

NEWS



MASSACHUSETTS
BAR | ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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LOCAL MBA LAWYERS TO OFFER FREE LEGAL ADVICE TO HUNDREDS

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Residents of Western Massachusetts will receive free legal advice on Thursday, May 17, through the Massachusetts Bar Association's semiannual Dial-A-Lawyer call-in program.

Between 3:30 and 7:30 p.m., volunteer lawyers from the Massachusetts Bar Association will field phone calls from residents of Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties who have legal concerns or problems. The legal advice is provided at no charge as a public service of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Spanish-speaking attorneys will also be available to answer questions.

The Dial-A-Lawyer phone number is (413) 782-1659. If a caller gets a busy signal, they are asked to hang up and try again. Normal telephone charges will apply. (EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE: this number is only active from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. on May 17.)

During previous Dial-A-Lawyer programs, attorneys answered questions on a wide range of legal questions, including issues involving workers' compensation, divorce, estate issues, landlord disputes, health and Medicare problems, criminal matters, discrimination and adoption.

"The Massachusetts Bar Association's Dial-A-Lawyer program is a wonderful opportunity for individuals to ask legal questions of competent practitioners for free. I encourage those with legal questions to take advantage of this valuable service," said MBA President Mark D Mason, who is a program participant and Springfield attorney.

Mason adds, "This program is a great resource for the community. Attorneys with a variety of expertise are ready to offer advice to anyone who needs it. Many times a brief conversation with a lawyer is all that's needed to start solving a problem."

The Massachusetts Bar Association's Dial-A-Lawyer program is co-sponsored by the Western New England College School of Law, *The Republican*, *El Pueblo Latino*, the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys, and the MBA's Young Lawyers Division and Business Law Section.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.