



Legal Issues For Teen Families

Baby's Birth Certificate
Paternity
Child Custody and Visitation
Marriage



YOU CANNOT GET A BIRTH CERTIFICATE UNTIL YOU "REGISTER" YOUR BABY'S BIRTH

Registering your baby's birth

How Do I Register My Baby's Birth?

“Registering” a birth means making a legal record with the State of California that a baby has been born. You need to get a **birth registration form** from the hospital where you will be giving birth. You should fill it out before the baby is born. (You can also fill it out after the baby is born, but it is easier to do it in advance).

Pack the completed form with the things you will take when you go to deliver your baby. When you get to the hospital, give the completed form to a staff person. A nurse will use the information to complete a “Certificate of Live Birth.” The hospital must then register the birth with the county within 10 days of your child’s birth. After your baby’s birth is registered, you can get a birth certificate.

What Information Do I Need for the Registration Form?

Note: How you fill out the birth registration form, or what you tell the hospital staff to put on the form, is very important.

The information on your birth registration form will go on your baby’s birth certificate. Make sure everything you write down is true and correct. Do not sign the “Certificate of Live Birth” unless all the information on it is correct. The baby’s mother (and the father, if you’re married) are the **ONLY** people who should tell the hospital staff what to write on the form.

Be Prepared! Here are Some Important Things to Think About:

Baby's Name: The baby's last name can be either the mother's or father's name – whether you are married or not.

Father's Name: HOWEVER- The father's name can ONLY go on the form if:

- The mother and father are married, or
- The father is at the hospital when the birth registration form is filled out, *and* the parents sign a voluntary “Declaration of Paternity” – a legal document that identifies the father.
- **If the father's name does not get on the form at the hospital, the parents** can later sign a “Declaration of Paternity” or legally establish paternity through the courts, and pay a fee to amend the birth certificate.

DADS! *If keeping close ties with your child is important to you, think about being a father before your baby is born. Find ways to help. Can you give rides to the doctor's office, buy baby clothes, or go to a childbirth class? If you're not married, but you want your name on the birth certificate, you need to be at the hospital when the birth registration form is filled out, and sign a “Declaration of Paternity.”*

Your Baby's Birth Certificate

It is important to get a birth certificate for your baby, and keep it in a safe place. The birth certificate is legal proof of the facts about your baby's birth – name, date and place of birth, parents' names, etc. For example, you will need to show a birth certificate to get Medi-Cal or other benefits for your baby, and later, to enroll your child in school.

How Do I Get the Birth Certificate?

About three months after the birth of your baby, you can get a “certified copy” of your baby’s birth certificate from the state. A certified copy has a seal pressed into the paper to make it official. You should get it as soon as possible.

Note: There are two kinds of birth records:

- **Certified Copy** – This copy of the birth certificate can be used to establish the identity of the person named on the certificate.

In order to obtain a certified copy, you *must* provide a **notarized sworn statement**.

- **Certified Informational Copy** – This copy has the same information as the certified copy, but *cannot* be used to establish identity.

In order to obtain a certified informational copy, you do not need a notarized sworn statement.

Certified copies of birth certificates will only be issued to authorized people. The baby’s mother, and the father if he is listed on the birth certificate, are authorised to get certified copies of the birth certificate. Other “authorised” people include the baby’s grandparents, and:

- In order to obtain a certified copy, you must provide a notarized sworn statement.
- In order to obtain a certified informational copy, you do not need a notarized sworn statement.

- A person entitled to receive the records under a court order, or an attorney or licensed adoption agency seeking the birth records in order to comply with the law.
- A law enforcement agency or governmental agency conducting official business.
- An attorney representing the baby.



There are two ways to get birth certificates

By mail: This is usually processed within 20 working days from the date the request is received. Submit a completed Application for Birth Record and a notarized Certificate of Identity. These forms are available at http://www.lavote.net/recorder/BDM_Records.cfm.

Enclose with your application: (1) A check or money order for \$19.00 for each copy, payable to “Registrar/Recorder – County Clerk” and (2) A stamped envelope with your address on it. Be careful to send all the information – you don’t get your money back if they can’t find a record of the birth. *Note: Fees may change.

