.org

**Oficina del Condado de Camden**  
**Centro de Defensores de Personas Mayores**  
745 Market Street  
Camden, NJ 08102  
Tel: (856)964-2010  
Fax: (856) 338-9227  
SJLSCamden@lsnj.org

**Oficina del Condado de Cape May**  
**Centro de Defensores de Personas Mayores**  
1261 Route 9 South  
Cape May Courthouse, NJ 08210  
Tel: (609)465-3001  
Fax: (609)465-9018  
SJLSCapeMay@lsnj.org

**Oficina del Condado de Cumberland/Salem**  
**Centro de Defensores de Personas Mayores**  
415 W. Landis Avenue - 2nd Floor  
Vineland, NJ 08360  
Tel: (856) 691-0494  
Fax: (856) 691-5072  
SJLSCumberland@lsnj.org

**Oficina del Condado de Gloucester**  
**Centro de Defensores de Personas Mayores**  
47 Newton Avenue  
Woodbury, NJ 08096  
Tel: (856)848-5360  
Fax: (856) 853-4259  
SJLSGloucester@lsnj.org

**Oficina del Condado de Monmouth**  
**Centro de Defensores de Personas Mayores**  
303 West Main Street - 3rd Floor  
Freehold, NJ 07728  
Tel: (732)414-6750  
Fax: (732)414-6757/6758  
SJLSMonmouth@lsnj.org

**Oficina del Condado de Ocean**  
215 Main Street  
Toms River, NJ 08753  
Tel: (732)608-7794  
Fax: (732)608-9636  
SJLSOcean@lsnj.org

## SERVICIOS LEGALES DEL SUR DE NUEVA JERSEY, INC.

*Más de 50 Años de Acceso a Justicia*

*Sirviendo los condados de Atlantic, Burlington,  
Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester,  
Monmouth, Ocean y Salem.*

**TODOS LOS NUEVOS SOLICITANTES DE  
SERVICIOS NECESITA CONTACTAR A  
LA UNIDAD DE ADMISION  
CENTRALIZADA PARA ASISTENCIA**



**Unidad de Admisión  
Centralizada**

**Lunes – Viernes**

**8:30 AM to 4:00 PM**

**Número Gratuito:**

**1-800-496-4570**

**SJLS Program Website:** <http://www.lsnj.org/sils/>

**SJLS Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/SJLegallServices>

**SJLS Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/SJLSTweets#>

**LSC**  
America's Partner For Equal Justice  
(Junio 2019)



## QUIENES SOMOS

Servicios Legales del Sur de Nueva Jersey, Inc. (SLSJ) es un bufete de abogados sin fines de lucro, cuya misión es proporcionar alta calidad de servicios legales civiles a residentes de bajos recursos económicos de los condados Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem.

## QUE HACEMOS

SLSJ provee servicios legales gratuitos incluyendo clientes de bajo ingreso en ciertos casos civiles basado en el establecimiento de prioridades. SLSJ más a menudo proporciona consejos, breves servicios o amplias representaciones en las siguientes áreas:

- **Beneficios de Seguridad de Ingreso Suplementario**
- **Ayuda Temporal a Familias Necesitadas**
- **Asistencia General**
- **Cupones de Alimentos**
- **Seguro Médico del Estado (Medicaid)**
- **Beneficios de Desempleo**
- **Violencia Domestica**
- **Disputas de Propietario/Inquilino**
- **Derechos de Inquilinos de Viviendas Públicas**
- **Asistencia de Viviendas Sección 8**
- **Derechos de Trabajadores Agrícolas Migrantes**
- **Derechos de Personas Mayores**
- **Bancarrotas**
- **Juicio Hipotecario**
- **Problemas de Consumidor**
- **Dispute de Impuestos IRS**

COMO LE SERVICIOS En la evaluación inicial, decidiremos si usted califica

financieramente. Un personal de admisión obtendrá información sobre sus ingresos, tamaño de la familia, bienes y el asunto por cual usted busca ayuda. Toda información que usted proporciona a SLSJ se mantiene confidencial. Si usted es financieramente elegible, entonces decidiremos si su caso es uno en el que podemos representarle, basado en nuestras prioridades establecidas. Si el caso es uno en el que no podemos manejar, haremos el intento a referirlo a una organización que le preverá asistencia. Si su caso es uno que normalmente manejamos, pero por recursos limitados no podemos manejarlo al momento, trataremos de encontrar otras representaciones legales para usted.

## OTROS SERVICIOS SLSJ PROPORCIONA

SLSJ ofrece programas de EDUCACION LEGAL COMUNITARIA, talleres, y materiales a todos los siete condados de regiones de Sur Jersey para los residentes, organizaciones y grupos de comunidad en un alcance amplio de cuestiones legales afectando los derechos de individuos y familias de bajo ingreso. Contacta a las oficinas de nuestros programas a los condados locales enumerados al revés de este folleto para más información.

### *CENTROS DE DEFENSA A PERSONAS MAYORES*

(CDPM) se encuentra entre nuestras oficinas de programas en los condados Atlantic, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, y Salem para proveer asistencia legal a residentes del condado quienes tengan 60 años de edad o más y reúnan las directrices establecidas.

*PROGRAMA DE PARTICIPACION DE ABOGADO PRIVADO (PPAP):* de SLSJ recluta abogados privados por todo Sur Jersey que están de acuerdo a proveer representación

gratis, sin costo, a clientes referidos por SLSJ. Abogados privados referidos del Programa APP manejan el mismo tipo de casos legales civiles como SLSJ. Además, el Programa APP está involucrado con operativo:

- *El Proyecto Bancarrota Gratis* en colaboración con asociaciones de abogados locales.
- *Clínicas de Asesoramiento de Deuda* (Condados Atlantic, Burlington, Camden y Gloucester.)
- *El Proyecto de SSI para los niños* asiste a niños que han sido negados beneficios suplementarios de seguridad de ingresos.
- *El Proyecto de Divorcio* en colaboración con las asociaciones de abogados locales.
- *El Proyecto de SLSJ de Tutela para los niños* en colaboración con abogados voluntarios en los condados de Atlantic y Cape May.
- *Asistencia Familiar* proporcionando consultas de orientación familiar en colaboración con abogados de derechos de familia voluntarios en los condados Burlington, Camden y Gloucester.
- *El Proyecto de Eliminación de Antecedentes Penales* asiste a individuos en obteniendo una supresión de cargos *penales* en nueva jersey.

TOLL FREE:  
1-800-496-4570



# The Migrant Farmworker Project



## Take Action!



Know your rights as a Migrant Farmworker. These are not your only rights:

- Wage and Hours
- Housing
- Transportation
- Written Disclosure
- Health
- Recruitment
- Sanitation
- And More!

Call the number above if you are an H-2A worker, LPR, or United States Citizen and employed as a migrant farmworker in South Jersey and are having issues

If you have any questions or concerns about your rights, feel free to contact us, we are here to help!



