



Making Justice Accessible

For Immediate Release

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DURING A PANDEMIC, LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF MID NEW YORK, INC., ADAPTS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

The Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc (LASMNY) wants the public to know they are open for business. The free civil legal services law firm, serving 13 counties across central New York, is committed to public service.

"We are an important resource for our clients and the community during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Now is the time for people to know of their civil legal rights and protections. In response, we are investing in technology resources to help our attorneys and paralegals work remotely," Executive Director, Paul Lupia, Esq, said. "We have purchased equipment and software that allows our staff to provide counsel and advice despite being away from our usual workplaces."

The possible growing legal needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic include; consumer protections, evictions, foreclosures, obtaining and maintaining government benefits, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

"We represent survivors of violence," Christina Reilly, Esq, Managing Attorney in Utica said. "We predict that there will be additional need for assistance from survivors and disturbances to the usual manner of accessing those services. LASMNY is committed to making ourselves available while working remotely. Our intake lines are still open."

As people in our community are asked to shelter in place, survivors and victims of domestic violence face the possibility of living at home with their abusers, who may have lost their employment or may be working from home. These changes to the normal routine could create additional stressors that lead to violence.

The Social Security Administration is warning about scams, including calls and letters being made to individuals to cut off or suspend their benefits. Also, reports of potential consumers and medical scams are abound in these trying circumstances.

"In times of crisis, LASMNY is here to help. The most vulnerable in our community, those that meet our guidelines and qualify for our support, can proactively access counsel and advice by calling our HelpLine **1-(877)-777-6152**," Paul Lupia, said.



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An anchor in central New York since 1952, LASMNY serves 13 counties, including Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, and Otsego. LASMNY is a not-for-profit law office. They provide free civil legal information, advice, and representation to people who can't afford a lawyer. If you would like more information you can visit www.lasmny.org, or if you would like to seek civil legal advice call their **HelpLine 1-(877)-777-6152**.

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LASMNY has offices in Utica, Syracuse, Binghamton, Watertown, Oswego, Oneonta, Cooperstown, and New Paltz

Utica Office

120 Bleecker Street
Utica, New York 13501
(315) 793-7000

Syracuse Office

221 South Warren Street
Suite 310
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 703-6600

Binghamton Office

168 Water Street
Second Floor
Binghamton, New York 13901
(607) 231-5900

Watertown Office

215 Washington Street
Suite 202
Watertown, NY 13601
(315) 955-6700

Oswego Office

108 West Bridge Street
Oswego, New York 13126
(315) 532-6900

Oneonta Office

183 Main Street, Suite 301
PO BOX 887
Oneonta, NY 13820
(607) 433-2220

Cooperstown Office

Meadows Office Complex, Suite 6
140 County Highway 33 West
Cooperstown, New York 13326
(607) 286-4045

New Paltz Office (Agriculture Law Project)

52 South Manheim Boulevard
New Paltz, New York 12561
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