Mail the request to:

Los Angeles Registrar/Recorder County Clerk
Birth Records
P.O. Box 489
Los Angeles, CA 90657-0489
Telephone: (562) 462-2137

In person: To get a birth certificate faster, you can go in person to one of the Los Angeles County Registrar offices. Call (800) 201-8999 to find the office closest to you. You must bring a valid photo I.D. with you.

What if I Need to Change the Name on My Baby's Birth Certificate?

- *Baby's Name:* It is not easy to legally change your baby's name. First, you have to get a court order. Then you send a certified copy of the court order with a form called "Application for Amendment of Birth Record to Reflect Court Order Change of Name," a photocopy of the original birth certificate (if you have it) and a \$20.00 check or money order payable to the Office of Vital Records. To obtain the application, call (916) 445-2684 or order the form electronically at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/birthdeathmar/Pages/CorrectingorAmendingVitalRecord.aspx>. If you really need a legal name change for your baby, you can call Public Counsel for help.

Does this sound too complicated? *The name on the birth certificate is the baby's legal name, but it does not have to be the name your child uses every day.* Even without a court order, you or your child can use another name to enroll in school. But your child's Medi-Cal card, passport, etc., must have the same name as the birth certificate.

Can I Add My Baby's Father's Name to My Baby's Birth Certificate?

Yes. If the space for the father's name on your baby's birth certificate is **blank**, you can add the father using an **Acknowledgement of Paternity**. This is a process where the parents legally recognize their relationship to their child. If both parents are willing to sign the required form, the father's name can be added to the birth certificate. The paperwork necessary to add the father's name is different if you are married or not married to the baby's father.

Tip: You can get the Acknowledgement of Paternity form by contacting your local registrar of births and deaths. In Los Angeles call (213) 240-7812.

IF the baby's parents are married, in order to add the father's name, you must send the following items to the Office of Vital Records:

- Completed Application to Amend a Birth Record – Acknowledgement of Paternity –VS 22 (signed by both parents)
- A photocopy of the original birth certificate (if you have it)
- A photocopy of the **marriage** certificate
- A **notarized** Sworn Statement
- \$20 check or money order made payable to the Office of Vital Records



IF the baby's parents are not married, in order to add the father's name, you must send the following items to the Office of Vital Records:

- Completed Application to Amend a Birth Record – Acknowledgement of Paternity – VS 22 (signed by both parents)
- A photocopy of the original birth certificate (if you have it)
- \$20 check or money order made payable to the Office of Vital Records
- A photocopy of a **notarized** Declaration of Paternity (CS 909), signed by both parents in the presence of a witness. The original must be sent the California Department of Child Services, Paternity Opportunity Program:
Department of Child Services
Attn: POP Unit
PO Box 419070
Rancho Cardova, CA 95741

You can get a Declaration of Paternity from the California Department of Child Services, Paternity Opportunity Program at 866-249-0773 or www.childsup.ca.gov/Resources/EstablishPaternity.aspx.

How Can I Change the Father's Name on My Child's Birth Certificate?

If you put down one name on the original birth certificate and now want to change it, you have to go to court. The court will decide who the father of the child is and issue an “adjudication.” **The court will then issue an order instructing the**, California Department of Health Services to remove the existing name of the father on the birth certificate and add the new father. If the child’s name is being changed to match the new father’s, the new full name must be listed in the court order. In order to start the adjudication process, you should talk to a family law attorney. Once you have the adjudication, you have to send the following items to the Office of Vital Records:

The VS 22 can also be used to:

- Change the child’s last name to match the father’s last name
 - Add the father’s last name to the child’s last name already listed on the birth certificate (example: “John Adams” can become “John Adams Harris”)
- A completed Application to Amend a Birth Record – Adjudication of Facts of Parentage – VS 21
 - A certified copy of the court Order Adjudicating Parentage (no photocopies!).
 - A copy of the original birth certificate (if you have it).
 - \$20 check or money order made payable to the Office of Vital Records.

What Will the New Birth Certificate Look Like?

The new birth certificate will replace the original birth certificate. The original birth certificate will be sealed and will not be available to the public. The new birth certificate will look just like an original birth certificate.