**415 West Landis Avenue  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Vineland, New Jersey 08360**



**SOUTH JERSEY  
LEGAL SERVICES,  
INC.**

*Serving Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem Counties*

**ALL NEW APPLICANTS FOR SERVICES MUST FIRST CONTACT**

**CENTRALIZED INTAKE UNIT**

**FOR ASSISTANCE**

**Centralized Intake Unit**  
**Monday – Friday**  
**8:30 AM To 4:30 PM**  
**Toll Free: 1-800-496-4570**

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The Migrant Farmworker Project assists farm workers throughout South Jersey. Legal representation is provided in all cases that fall within SJLS' authorized categories of cases that as well as unique problems facing English as Second Language (ESL) populations and protection of rights through federal and state laws governing working conditions on farms.

## WE ASSIST WITH ISSUES INVOLVING HOUSING/ LABOR CAMP CONDITIONS

- Including substandard conditions that do not meet applicable safety standards
- Sufficient space (not overcrowded)
- For any workers who is not reasonably able to return home within the same day, to be provided housing at no cost



## WE ASSIST WITH EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE ISSUES



- Including wage theft
- Any unlawful wage deductions
- Employer's failure to comply with employment standards
- Breach of employment contract
- Violations of the H-2A temporary foreign workers program
- Retaliation and discrimination against workers

## WE ASSIST WITH WORKING CONDITIONS IMPACTING YOUR HEALTH AND SAFETY



- Including heat stress illness
- Access to field sanitation facilities
- Pesticides
- And access to health care and health education

## SANITATION

- You must be provided with clean bathroom facilities and a place to wash your hands in the crop field
- You must be provided with COOL drinking water and cups
- You must be allowed to take breaks to drink water



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Reimbursement of travel expenses when applicable (H-2A program)
- Ensuring that employers provide free tools
- Free supplies and any other equipment required to perform the job at **no expense** to the employee

TOLL FREE:

1-800-496-4570



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## *The Migrant Farmworker Project*



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**HOW CAN MY CHILD QUALIFY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROJECT?**

If you feel your child is eligible to receive SSI or if you have applied for SSI on behalf of your child and your child has been denied benefits, you may contact the Centralized Intake Unit of South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. at (800) 496-4570 to be screened for eligibility during intake hours Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. At the initial review, we will decide if you are financially eligible. An intake staff member will obtain information about your income, family size, assets and the matter for which you are seeking help. All information you provide SJLS remains confidential. If you are financially eligible, we then decide whether your case is one for which we can provide representation based on our established priorities. If the case is one which we cannot handle, we will attempt to refer you to an organization which will provide assistance. If your case is one that we usually handle, but because of limited resources we are unable to handle at present, we will try to find other legal representation for you.

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**FOR ATTORNEYS INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING**

If you want to participate in this Project, please contact:

**Michelle T. Nuciglio, Esquire**  
Director of Pro Bono Services  
856-403-8620  
MNuciglio@lsnj.org

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING?**

- ◆ The satisfaction of donating your time and talents to helping needy individuals in your community.
- ◆ Time towards satisfaction of your annual *Madden* requirement.
- ◆ Malpractice insurance at no cost for the duration of the client's case.
- ◆ All reasonable case-related costs covered by SJLS or exempt by Court Rule.

**WHAT IS EXPECTED OF PARTICIPATING ATTORNEYS?**

- ◆ The same, high quality service provided to paying clients.
- ◆ Status updates every three months.
- ◆ Communication with the PAI Program when issues arise with clients or cases.

# Children's SSI Project

*Attorneys working to benefit  
the lives of children and families.*



**South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.**  
**Private Attorney  
Involvement Program**

Centralized Intake Unit  
(800) 496-4570

**LSC** | America's Partner  
for Equal Justice  
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



# Children's Supplemental Security Income Project

## WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S SSI PROJECT?

The Children's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Project is a Project in which volunteer attorneys assist low-income children to secure disability benefits.

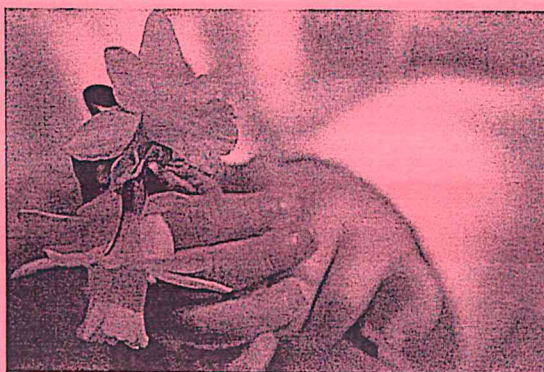
## HOW DOES SOCIAL SECURITY DECIDE IF A CHILD IS DISABLED?

The child must have a physical or mental condition(s) that very seriously limits his or her activities; and the condition(s) must have lasted, or be expected to last, at least one year or result in death.

## IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR SSI?

Under the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, a child from birth to age 18 may receive monthly payments based on disability if:

- He or she has an impairment or a combination of impairments that meets the definition of disability for children; and
- The parent(s) and the child are within the allowed resource and asset limits.



## CAN I APPEAL A NEGATIVE DECISION MADE BY SOCIAL SECURITY?

If your child is denied SSI, you may appeal the decision. There are four levels of appeal:

- Reconsideration
- Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Hearing
- Hearing before Appeals Council
- Federal Court Review

## WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF DISABILITY FOR SSI PURPOSES?

- Severe asthma
- Mental retardation
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Neurological seizures

**¿Cómo puede mi hijo  
calificar para participar  
en este proyecto?**

Si usted cree que su hijo es elegible para recibir SSI, o si ha solicitado para el SSI, en nombre de su hijo y a su hijo se le ha negado los beneficios, puede comunicarse con la Unidad de Admisión Centralizada de Los Servicios Legales del Sur de Nueva Jersey, Inc. al (800) 496-4570 para evaluar la elegibilidad.

Horario de admisión  
De lunes a viernes  
9:00 am –a 1:00pm

**Proyecto  
para Niños  
de  
SSI SSI**

*Donde los abogados y los  
estudiantes trabajan juntos en  
beneficio de las vidas de los niños*



**Servicios Legales del Sur de  
Nueva Jersey, Inc.**  
745 Market Street  
Camden, New Jersey 08102

# Proyecto de Ingreso Suplementarios para Menores

¿Qué es el Proyecto SSI para niños ?

El proyecto de ingreso suplementario para menores (SSI) es un esfuerzo en colaboración entre los Servicios Legales del Sur de Nueva Jersey, Inc. (SJLS), la Universidad de Leyes de Rutgers - Camden, el Colegio de Abogados de Camden y la Escuela de Medicina Robert Wood Johnson.

Abogados voluntarios, estudiantes de derecho y de medicina, se unen para ayudar a los niños de bajos ingresos para garantizarles las prestaciones por discapacidad.

Tanto a los abogados como a los estudiantes, se les proporciona entrenamiento y recursos antes de participar en todo los casos

## Es elegible mi Niño (a) para el SSI?

Bajo el Seguro de Ingreso Suplementario (SSI), un niño desde el nacimiento hasta los 18 años pueden recibir pagos mensuales en justificación a incapacidad si:

- Él o ella tiene una discapacidad o una combinación de impedimentos que cumpla con la definición de la discapacidad para los niños, y
- Si el padre (s) y el niño están dentro de los límites de ingreso permitidos

## ¿Cómo decide el Seguro Social si un niño es discapacitado?

El niño debe tener una condición física o mental (s) que limiten sus actividades, también si se sospecha que dicha condición (s) le durara al menor al menos un año o que le pueda causar la muerte.

