

The Milwaukee Justice Center

About:

The Milwaukee Bar Association (MBA) members marked the MBA's 150th anniversary with an ambitious public service project to improve access to justice in Milwaukee County. This project resulted in a three way partnership between the MBA, Milwaukee County, and Marquette Law School creating the Milwaukee Justice Center located in Room G-9 of the Courthouse.

Mission:

The Milwaukee Justice Center uses collaborative partnerships to provide free legal assistance to Milwaukee County's unrepresented litigants through court-based self-help desks and legal resources.

Why is this service vital?

- 87% of divorce cases in Milwaukee County occur where one or both parties appear unrepresented.
- 99.9% of paternity cases in Milwaukee County occur where one or both parties appear unrepresented.
- 88% of those eligible for free aid in Milwaukee County cannot obtain those services.
- The Milwaukee Justice Center made 6,033 contacts in 2008, about 2,000 more than the previous year, and that number is growing.

MJC:

Many people in Milwaukee County are unable to afford legal representation, and as a result their access to justice is severely limited. The Milwaukee Justice Center exists in order to bridge this gap. Although it is encouraged to retain an attorney, if you cannot afford one the services of MJC are here to help navigate the paper work and the filling process in the areas of family law and small claims. To find out more about what we do please feel free to contact us.

Our Services:

The Self-Help Desk:

The Milwaukee Justice Center has volunteers who work The Self-Help Desk located in RM G9 of the courthouse. Here self represented litigants get help filling out forms, and receive step by step instructions for filing in family law and small claims cases. Our clients come in for help by appointment, or during the clinic's walk-in hours. Volunteers in this capacity do not give legal advice.

The Volunteer Legal Clinic...

The MJC is proud to announce through its partnership with Marquette University Law School's MVLC program a brief legal advice and referral clinic. Here volunteer attorneys are able to counsel self represented litigants for a period of 20 to 30 minutes. This essential service is a great opportunity for people who need legal advice, but cannot afford an attorney. Assistance provided is limited to the meeting time, and does not create an ongoing attorney-client relationship.

Our Pro Se Workshops...

Through our Pro Se Workshops volunteer attorneys are able to increase the amount of people being helped at one time. MJC provides workshops for self represented litigants on a variety of legal issues involving family law and small claims. If you are interested in learning more please contact us.

Self-Help Desk Hours of Operation (Rm. G9)

Family Law Issues:

Monday	11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Tuesday	11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Wednesday	11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Friday	8:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Appointments for assistance with family law paperwork can be made in person in Room 104P of the Courthouse, by phone (414) 278-2912, or by email (ctimail@wicourts.gov).

Small Claims Issues:

Thursday	11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
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Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic Hours of Operation (Rm. 106)

Friday:	2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.
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The MVLC offers free legal advice and referrals in 20-30 minute increments.