Where do I Send all of this Information?

Once you have completed all of the necessary paperwork, write your check or money order for the appropriate amount to the Office of Vital Records. Send everything together to:

Office of Vital Records
MS 5103
Post Office Box 997410
Sacramento, CA 95899-7410

How Does my Baby get a Social Security Number?

You can request a social security number for your baby at the hospital after he/she is born. When you give hospital staff information for your baby's birth certificate, you will be asked if you want to apply for a social security number for your baby. This is the easiest way for your baby to get a social security number

If you did not do this, then you should get a social security number soon after the birth. You can apply in person or by mail. There is no fee for a social security card!

In person: Either parent can go to the nearest Social Security office with the baby's birth certificate and a document for proof of your child's identity (such as your baby's health record or school record. The parent will also need ID, such as California driver's license, school identification, passport, etc.

By mail: You can call the Social Security Administration at (800)772-1213 and get an application in the mail. You can either fill it out and mail it, or take it to a Social Security office. The same kind of proof of the baby's birth and your ID will be needed. Because you must submit **original** documents we recommend that you apply in person.

You can download an application from the Social Security Administration website at www.socialsecurity.gov.



Paternity, Child Support, Custody and Visitation

What does it mean to “Establish Paternity”?

“Establishing Paternity” means identifying the father of the child through a legal process.

How Is Paternity Established?

Paternity can be established in several ways:

- If the parents are married at the time of conception or birth of the child, the husband is the baby’s legal father.
- If the parents are not married, they can sign a “Declaration of Paternity” at the hospital when the child is born - or later in the presence of a Notary Public. The parent must file the original form with the California Department of Child Support Services POP Unit at:

CDSS-POP Unit
P.O. Box 419070
Rancho Cordova, CA
95741-9070



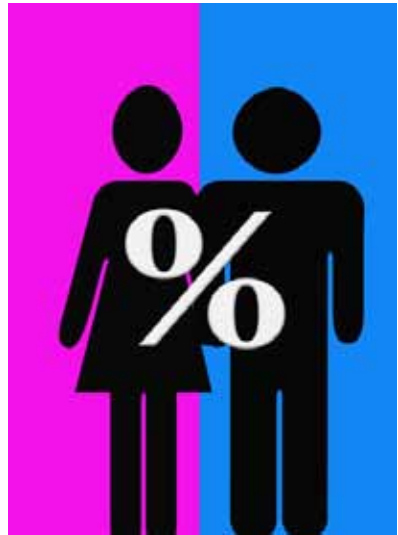
- If you have questions about how to file a Declaration of Paternity, please call the State POP Coordinator at (866) 249-0773.
- You have the right to decide whether to sign a Declaration of Paternity form. Signing the form is voluntary.
- Parents may obtain a Declaration of Paternity from the local registrars of births and deaths (in Los Angeles (562) 462-2137), the county Department of Child Support Services (in Los Angeles (866) 901-3212), welfare offices, or birthing hospitals.
- Either parent can cancel the Declaration of Paternity within 60 days of the date of signature, unless a court order for custody, visitation, or child support has been entered. He/she must complete a notarized “Rescission Form for the Declaration of Paternity” and file it with the California Department of Child Support Services POP Unit. The other parent must receive a copy of the form by certified mail.
- The Declaration of Paternity does not establish paternity until 60 days after both parents turn 18. If you were under 18 when you signed the form, you may cancel it within 60 days after you turn 18.
- If unmarried parents do not file a Declaration of Paternity, the mother or father or a child support enforcement agency can file a court case to establish paternity.
- If the alleged father is not sure he is the father, he can deny paternity and request a blood or genetic test
- For help, see the Family Law Services referral list at the end of this booklet.

What are the Rights of Mothers and Fathers?

Before the Birth: Before the baby is born, the mother has the right to make decisions about the pregnancy. It is her choice whether to have the baby, or have an abortion. The baby's father cannot make her have the baby, or make her have an abortion. She also has the right to name the baby.

Adoption: Both the father and the mother have to agree before the baby can be put up for adoption. (If you are thinking about adoption, read the Public Counsel booklet "Sex? Choices for Teens").