## ¿Puedo apelar una decision negativa tomada por el Seguro Social?

Si a su hijo le niegan el SSI, usted puede apelar la decisión. Hay cuatro niveles de apelación:

- Reconsideracion
- Audiencia Administrativa (ALJ)
- Audiencia ante el Consejo de Apelaciones
- Una Revision Federal

## ¿Cuáles son algunos ejemplos de incapacidad para SSI?

- El asma grave
- RetrasoMental
- Déficit de Atención e Hiperactividad (TDAH)
- Convulsiones neurológicas

## WHO WE ARE

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## WHAT WE DO

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## FOR ATTORNEYS INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING

If you want to participate in this Project, please contact:

**Michelle T. Nuciglio, Esquire**  
Director of Pro Bono Services  
856-403-8620  
MNuciglio@lsnj.org

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING?

- ◆ The satisfaction of donating your time and talents to helping needy individuals in your community.
- ◆ Time towards satisfaction of your annual *Madden* requirement.
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# Family Assist Project

*Advice Appointments for  
qualifying individuals in  
need of Family Law advice*



Please contact the  
Centralized Intake Unit  
at SJLS at (800) 496-4570

**LSC** | America's Partner  
for Equal Justice  
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



# Family Assist Project

## WHAT IS THE FAMILY ASSIST PROJECT?

The Family Assist Project is a collaborative effort between South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS) and private, volunteer family law attorneys.

Through this project, low-income residents in South Jersey meet with volunteer attorneys for advice on matters such as:

- Divorce
- Child Support
- Parenting Time
- Property Division
- Adoption

## WHAT HELP CAN I RECEIVE THROUGH THIS PROJECT?

If you qualify, you will receive a free 30-minute advice consultation with an experienced family law attorney. The appointments are generally held the first week of each month with the day varying depending on your county of residence. If you are determined to be eligible to participate, you must fax any current court orders relating to your problem to (856) 964-9415.

## HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROJECT?

Please contact:

The Centralized Intake Unit of  
South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.

**(800) 496-4570**

Monday through Friday from  
8:30 am to 4:00 pm

**Space is limited.**

**Pre-registration is required to attend.**



## HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

If you feel you are eligible for bankruptcy assistance through South Jersey Legal Services, Inc., you may contact the Centralized Intake Unit at (800) 496-4570 to be screened for eligibility during intake hours Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. At the initial review, we will decide if you are financially eligible. An intake staff member will obtain information about your income, family size, assets and the matter for which you are seeking help. All information you provide SJLS remains confidential. If you are financially eligible, we then decide whether your case is one for which we can provide representation based on our established priorities. If the case is one which we cannot handle, we will attempt to refer you to an organization which will provide assistance. If your case is one that we usually handle, but because of limited resources we are unable to handle at present, we will try to find other legal representation for you.

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# Need Bankruptcy Help?



**South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.**  
Private Attorney  
Involvement Program

Centralized Intake Unit  
(800) 496-4570

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for Equal Justice  
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



**WHAT ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE  
THROUGH THE BANKRUPTCY  
PROGRAM AT SOUTH JERSEY  
LEGAL SERVICES?**

SJLS refers bankruptcy cases in two ways: (1) through our joint program with the bankruptcy bench/bar and Rutgers Law School-Camden (The Honorable Judith H. Wismur Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project at Rutgers School of Law-Camden) where attorneys work with law students to help our clients file for Chapter 7 and (2) through individual referrals directly through SJLS, outside of the Bankruptcy Project. Volunteer, private attorneys assist individuals who are in need of Chapter 7 bankruptcy assistance. Individuals who qualify financially as per the eligibility guidelines of SJLS are sent a packet of information to complete and return. There is a waitlist for referral to a volunteer attorney, which may be several months. If referred, the attorney will review the individual's case and, if appropriate, assist with a Chapter 7 bankruptcy filing and representation.

**DO YOU HAVE TO GO TO COURT?**

In most cases, you will not have to appear before a judge in court. However, you are required to attend a 341(a) Meeting of Creditors before a bankruptcy trustee. At this meeting, the trustee will question you as to the accuracy of the information you provided in your bankruptcy petition and schedules including your income, assets and household composition.

***REFERRALS THROUGH SJLS  
ARE ONLY FOR  
CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCIES***

**WHAT IS BANKRUPTCY?**

Bankruptcy is a means of wiping out or discharging burdensome debt. This includes credit cards, medical bills, and utility bills. Upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition, (the bankruptcy filer is known as the "debtor"), collection activity, with few exceptions, stops - this is called the "automatic stay". Bill collectors must immediately stop all collection activity. Lawsuits are stopped. Wage executions must cease. Levies cannot move forward. (There are exceptions to the automatic stay; for example the automatic stay does not stop criminal proceedings or the withholding of a debtor's income under a domestic support order.) Most debtors will keep all their property and get rid of their debts - however secured debts such as car loans and home mortgages must continue to be paid if the debtor intends to keep the collateral. Personal bankruptcy should be filed with the assistance of a lawyer to make sure that one's property will be protected and that a bankruptcy is otherwise advisable.

**WILL BANKRUPTCY DISCHARGE  
ALL OF YOUR DEBTS?**

Bankruptcy will discharge most "unsecured" debts including credit card bills, utility bills, and medical bills. Certain debts such as child and spousal support, many tax obligations, debts obtained by fraud, student loans (generally) and debts resulting from willful and malicious injury by the debtor to another or to another's property are not dischargeable. If you have a secured debt such as a car loan or a home mortgage, your discharge will remove your personal obligation however you would have to continue paying the loan if you wanted to keep the collateral. For example, if you have a secured car loan, file a Chapter 7 bankruptcy, and choose not to continue paying the loan, the car would be repossessed but you would not be personally liable to pay the "deficiency" if any.

**WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT  
TYPES OF BANKRUPTCY?**

There are several types of bankruptcy:

*Chapter 7* - this is most typically used by individuals who want to discharge their debts. In most cases, the individuals' assets fall within the allowed exemptions meaning that they keep all of their property. Secured debts such as car loans and mortgages must be repaid if the collateral is to be retained.

*Chapter 11* - is a business bankruptcy and is rarely used by individuals.

*Chapter 13* - is known as a "debt repayment" plan and requires the debtor to pay back some of his or her debt over time. It is often used by debtors to catch up on missed mortgage payments.

**WHAT DOES IT COST TO  
FILE FOR BANKRUPTCY?**

If you qualify, there is no attorney fee for you to participate in this Project. However, the bankruptcy Court filing fee for a Chapter 7 bankruptcy is \$338.00. It may be possible to waive the filing fee or to pay the fee in installments depending on your financial circumstances.

