


NAVIGATION TIPS

Going onto Michigan Legal Help's website can be a bit overwhelming at first but with a little bit of practice the website becomes easy to understand.

At the top of the website are 2 drop-down menus. The  'Self-Help' drop-down will take you to the services that Michigan Legal Help provides.

The  'Organizations and Court' drop-down will take you to the Find a Lawyer, Self-Help Centers, and Court Information sections.

Find a Lawyer helps you find a pro bono lawyer in your county. *Self-Help Centers* are centers that provide in-person help on finding information on Michigan Legal Help. These centers are normally found in the court building. *Court Information* provides contact information about the court. Simply click on your county to find out information.

Under the 'Self-Help Tools' drop-down are all the services that Michigan Legal Help provides. Click on the topic that most closely relates to your legal issue.

AUTOMATED FORMS TIPS

To access the automated forms, simply click on a toolkit for the subject you need forms. On the right-hand side there will be a 'Forms' section where all the forms Michigan Legal Help has will be listed. Click on the form that you need.

At this point, the link will take you to another website called Law Help Interactive. Create an account with the website in order to save your work. Creating an account is easy. All you do is create a username and password and supply the website with your first name, last name, email address and state. Once that is done, click on 'Proceed' to begin filling out the forms.

The forms provide the questions and all you have to do is click on answer bubbles in order to get to the next question. Once all the forms are complete, you will have the option to print out the forms. Law Help Interactive does **NOT** send the forms to the court where your dispute is. You will have to send those in yourself.

ADDITIONAL LEGAL HELP

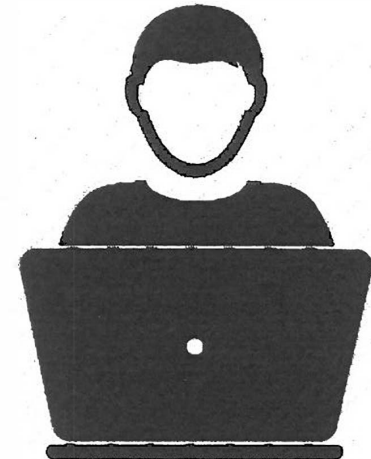
For Ingham County:

- Legal Services of South Central Michigan
- Counsel and Advocacy Help Line
- Elder Law of Michigan
- Michigan Immigrants Rights Center

www.michiganlegalhelp.org



INGHAM COUNTY
PROBATE COURT



**A GUIDE TO
MICHIGAN LEGAL
HELP**

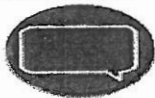
MICHIGAN LEGAL HELP

WHAT IS MICHIGAN LEGAL HELP?

Michigan Legal Help (www.michiganlegalhelp.org) was created to help people who have to handle simple civil legal problems without a lawyer.

The website consists of **toolkits** that will help individuals handle their legal problems by providing the person with **automated forms** that are completed once a few questions are answered. These forms can then be mailed to the court.

Michigan Legal Help does provide individual help through their **free** instant messaging service that can be found on their website. The instant messaging service can be accessed through a phone as well as a computer. **Instant messaging hours are between 11 am and 3 pm Monday through Friday.** Click on the orange 'Need Help?' chat bubble button at the bottom corner of the page to access this feature:



Michigan Legal Help does **NOT** provide legal advice. They just **provide legal information.**

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED ON MICHIGAN LEGAL HELP?

Michigan Legal Help provides information on the following topics. Some of the more common questions are shown below:

■ Family

- How can I obtain a divorce?
- How can I get a custody order?
- How can I establish parentage?
- My spouse filed for divorce...now what?
- Someone filed a custody case against me...what do I do next?
- I want to adopt my wife/husband's children

■ Protection from Abuse

- How can I get a PPO?
- How can I end a PPO?
- What do I do if my PPO was violated?
- What do I do if my partner is hurting me and I have kids?

■ Consumer

- I have a small claims case, what forms do I have to fill out?
- How can I stop my check from being garnished?
- What do I do if I'm being sued for a debt?
- How do I pay off a judgment?

■ Expungement

- How can I set aside an adult conviction?
- How can I set aside a juvenile conviction?

■ Public Benefits

- How can I get my benefits back?
- How can I get food stamps?
- How can I appeal DHHS's denial or termination of my benefits?

■ Employment

- How can I get unemployment benefits?

■ Estates and Guardianships

- What is probate?
- How does property transfer when someone dies?

■ Housing

- Landlord-tenant disputes
- My landlord won't make any repairs, what should I do?
- My landlord is trying to evict me, can s/he do that?
- My landlord is evicting me because I haven't paid rent. What do I do?
- Can I get my security deposit back?
- My landlord doesn't want to rent to me anymore – what are my next steps?
- I think my landlord is illegally evicting me.
- I'm being evicted from a mobile home park.