After the Birth: Once the baby is born and paternity is established, both parents have the right to take part in raising their child unless a court order prohibits one of them from doing so. Both parents also have the responsibility to pay child support, if they are not living with the child.



Should I Establish Paternity for my Baby?

If you were married when your baby was born, or you and the father signed a Declaration of Paternity at the hospital, paternity is already established. But if not, you may be wondering if you should try to establish paternity.

Here are some things to think about:

"Pros" of Paternity

- Most children want to know who their father is. Establishing paternity may help your child feel close to the father and his family.
- Paternity must be established to get child support from the father.
- Paternity must be established for either parent to get court orders about custody, visitation or to change the child's name.
- If the father has health insurance at work, it might cover the child if paternity is established. If the father is injured at work, becomes disabled, or dies, the child may be able to get benefits like Worker's Compensation or Social Security.
- If the father joins the military, he can get an extra allowance for the needs of the child.
- If the child had health problems, it may be important to know the health history of the father and his family.

"Cons" of Paternity

If the mother is afraid that the father might abuse her or the child, she may choose not to do anything that would make him want contact with the child. If paternity is established and especially if he starts having to pay child support, the abusive father may request visitation or custody.

Need help? If you are scared about what might happen if you establish paternity, there are agencies that can help. See the referral numbers at the end of this booklet.

How Do I Get Child Support?

Both parents have the duty to support their child. **The California Department of Child Support** services can help you obtain child support.

- If you are on welfare, the welfare office will ask for information about the other parent and use it to collect child support. If the child support is granted, you will receive a **minimum of \$50 per month**. The rest of the money will go to the government to pay for welfare benefits.
- The Child Support office may seek to get the noncustodial parent to pay for the cost of welfare benefits.
- You must cooperate with the Child Support office to find the noncustodial parent, or your welfare benefits could get denied or cut off unless you have **good cause** for failure to cooperate.

Examples of good cause:

- The parent fears for her safety or the safety of her child.
- The child was conceived as a result of incest or rape.
- The parent is unable to name or locate the noncustodial parent.
- If paternity has already been established, go to your local courthouse and ask for the Family Law Facilitator or visit your county Department of Child Support Services.
- If your baby's other parent is under 18, the Department of Child Support Services will investigate that parent's ability to pay child support. There is no way to collect child support until the parent has an income.

- Call the Los Angeles County Child Support hotline at (866) 901-3212 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).
- To find your county Department of Child Support Services, call (866) 249-0773 or visit www.childsup.ca.gov.

What about Child Custody and Visitation?

- If you and the baby's other parent are not living together, there are different ways to work out custody and visitation. If you can't agree, you may need to get a court order. Also, even if you agree right now, it may be a good idea to have a court order to avoid problems later.
- If your child's other parent ever takes your child and refuses to give the child back, the police may be able to help – but only if you have a court order on child custody and visitation!
- If you want to get a court order on child custody and visitation, call the referral numbers at the end of this booklet, or go to the courthouse Family Law Information Center.
- Before you see a judge, you will be sent to “mediation.” A counselor will talk to both parents to see if you can work out an agreement on custody and visitation. If mediation doesn't work, you will have a court hearing and the judge will decide custody and visitation according to the best interests of the child.
- There are many choices for custody and visitation. Think about what you want and what would be best for your child before you go to court:
 - **“Legal Custody”** is the right to make decisions about the child's health care, school, religion, etc.
 - **“Joint Legal Custody”** means both parents share legal custody.

- **“Sole Legal Custody”** means only one parent gets the right to make decisions about the child.
- **“Physical Custody”** is the right to have the child live with you.
- **“Primary (or sole) physical custody”** means the child lives with one parent, but may visit the other parent.
- **“Joint Physical Custody”** means the child lives part of the time with one parent and part of the time with the other parent.
- **“Visitation”** is the right to see the child on certain days and times, when the other parent has physical custody.
- **“Supervised Visitation”** is visitation at a place like a visitation center or at the home of a neutral person (like a grandmother), when it is not safe for a parent to be alone with the child. If a specific location was not required by Court order, the parent and monitor can choose anywhere for the visit as long as the monitor is present.
- A grandparent may request visitation rights. However, the court may deny it if visitation is not in the best interest of the child or if the parents object.