**HOW LONG DOES THE  
BANKRUPTCY PROCESS TAKE?**

Generally, you will receive a discharge of your debts in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy about 100 days after you file the bankruptcy petition. If you file a Chapter 13 bankruptcy, you will make monthly payments to a Chapter 13 trustee for a period of time, usually between 3-5 years, then after all the payments are completed, you will receive a discharge.



## FOR PARENTS

If you feel you are eligible to participate in The SJLS Guardianship Project For Children and live in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean or Salem counties, you may contact the Centralized Intake Unit of South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. at (800) 496-4570 to be screened for eligibility during the intake hours of Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. **Please note that you should call intake approximately four (4) months prior to your child's 18th birthday.** At the initial review, we will decide if you are financially eligible. An intake staff member will obtain information about your income, family size, assets and the matter for which you are seeking help. All information you provide SJLS remains confidential. If you are financially eligible, we then decide whether your case is one for which we can provide representation based on our established priorities. If the case is one which we cannot handle, we will attempt to refer you to an organization which will provide assistance. If your case is one that we usually handle, but because of limited resources we are unable to handle at present, we will try to find other legal representation for you.

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# The SJLS Guardianship Project For Children

*Where volunteer attorneys assist low-income individuals with obtaining guardianships over their children.*



South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.  
Private Attorney  
Involvement Program

Centralized Intake Unit  
(800) 496-4570



# The SJLS Guardianship Project for Children

## WHAT IS THE GUARDIANSHIP PROJECT?

The Guardianship Project was started as a solution to a pervasive problem facing many parents who have children with disabilities. This Project is a collaborative effort between South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS) and private, volunteer attorneys in our nine county service area. Typically, parents with a disabled child are confronted with the possibility of guardianship as their child approaches the age of 18. Once a child turns 18 years of age, parents no longer have the ability to make decisions and they are often forced to file for guardianship. This process can be a significant expense to most parents, who already have substantial expenses associated with the child. In this Project, volunteer attorneys assist low-income parents to obtain guardianships over their children who soon will reach the age of 18.

## WHAT IS A GUARDIANSHIP?

A guardianship is a legal tool that allows one person (the "guardian") to make decisions for another person (the incapacitated person or "ward"). In New Jersey, when a child reaches the age of 18, his or her parents can no longer make decisions legally on behalf of the child. This applies even to children who have disabilities.

## DOES YOUR CHILD NEED A GUARDIANSHIP?

If your child is unable to act on his or her own behalf and will not be able to do so once he or she reaches the age of 18, you may ask a New Jersey court to grant you legal guardianship over your child.

## ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF GUARDIANSHIPS?

- **Limited Guardianship** - when some but not all decisions involving education, medical treatment, financial matters must be made for an incapacitated person.
- **General Guardianship** - when an incapacitated person is incapable of making any decisions on his or her own.

This Project will only seek to obtain General Guardianships over alleged incapacitated persons.

## WHAT IS THE PROCESS TO OBTAIN A GUARDIANSHIP?

In New Jersey, a verified complaint must be filed setting forth information about the alleged incapacitated person. Affidavits of two physicians must accompany the complaint or, if the person for whom guardianship is sought is eligible for and/or receiving services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), the affidavit of one physician and one other affidavit (such as the person's IEP) is sufficient. The specific rules regarding the required documents are found in New Jersey Court Rule 4:86-2 and 4:86-10. The court will appoint counsel (GAL) for the alleged incapacitated person. This counsel will personally interview the alleged incapacitated person and make inquiry of persons having knowledge of the alleged incapacitated person's circumstances, his or her physical and mental state and his or her property. This counsel will have to file a report of his or her findings with the court. At any point, the court may appoint a guardian ad litem to evaluate the best interests of the incapacitated person and to present this evaluation to the court. A hearing will be held during which the court will determine the issue of incapacity.

**HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE  
IN THIS PROJECT?**

If you feel you are eligible to participate in The Divorce Project, you may contact the Centralized Intake Unit of South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. at (800) 496-4570 to be screened for eligibility during intake hours Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. At the initial review, we will decide if you are financially eligible. An intake staff member will obtain information about your income, family size, assets and the matter for which you are seeking help. All information you provide SJLS remains confidential. If you are financially eligible, we then decide whether your case is one for which we can provide representation based on our established priorities. If the case is one which we cannot handle, we will attempt to refer you to an organization which will provide assistance. If your case is one that we usually handle, but because of limited resources we are unable to handle at present, we will try to find other legal representation for you.

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# The Divorce Project

*Where volunteer attorneys  
assist low-income individuals  
with obtaining divorces.*



**South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.**  
Private Attorney  
Involvement Program

Centralized Intake Unit  
(800) 496-4570

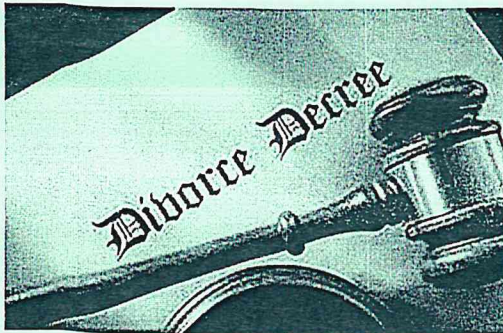
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for Equal Justice  
LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



# The Divorce Project

## WHAT IS THE DIVORCE PROJECT?

The Divorce Project is a collaborative effort between South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS) and private, volunteer attorneys in Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem counties, where volunteer attorneys assist low-income individuals to obtain divorces. The Divorce Project only assists individuals who do not have assets or debts to be divided. Further, if there are children born of the marriage, custody and child support must already be established by court order to participate.



## WHAT ARE THE GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE IN NEW JERSEY?

There are many grounds or reasons that a divorce may be based upon. However, if you have been separated from your spouse for 18 consecutive months or more you may file a no fault divorce. This means that you do not have to provide the court with a reason for the divorce. Further, if you have not been separated for 18 consecutive months but you and your spouse have been married for longer than 6 months and for the last six months of your marriage, you have been unable to get along, you may file for a divorce based upon your irreconcilable differences. Some other grounds for divorce include extreme cruelty, adultery and abandonment. These types of divorces are not handled through The Divorce Project. If you would like assistance with one of these types of divorces, you should contact your local bar association and ask for the Lawyer Referral Service.

## HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR ME TO OBTAIN A DIVORCE?

There is a waitlist to obtain assistance through The Divorce Project. You will be required to submit various documents including a copy of your Marriage Certificate and any custody and child support orders currently in effect. Once this information is received, your file will be reviewed for placement. Once you are referred to an attorney and the divorce complaint is filed, you will be required to attend a hearing before a judge. It will depend on the specific facts of your situation as to how quickly you may obtain a divorce. Generally, a no fault divorce with no issues may be resolved in as few as three months.

## WHAT WILL IT COST FOR ME TO OBTAIN A DIVORCE?

If you qualify, there is no attorney fee for you to participate in The Divorce Project. Further, all court fees are waived for eligible participants by court rule.

## Como puedo yo participar en este proyecto

Si usted siente que usted es elegible para participar en el Proyecto de Divorcio, usted puede ponerse en contacto con la Unidad Centralizada de Tramitaciones de Servicios Legales del Sur de Nueva Jersey Inc., a el 800-496-4570 para una revision para elegibilidad durante las horas de 9::00 am a 1:00 pm.

### QUIÉNES SOMOS?

Servicios Legales del Sur de Nueva Jersey, Inc. (SJLS) es un bufete de abogados que sirve a clientes elegible que son residentes de los Condados de Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem.

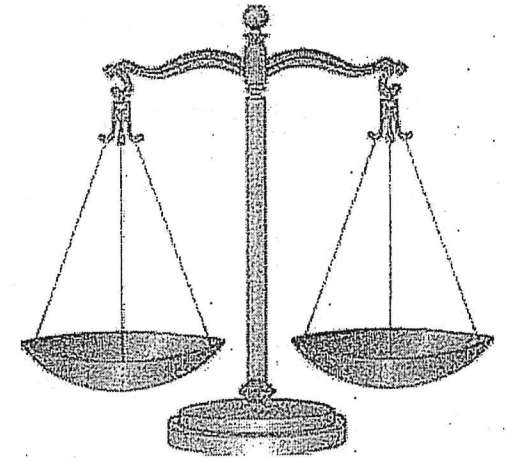
### QUE HACEMOS?

SJLS provee servicios legales gratis en algunos casos civiles a clientes a la cual sus ingresos y bienes son bajo los limites estabilizados . SJLS ma□s amenudo provee asistencia con:

- Beneficios de Seguro de Ingreso Suplementario
- Asistencia Temporal Para Familias Necesitadas
- Asistencia General
- Cupones de Alimento
- Medicaid
- Beneficios de Seguro de Desempleo
- Violencia Dome□stica
- Problemas de Arrendatario y Propietario
- Ley de Personas de edad avanzada
- Bancarrota
- Ejecuciones Hipotecarias
- Apoyo con (SIDA)
- Problemas con Servicios de Impuesto Interno
- Inmigraci□n
- Problemas de Trabajadores Agri□colas que son inmigrantes

# EL Proyecto De Divorcio

*Donde abogados voluntarios dan  
asistencia a individuales de bajo de ingreso  
obtener un divorcio .*



**South Jersey Legal Services, Inc.**  
Private Attorney Involvement Program  
Centralized Intake Unit  
(800) 496-4570



# El Proyecto de Divorcio

## Que es el Proyecto de Divorcio?

El Proyecto de Divorcio es un esfuerzo colaborado entre Servicios Legales Del Sur de Nueva Jersey (SJLS) y abogados privados voluntarios en los condados de Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem counties.

Abogados voluntarios asisten a individuales de pocos ingresos obtener divorcios.

El Proyecto de Divorcio solamente da asistencia a individuales que no tienen bienes o deudas que tienen que ser divididas. Además, si tiene hijos menores nacidos de el matrimonio, custodia y la manutención para menores ya tiene que ser estabilizada por la corte para poder participar.

## Quales son los Motivos para obtener un divorcio en Nueva Jersey?

Hay muchos motivos y razones en que un divorcio puede basarse. Sin embargo si usted ha estado separado de su conju<sup>g</sup>e durante 18 meses consecutivos o más, usted puede presentar un divorcio sin culpa. Esto significa que usted no tiene que presentar al Tribunal una razón para divorciarse. Además, si usted no ha estado separado por 18 meses consecutivos pero usted y su co<sup>n</sup>ju<sup>g</sup>e han estado casados por más de 6 meses y durante los últimos seis meses de su matrimonio, usted no ha podido llevarse bien, usted puede presentar una demanda de divorcio basándose en sus diferencias irreconciliables.

Algunos otros motivos incluidos para un divorcio son extrema crueldad, adulterio y el abandono. Estos tipos de divorcio no son tratados por el Proyecto de Divorcio. Si usted desea asistencia con uno de estos tipos de divorcio, usted puede contactar al Servicio para referencia de abogados de su condado y pregunte por (Colegio de Abogados) Lawyer Referral Service.

## Cuanto tiempo se toma para yo obtener mi divorcio?

Hay una lista de espera para obtener asistencia bajo el Proyecto de Divorcio. Es un requisito que usted submita varios documentos incluyendo una copia de su certificado de Matrimonio y cualquier orden de custodia y orden de manutención. Después que esta información sea recibida, su archivo pasara a una revisión para colocación. Después que usted ha sido referido a un abogado y la demanda de divorcio ha sido entablada, es un requisito que usted atienda a la audiencia en frente de el Juez.

Depende de los hechos en específicos de su situación, sera como de rapido va a poder obtener el divorcio. Generalmente un divorcio sin culpa sin ninguna alegación puede ser resuelto en menos de tres meses.

Cuanto Me Cuesta a Mi Obtener el Divorcio?

Si usted califica, no hay ningun costo para el abogado para usted poder participar el Proyecto de Divorcio. Además, todos los gastos de el proceso son renunciados por la corte para los participantes por una regla de la Corte.

## **WHO WE ARE-**

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## **WHAT IS EDUCATION LAW-**

*It deals with all civil education matters, including but not limited to:*

- Special Education
- 504's
- Discipline
- Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying
- Homelessness
- Truancy
- Registration
- Early Intervention
- Transportation
- Bilingual Education

## **WHEN TO CONTACT SJLS-**

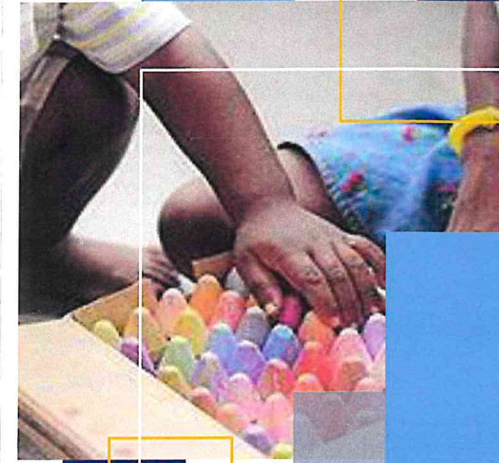
- When your child is struggling in school;
- When you need help securing services or dealing with the Child Study Team;
- You are dealing with homelessness and want your child's educational rights protected;
- When your child is a victim of bullying;
- When you're struggling with truancy;
- When your child needs bilingual assistance.