What If I am Afraid for My or My Baby's Safety?

Sometimes there is a lot of conflict over child custody, visitation, child support, etc. If you are afraid the other parent will hurt you or your child, or take the baby away from you, you may need a “restraining order.” This is a court order saying that someone must stay away from you and your child.

Are you afraid that your child's other parent or a family member will take your baby away, or that you or the baby are in danger? There are agencies that can give you advice, and may be able to help you get a restraining order. Read the booklet "Get the Truth about Teen Dating Domestic Violence" or call the Youth Crisis Line at (800) 843-5200 for advice and referrals!

If your child is abducted, call the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office Child Abduction Section at (213) 974-7424. The office is located at 320 West Temple Street, Room 780 in Los Angeles. To make an appointment, call (213) 974-7424. Bring a picture of your child to your appointment.

Also, file a Child Abduction Report and a Missing Persons report with the police. The Missing Persons Report allows the police to enter the name of the child and parent into the National Crime Information Center.

If you are afraid the other parent may remove the child from the United States, request the U.S. State Department to list your child in the *Children's Passport Issuance Alert Program*. That way, you will be notified if the other parent tries to obtain a U.S. passport for your child. For more information, visit the U.S. Department of State website at www.travel.state.gov.

Do I Need an Adult to Help Me File a Court Case?

If you are a teen parent, you generally do not need an adult to help you file a paternity, custody or visitation court case, as long as you are able to understand what is going on in the case. However, if the Court decides you need help understanding and participating in the legal proceedings, then you will need to bring an adult with you when you go to court. If the adult can't come with you, ask the court clerk to give you a form called "Appointment of a Guardian ad litem". You will need to complete this form before filing your papers.

Marriage for Teens




When a person under 18 decides to get married, there are special rules. California law does not state a minimum age for marriage by a minor, but minors need their parents' consent and court approval to get married. Most minors are at least 16 before the court approves marriage. After you get court approval, the court will issue an order, and then you need to apply for a marriage license. There is a \$90.00 fee for the license. In Los Angeles County, you need to take the following steps if you want to get married and one or both of you is under 18:

- Get a packet of forms to fill out from your local County Clerk's office. You can find a local office online at <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/pubsforms/forms/Pages/BirthMarriageandDeathCertificates.aspx>. You will need a parent with you in order to obtain an application.
- You will need to complete a "Request of Minor to Marry" (Form FL-910) and a "Consent of Parent or Guardian to Issuance of Marriage License" (Form -048) and file them with the Superior Court. You can obtain these forms at the Family Law Filing Window of a Superior Court. The consent will need to be signed by both parents (or legal guardian) of the person under 18. One parent can consent if that parent has sole legal custody or the other parent is dead. If you are both under 18, both sets of parents must consent.
- When you file the application, you and your fiancé/ee will be given an appointment to meet with a Family Court Services Specialist to assess if you are mature enough to consent to marry. The Specialist will then make a recommendation to the court as to whether the application will be granted, denied, or deferred. You will each need to bring with you:
 - A picture identification with your birth date (such as a Driver's License).




- The Parental Consent Form (FAM-048)
 - If either of you has been married before, court papers showing that you are divorced.
 - If you have been to premarital counseling, a letter from the counselor about the issues addressed in counseling.
 - The parents (or legal guardian) of the person(s) under 18 must also attend and bring with them a valid ID.
- If the Court approves your application, you will be provided with a court order.
 - Go to your local County Clerk's office and submit the following documents for a marriage license:
 - a completed Marriage License Application
 - a certified copy of the court order
 - a notarized parent or guardian consent statement from each parent or legal guardian of the person(s) under 18
 - If either of you has been married before, court papers showing that you are divorced.
 - Both of you must be present when submitting the application to the County Clerk. You will each need an ID (copy of birth certificate, driver's license, or California ID card)
 - Once you get your marriage license, plan your wedding!






Family Law Services




AGENCY 	SERVICES 	FEE & HOURS 
<p>Asian Pacific American Legal Center 1145 Wilshire Blvd., 2nd Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017 ☎ HOTLINE: (213) 977-7500 Fax: (213) 977-7595 Email: info@apalc.org www.apalc.org</p>	<p><i>Direct legal services: domestic violence, child custody, child support, spousal support.</i></p> <p><i>Cantonese, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and access to other Asian-Pacific languages</i></p>	<p><i>Free to low-income residents of Los Angeles County or Orange County.</i></p> <p>1 Appointments only <i>Mon.-Fri.: 9am-5pm</i></p>
<p>Beverly Hills Bar Association Lawyer Referral & Information Service</p> <p>☎ (310) 601-2440 LRIS@bhba.org http://bhba.org/lawyerref.htm</p>	<p><i>Over 35 legal fields represented, including (but not limited to): family law, estate planning, personal injury, real property, corporate and business law, criminal law, and immigration.</i></p>	<p>Initial fee of \$25 includes two attorney referrals and half-hour telephone consultation with each attorney. Any additional referrals are \$20 each. Fees waived in personal injury, worker's compensation, criminal law, and bankruptcy matters</p> <p>Telephone only. Office hours: Mon./Tues./Wed.: 9am - 5pm Thurs./Fri.: 9:30am-2:30pm</p>
<p>Break the Cycle 5777 West Century Blvd. Suite 1150 Los Angeles, CA 90045 ☎ (310) 286-3383 ☎ (888) 988-8336 Fax: (310) 286-3386 Email: info@breakthecycle.org askanything@thesafespace.org www.breakthecycle.org</p>	<p><i>Attorney referrals: teen/youth domestic violence, restraining orders, child custody, and visitation.</i></p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p><i>*No longer offers direct legal services.*</i></p>
<p>Compton Self-Help Assistance Center Compton Superior Court 200 W. Compton Blvd., Room 1102 Compton, CA 90220 www.legal-aid.com</p>	<p><i>Divorce, child custody, guardianship, paternity, name change, restraining orders, evictions, small claims, and child visitation.</i></p> <p><i>English and Spanish</i></p>	<p><i>No cost and open to the public.</i> <i>Walk-ins accepted.</i> <i>Mon.-Fri.: 9am-12 noon</i> <i>Scheduled afternoon workshops</i></p>
<p>Community Legal Services, Compton Domestic Violence Prevention Program Compton Superior Court 200 W. Compton Blvd. Rm 902 Compton, CA 90220 www.legal-aid.com</p>	<p>Child custody, child and spousal support, divorce, domestic violence, guardianship, paternity, legal separation, visitation.</p> <p>Spanish</p>	<p><i>No cost to individuals who meet income and residency requirements.</i></p> <p><i>Walk-in, screening upon arrival</i> <i>Mon.-Fri.: 9am-12 noon</i></p>

Listings are provided for informational purposes only. Public Counsel does not endorse any agency. Prepared by Public Counsel's Children's Rights Project 2011.

AGENCY 	SERVICES 	FEE & HOURS 
Community Legal Services, Norwalk 11834 E. Firestone Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650 ☎ (562) 864-9935 Appointments & Legal Advice: ☎ (800) 834-5001 Mon.-Thurs. 9am - 6pm Fri. 9am - 4pm www.legal-aid.com	<i>Child custody, child and spousal support, divorce, domestic violence, guardianship, paternity, legal separation, visitation.</i> <i>Spanish</i>	No cost to individuals who meet income and residency requirements. Call program for particulars.
Community Legal Services, Norwalk Domestic Violence Clinic Norwalk Superior Court, Room 202A 12720 Norwalk Blvd Norwalk, CA 90650 ☎ (562) 807-7354 www.legal-aid.com	Restraining orders child custody, child support, restitution, spousal support, or custody/ control of property. (Spanish)	<i>Free service to victims of domestic violence who live in designated Norwalk adjacent areas. Call to confirm eligibility.</i> <i>Walk-ins accepted.</i> <i>Mon.-Fri.: 9am-12 noon</i>
Resource Center for Pro Per Litigants (Family Law Information Center) (2 locations) Stanley Mosk Courthouse 110 N. Hill Street Rm. 426 Los Angeles, CA 90012 ☎ (213) 893-9754	<i>Family law information, referrals and assistance for pro per representation. Provides legal forms and guidance in divorce, legal separation, child custody, visitation, child and spousal support, paternity action, domestic violence, restraining orders,</i> <i>Persons not fluent in English are advised to bring a translator if possible.</i>	<i>Free. Some services are need-based.</i> <i>Walk-ins accepted.</i> Los Angeles location hours: <i>Mon - Thurs.: 8am - 4pm</i> <i>Fri.: 8 am-12 noon</i>
Resource Center for Pro Per Litigants (Family Law Information Center Cont.) Norwalk Courthouse 12720 Norwalk Blvd. Rm. 104E Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 807-7300 ☎ www.lasuperiorcourt.org/familylaw	<i>Family law information, referrals and assistance for pro per representation. Provides legal forms and guidance in divorce, legal separation, child custody, visitation, child and spousal support, paternity action,</i> <i>Persons not fluent in English are advised to bring a translator if possible.</i>	Norwalk location hours: <i>Mon. – Thurs.: 8am –4pm -</i>