**\*\*WHEN YOU WANT TO KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF YOUR STUDENT\*\***

## **SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.**

**Centralized Intake Unit  
(800) 496-4570**

**Intake Hours  
Monday through Friday  
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**



**SOUTH JERSEY  
LEGAL SERVICES,  
INC.**

***EDUCATION LAW PROJECT***



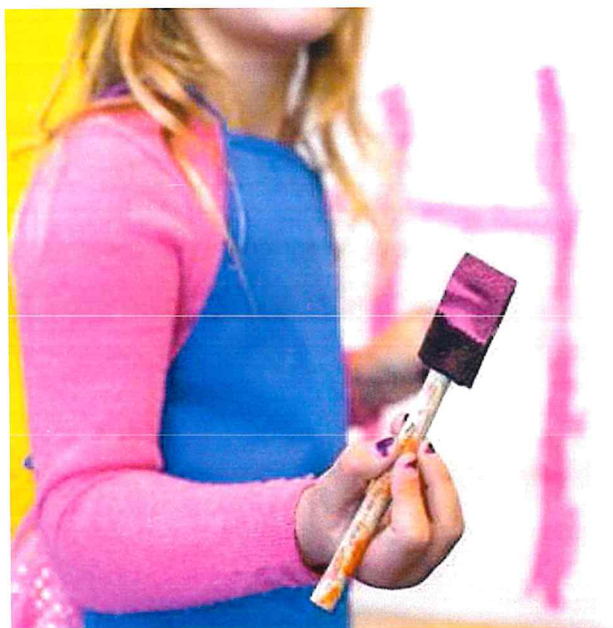


## HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION & BULLYING -

- Designed to deal with bullying on and off of school grounds which disrupts the operation of the school;
- Very specific criteria to meet the statutory standard;
- Parent has a right to have a hearing with the BOE;
- SJLS will help students who have been victims of bullying but also students who may have been wrongfully accused or found guilty of bullying.

## TRUANCY-

- A student is truant if they have unexcused absences of 10 or more;
- A District must take steps to curb the absences prior to the student accumulating 10;
- After 10 absences the District must refer the matter to the court program;
- Parents are ultimately responsible for the student's attendance and can face fines and even jail time for their student's truancy.



## SPECIAL EDUCATION -

*How can SJLS help parents and students with special education issues?*

- ❖ Provide form letters to help request evaluations, services and meetings;
- ❖ Help you appeal a denial of special education classification or services;
- ❖ Represent you at Child Study Team meetings when needed;
- ❖ Help to enforce your child's IEP or 504;
- ❖ Provide advice and representation when your classified student faces suspension or expulsion due to behaviors stemming from their disability;
- ❖ Help to determine appropriate placement or services;
- ❖ Help you to obtain compensatory education or extended school year services when appropriate.

**Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.**

**--Nelson Mandela**

## BASIC EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS -

- To a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) ages 5-20;
- Intervention measures in truancy matters;
- Notice and opportunity to defend and appeal more severe disciplinary actions;
- Manifestation Determination Hearing before long term suspension (if Special Ed.);
- Protections from harassment, intimidation & bullying (HIB);
- Right to defend against an accusation of bullying;
- Access to education
  - despite immigration status
  - in home district during homelessness
  - transportation
  - with accommodations for medical limitations
- Bilingual and English as a Second Language (ESL) Education;
- Early Intervention Services;
- Special Education evaluation;
- Special Education services (if qualified).



## QUIENES SOMOS -

*South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS) es una organización sin fines de lucro creada para brindar representación legal y defensa de calidad a personas de bajos ingresos en los condados de Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean y Salem.*

## QUE ES LA LEY DE EDUCACION -

*Se ocupa de todos los asuntos de educación civil entre otros:*

- Educación especial
- 504's
- Disciplina
- HIB – intimidación de acoso y intimidación
- Personas sin hogar
- Absentismo escolar
- Matriculación
- Intervención Temprana
- Transporte
- Educación bilingüe

## CUÁNDO CONTACTAR A SJLS -

- Cuando su hijo tiene dificultades en la escuela;
- Cuando necesite ayuda para obtener servicios o tratar con el Equipo de estudio infantil;
- Cuando está tratando con la falta de vivienda y desea que se protejan los derechos educativos de su hijo;
- Cuando su hijo es víctima de acoso escolar;
- Cuando está luchando con el absentismo escolar;
- Cuando su hijo necesita asistencia bilingüe.

**\*\* CUANDO QUIERE CONOCER SUS DERECHOS Y LOS DERECHOS DE SU ESTUDIANTE \*\***

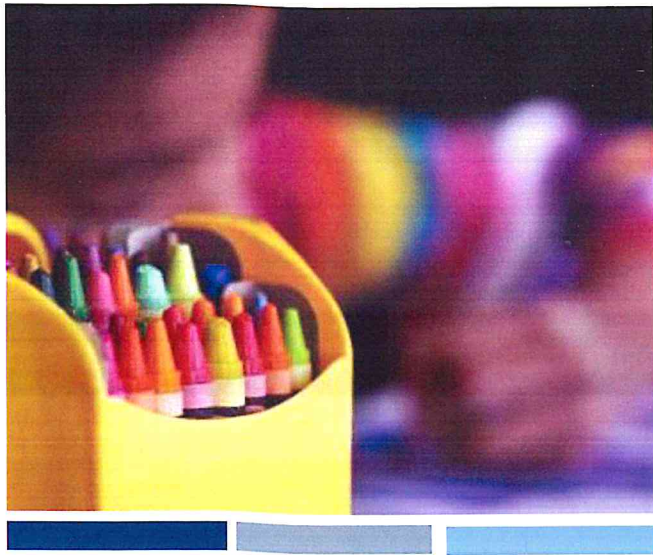
**SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.**  
**Unidad Centralizada**  
**(800)496-4570**  
**Horario**  
**lunes a viernes**  
**8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**



**SOUTH JERSEY  
LEGAL SERVICES,  
INC.**

*Proyecto de Ley Educativa*





## EDUCACIÓN ESPECIAL -

*¿Cómo puede SJS ayudar a los padres y estudiantes con problemas de educación especial?*

- ❖ Proporcionar cartas modelo para ayudar a solicitar evaluaciones, servicios y reuniones;
- ❖ Ayudarlo a apelar una denegación de la clasificación o los servicios de educación especial;
- ❖ Representarlo en las reuniones del Equipo de Estudio Infantil cuando sea necesario;
- ❖ Ayudar a hacer valer el IEP o 504 de su hijo;
- ❖ Brindar asesoramiento y representación cuando su estudiante clasificado enfrenta suspensión o expulsión debido a conductas derivadas de su discapacidad;
- ❖ Ayuda para determinar la ubicación o los servicios adecuados;
- ❖ Ayudarlo a obtener educación compensatoria o servicios de año escolar extendido cuando sea apropiado.

## INTIMIDACIÓN DE ACOSO E INTIMIDACIÓN -

- Diseñado para tratar con el acoso dentro y fuera de los terrenos de la escuela que interrumpe el funcionamiento de la escuela;
- Criterios muy específicos para cumplir con el estándar legal;
- Los padres tienen derecho a obtener una audiencia con el Consejo de Educación;
- SJS ayudará a los estudiantes que han sido víctimas de intimidación, pero también a los estudiantes que pueden haber sido acusados injustamente o declarados culpables de intimidación.

## AUSENTISMO ESCOLAR -

- Un estudiante que es ausente sin justificación de 10 ausencias o más;
- Un distrito debe tomar medidas para detener las ausencias antes de que el estudiante acumule 10;
- Después de 10 ausencias, el Distrito debe remitir el asunto al programa de la corte;
- Los padres son en última instancia responsables por su estudiante y pueden enfrentar multas e incluso tiempo en la cárcel por el absentismo escolar de su estudiante.