AGENCY 	SERVICES 	FEE & HOURS 
Glendale YWCA Domestic Violence Project Women's Service Center 735 E. Lexington Drive Glendale, CA 91206 ☎ (818) 242-4155 ☎ 24 hr Hotline: (818)242-1106 Fax: (818) 240-6036 Email: info@glendaleywca.org www.glendaleywca.org	<p><u>Hotline:</u> Counseling and educational services for victims of domestic violence. Community referrals and access to emergency shelter services.</p> <p>Domestic Violence Service Center: support groups, case management, parenting classes, and community education and outreach</p> <p><i>Armenian and Spanish</i></p>	<p>Free service to victims of domestic violence.</p> <p>☐¹ Appointments only and walk-ins</p> <p>Mon.-Fri.: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.</p> <p>♥ Child care provided</p>
Harriet Buhai Center for Family Law 3250 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 710 Los Angeles, CA 90010 ☎ Appointments and information: (213) 388-7515 Email: info@hbcfl.org www.hbcfl.org	<p><i>Alimony, child custody, child support, divorce, domestic violence, legal separation, paternity, restraining orders, spousal support, visitation and community property. Pro per and pro bono representation. Mon.-Fri.: 1:30pm - 4:30 pm Appointment only</i></p> <p>Teen Services: (213) 388-7514 ext. 306 Elsa Ramos will conduct intake. Cases are accepted based on priority and type of case.</p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p>Free, if low income. Clients are responsible for court costs and filing fees.</p> <p>☐¹ Appointments only</p> <p>Mon.-Fri.: 9 am - 5 pm (Plan to be at the center all day)</p> <p>♥ Children not allowed in center</p>
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles 1102 Crenshaw Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90003 ☎ (323) 801-7921 Fax: (323) 936-6898 Family Law information line: ☎ (800) 399-4529 www.lafla.org	<p><i>Devorce, Child custody, visitation, child support, child abduction, domestic violence.</i></p> <p><i>Cantonese, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Spanish, and Vietnamese, Cambodian</i></p>	<p>Free to low-income residents of Los Angeles County.</p> <p>☐¹ Appointments only</p> <p>Mon.-Fri.: 9am - 5pm</p>
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles Toll Family Law Counseling Center Los Angeles Superior Court 111 N. Hill Street, Dept. 8, Room 245 Los Angeles, CA 90012 www.lafla.org	<p><i>Child custody, visitation, child support, child abduction. Emergency restraining orders.</i></p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p>Free to low-income residents of Los Angeles County.</p> <p><i>Walk-ins accepted.</i></p> <p>Mon., Wed., Fri. 8:30 am - 11:30 am & 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm</p>