**La educación es el arma más poderosa que puedes usar para cambiar el mundo.**

**--Nelson Mandela**

## DERECHOS EDUCATIVOS BÁSICOS -

- A una Educación Pública Apropriada y Gratuita (FAPE) de 5 a 20 años;
- Medidas de intervención en materia de absentismo escolar;
- Aviso y oportunidad para defender y apelar acciones disciplinarias más severas;
- Audiencia de determinación de manifestación antes de la suspensión a largo plazo (si es educación especial);
- Protecciones contra el acoso, la intimidación y el acoso (HIB);
- Derecho a defenderse de una acusación de acoso escolar;
- Acceso a la educación
  - a pesar del estatus migratorio
  - permanecer en el distrito de origen durante la falta de vivienda
  - transporte
  - con adaptaciones por limitaciones médicas
- Educación bilingüe e inglés como segundo idioma (ESL);
- Servicios de intervención temprana;
- Evaluación de educación especial;
- Servicios de educación especial (si califica).

## EMPLOYMENT AND/OR OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

There are laws in New Jersey that prohibit the issuance of a certificate, registration or occupational license, or may suspend or revoke any certificate, registration or occupational license, for people with criminal records where the conviction relates adversely to the occupation, trade, vocation, profession or business for which the license or certificate is sought.

Licensing restrictions are among the many obstacles to establishing a stable economic footing after involvement with the criminal justice system. Such restrictions make it challenging for those with criminal convictions to enter or move up in fast-growing industries such as health care and some mechanical trades. These include the very jobs the formerly incarcerated have trained for in prison or in reentry programs. Without jobs, many of those released often end up back in jail or facing homelessness.

The Reentry Project represents individuals in overcoming barriers to employment and/or occupational licensing.



### WHO WE ARE

South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS) is a private non-profit law firm whose mission is to provide high quality civil legal services to low-income residents of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem Counties.

### WHAT WE DO

SJLS provides free legal services aiding low-income clients in selected civil cases based on established priorities. SJLS most often provides advice, brief services or extended representation in the following areas: Supplemental Security Income Benefits, Temporary Aid to Needy Families, General Assistance, Food Stamps, Medicaid, Unemployment Benefits, Domestic Violence, Landlord/Tenant Disputes, Public Housing Rights, Section 8 Housing Assistance, Migrant Farmworker Rights, and Rights of the Elderly, Bankruptcy, Foreclosure, Consumer Issues and IRS Tax Disputes.

## SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

Centralized Intake Unit

(800) 496-4570

Intake Hours

Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

# The Reentry Project



## SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

JAMES M. MCCLAIN, ESQUIRE  
MANAGING ATTORNEY

CHRISTOPHER F. VANETTE, ESQUIRE  
SENIOR ATTORNEY



# The Reentry Project

## WHAT IS THE REENTRY PROJECT?

The Reentry Project is a program dedicated exclusively to serving the reentry population within the South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. program area. We help individuals with a variety of civil legal matters that are barriers to community reintegration, including, but not limited to the following matters:

- Expungements;
- Drivers' License Restoration;
- Obtaining Identification;
- Resolution of Municipal Court Fines;
- Employment/Occupational Licensing Issues.

The reentry population includes formerly incarcerated individuals and people who have had experience with the criminal justice system. The Reentry Project also provides guidance, resources, and/or serves as co-counsel to other South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. staff in local offices serving individuals who are experiencing other problems not addressed above.

## EXPUNGEMENTS

A criminal record can make it more difficult to obtain employment, housing, and occupational licenses. This is a major barrier to an individual trying to reintegrate into society or build a better life for themselves and their family. The purpose of an expungement is to provide a fresh start for these individuals. The Reentry Project assists income-eligible individuals with obtaining an expungement of their adult and juvenile New Jersey criminal records (we cannot assist with out-of-state criminal records). When a person's criminal record is expunged, he or she can fill out any school, job and housing applications truthfully without having to reveal that he or she was once arrested or convicted (with some exceptions).



## DRIVER'S LICENSE RESTORATION

Not having a driver's license may make it impossible to take care of daily basic needs, maintain a job, or keep an important appointment, including attending a court hearing or visit with a parole or probation officer. New Jersey does not allow anyone with a suspended license to drive for any reason. Suspensions can be ordered by the court or by the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission. A court may order a driver's license suspension for a variety of reasons, including criminal convictions, juvenile justice code violations, failure to pay a court-ordered fine, and/or failure to appear in court. In some cases, a suspension will last a set amount of time, such as six months. In other cases, a suspension lasts until you appear in court or pay a fine. The Reentry Project assists income-eligible individuals with restoring their driving privileges.



## OBTAINING IDENTIFICATION

Forms of identification are frequently required to access social services, obtain housing, and apply for employment all factors that can play a crucial role in a person's successful reintegration into the community. People leaving prisons and jails with state identification may be able to more quickly access vital services and support, and those without such identification will likely face significant barriers to successful reentry. Many individuals find themselves without identification after incarceration because their previous documentation expired or was lost or damaged while they were away. Moreover, people returning from incarceration rarely have access to birth certificates and Social Security cards, which are frequently required for obtaining state issued identification. The process for procuring such documents can be daunting and costly. The Reentry Project assists income-eligible, formerly incarcerated individuals with obtaining identification.



## RESOLUTION OF MUNICIPAL COURT FINES

Fines an individual may owe to a municipal court stemming from their involvement with the criminal justice system can total hundreds and even thousands of dollars. Often, the fines imposed are without taking into account one's ability to pay. Inability to pay leads not only to an endless cycle of debt, but it may also lead to arrest warrants being issued by the court and possible incarceration. Individuals are often unable to pay their fines all at once. Although "debtors' prison" is illegal in New Jersey, re-incarcerating individuals for failure to pay fines is common, and new paths back to prison are emerging for those who owe fines and cannot pay them. The Reentry Project assists in negotiating affordable payment plans with the court for income-eligible individuals.

## EMPLEO Y/O LICENCIA OCUPACIONAL

Hay leyes en Nueva Jersey que prohíben la emisión de un certificado, registro o licencia ocupacional, o pueden suspender o revocar cualquier certificado, registro o licencia ocupacional, para personas con antecedentes penales donde la condena se relaciona adversamente con la ocupación, oficio, vocación, profesión o negocio para el que se solicita la licencia o certificado.

Las restricciones a la concesión de licencias se encuentran entre uno de los muchos obstáculos para establecer una base económica estable después del involucramiento en el sistema de justicia penal. Estas restricciones dificultan a quienes tienen condenas penales para que puedan ingresar o ascender en industrias de rápido crecimiento, como la profesión médica y algunos oficios mecánicos. Esto incluye algunos de los mismos trabajos que los liberados se han capacitado anteriormente de estar encarcelados en la prisión o en programas de reingreso. Sin trabajo, muchos de los liberados a menudo terminan de nuevo en la cárcel o se enfrentan a la falta de vivienda.

El Proyecto de Reingreso representa a personas superar las barreras al empleo y asiste a la obtención de licencias ocupacionales.



### QUIENES SOMOS

South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. (SJLS) es una organización sin fines de lucro creada para brindar representación legal y defensa de calidad a personas de bajos ingresos en los condados de Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Ocean y Salem.

### QUE HACEMOS

SJLS proporciona servicios legales gratuitos a clientes de bajos ingresos en casos civiles seleccionados según las prioridades establecidas. SJLS proporciona con mayor frecuencia asesoramiento, servicios breves o representación ampliada en las siguientes áreas: Beneficios Suplementarios de Seguro Social, Ayuda Temporal para Familias Necesitadas (TANF), Asistencia General (GA), Cupones para Alimentos (SNAP), Medicaid, Beneficios de Desempleo, Violencia Doméstica, Disputas entre Propietarios e Inquilinos, Derechos de Vivienda Pública, Sección 8 Asistencia para la Vivienda, Derechos de los Trabajadores Agrícolas Migrantes, Derechos de las Personas Mayores, Bancarota, Ejecución Hipotecaria, Problemas del Consumidor y Disputas Fiscales con el Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS).

## SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

UNIDAD CENTRALIZADA

(800) 496-4570

HORARIO

lunes a viernes

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

# El Proyecto De Reingreso



## SOUTH JERSEY LEGAL SERVICES, INC.

JAMES M. MCCLAIN, ESQUIRE  
ABOGADO SUPERVISOR

CHRISTOPHER F. VANETTE, ESQUIRE  
ABOGADO SENIOR



# EL PROYECTO DE REINGRESO

## ¿QUE ES EL PROYECTO DE REINGRESO?

El Proyecto de Reingreso es un programa dedicado exclusivamente a servir a la población de reentrada dentro del área del programa South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. Ayudamos a las personas con una variedad de asuntos legales civiles que son barreras para la reintegración en la comunidad, que incluyen, entre otros, los siguientes asuntos:

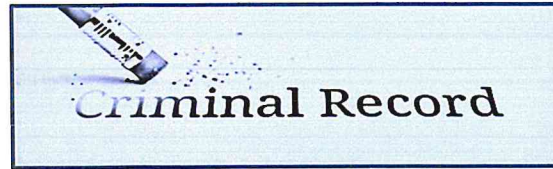
- Eliminación de antecedentes penales;
- Restauración de la licencia de conducir;
- Obtención de identificación;
- Resolución de multas de tribunales municipales;
- Problemas de empleo / licencias ocupacionales.

La población de reingreso incluye a personas anteriormente encarcelados y a personas que han tenido experiencia con el sistema de justicia penal. El Proyecto de Reingreso también proporciona orientación, recursos o puede servir como asesor conjunto con otros miembros de las oficinas locales de South Jersey Legal Services, Inc. que asisten a personas que tienen otros problemas legales no mencionados anteriormente.

## ELIMINACIÓN DE ANTECEDENTES PENALES

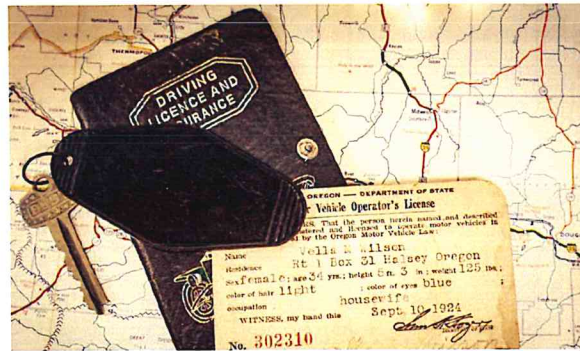
Los antecedentes penales puede hacer mas difícil obtener empleo, vivienda o una licencia ocupacional. Esta es una barrera importante para una persona que intenta reintegrarse a la sociedad o construir una vida mejor para ellos mismo y para su familia. El propósito de la eliminación de antecedentes penales es brindarles un nuevo comienzo a estas personas. El Proyecto de Reingreso ayuda a las personas elegibles por ingresos a obtener una eliminación de sus antecedentes penales de adultos y menores de Nueva Jersey (no podemos ayudar con los antecedentes penales de otros estados).

Cuando se borran los antecedentes de una persona, él o ella puede completar cualquier solicitud de escuela, trabajo y vivienda con sinceridad sin tener que revelar que alguna vez fue arrestado o condenado (con algunas excepciones).



## RESTAURACIÓN DE LA LICENCIA DE CONDUCIR

No tener una licencia de conducir puede ser imposible atender las necesidades básicas diarias, mantener un trabajo o asistir a una cita importante, inclusive a una audiencia judicial o una visita con un oficial de libertad condicional. Nueva Jersey no permite que ninguna persona con una licencia suspendida conduzca por ningún motivo. Las suspensiones pueden ser ordenadas por el tribunal o por la Comisión de Vehículos Motorizados de Nueva Jersey (MVC). Un tribunal puede ordenar la suspensión de la licencia de conducir por una variedad de razones, incluidas condenas penales, violaciones del código de justicia juvenil, incumplimiento del pago de una multa ordenada por el tribunal o por falta de comparecencia ante el tribunal. En algunos casos, una suspensión durará un período de tiempo determinado, como seis meses. En otros casos, la suspensión dura hasta que comparezca ante el tribunal o pague una multa. El Proyecto de Reingreso ayuda a las personas con ingresos elegibles a restaurar sus privilegios de conducir.



## OBTENCIÓN DE IDENTIFICACIÓN

Con frecuencia se requieren formas de identificación para acceso a servicios sociales, y para obtener una vivienda y solicitar empleo, factores que pueden desempeñar un papel crucial en la reintegración exitosa en la comunidad.

Las personas que salen de prisiones y cárceles con identificación estatal pueden acceder más rápidamente a servicios y apoyo vitales, y quienes no tengan dicha identificación probablemente enfrentarán barreras significativas para un reingreso exitoso. Muchas personas se encuentran sin identificación después del encarcelamiento porque su documentación anterior venció o se perdió o se dañó mientras estaban encarcelados. Además, las personas que regresan del encarcelamiento rara vez tienen acceso a certificados de nacimiento y tarjetas del Seguro Social, que con frecuencia se requieren para obtener una identificación emitida por el estado. El proceso de obtener esos documentos puede ser difícil y muy costoso. El Proyecto de Reingreso ayuda a las personas previamente encarcelados que cumplen los requisitos de ingresos a obtener una identificación.



## RESOLUCIÓN DE MULTAS DEL TRIBUNAL MUNICIPAL

Las multas que una persona puede deber a un tribunal municipal derivadas de su intervención en el sistema de justicia penal pueden agregar cientos e incluso miles de dólares. A menudo, las multas impuestas no toman en cuenta la capacidad de hacer pagos. La imposibilidad de pagar no solo conduce a un ciclo interminable de deudas, sino que también puede llevar a que el tribunal emita órdenes de arresto y a un posible encarcelamiento. Las personas a menudo no pueden pagar sus multas de un solo pago. Aunque la "prisión de deudores" es ilegal en Nueva Jersey, es común volver a encarcelar a personas por no pagar las multas y están surgiendo nuevos caminos de regreso a la prisión para aquellos que deben multas y no pueden pagarlas. El Proyecto de Reingreso ayuda a negociar planes de pago accesible con el tribunal para las personas de bajo ingresos.