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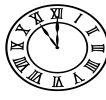
<p style="text-align: center;">AGENCY</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">SERVICES</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">FEE & HOURS</p> 
<p>Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, Long Beach Domestic Violence Clinic Long Beach Superior Court 415 W. Ocean Blvd, Room 40C Long Beach, CA 90802 www.lafla.org</p>	<p><i>Restraining orders, child custody, child support, child abduction, visitation orders.</i></p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p><i>Free to low-income residents of Los Angeles County.</i></p> <p><i>Walk-ins only.</i></p> <p><i>Mon., Wed., Fri.: 8:30 am - 11:30 am & 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm Closed the 3rd Wednesday of each month.</i></p>
<p>Legal Aid Society of Orange County Family Law Clinic 2101 N Tustin Ave Santa Ana, CA 92705 800 834-5001 or 714 571-5200 www.legal-aid.com</p>	<p>Assistance in preparing Divorce, Order to Show Cause, Paternity, Child Custody; or to respond to these court actions. - Legal advice available</p>	<p><i>By appointment only; appointments available by phone.</i></p> <p><i>Tuesday and Thursdays</i></p>
<p>Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, Santa Monica Domestic Violence Clinic Santa Monica Superior Court 1725 Main St., Rm. 121 Santa Monica CA 90401 www.lafla.org</p>	<p>Restraining orders, child custody, visitation orders.</p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p><i>Free services for domestic violence victims living in Santa Monica or West Los Angeles.</i></p> <p><i>Walk-ins accepted.</i></p> <p><i>Mon.-Fri.: 8:30am-11am</i></p>
<p>Levitt and Quinn Family Law Center 1557 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90026 ☎ (213) 482-1800 Fax: (213) 482-3979 Mon-Fri.: 8:30 am- 12 noon & 1 pm- 5:30 pm www.levitt-quinn.org</p>	<p>Adoption, child custody, child support, divorce, domestic violence, guardianship, paternity, grandparent rights, legal separation, restraining orders, spousal support, visitation.</p> <p><i>French and Spanish.</i></p>	<p><i>\$60 fee for initial intake & consultation; additional fees based on income for each additional service required (only money orders or credit/debit card; no cash or checks).</i></p> <p>♣ <i>Walk-in for initial intake.</i> <i>Thurs. at 12 noon</i> <i>Fri. at 8am</i> <i>(First 12 people will be helped on a first come basis)</i></p> <p>♥ <i>Children under 14 not allowed in center</i></p>
<p>Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice 1241 South Soto Street, Suite 102 Los Angeles, CA 90023 ☎ (323) 980-3500 Email: info@lclj.org www.lclj.org</p>	<p><i>Child custody, child support, divorce, legal separation, domestic violence, paternity, restraining orders, spousal support, visitation, emancipation, marriage, government benefits, guardianship. Pro per and pro bono representation.</i></p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p><i>Free to low-income residents of Los Angeles County.</i></p> <p>1 <i>Appointments only</i></p> <p><i>Mon.-Fri.: 8:30 am - 12 noon and 1pm - 5:30pm</i></p>

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Family Law Services

<p>AGENCY</p> 	<p>SERVICES</p> 	<p>FEE & HOURS</p> 
<p>Los Angeles County Bar Association Attorney Referral for Family Law Los Angeles, CA 90055 ☎ (213) 243-1525 www.lacba.org</p>	<p><i>Referral service for private attorneys.</i></p> <p><i>American Sign Language, Arabic, Armenian, Bahasa, Cantonese, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Hebrew, Mandarin, Persian, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog,</i></p>	<p>No fee for the referral. If low-income, may qualify for \$100-\$500 per hour rates.</p> <p>Telephone or online at smartlaw.org Mon.-Fri.: 8:45 am - 5 pm</p>
<p>Los Angeles County Bar Association Domestic Violence Project <i>(2 locations)</i></p> <p><i>Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 N. Hill Street, Dept. 8, Room 245 Los Angeles, CA 90012 ☎ (213) 624-3665 / (213) 974-5587</i></p>	<p><i>Restraining orders, child custody, visitation rights, and child support.</i></p> <p><i>Spanish.</i></p>	<p><i>There is a \$20 processing donation, but this may be waived. No fee for service or filing of a Domestic Violence Restraining Order. Walk-ins accepted.</i></p> <p><i>Mon. - Fri.: 9 am - 11:30 pm and 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm</i></p>
<p>Pasadena Superior Court 300 East Walnut Street Pasadena, CA 91101</p> <p>www.lacba.org (Click "For the Public" and then "Barristers Domestic Violence Program")</p>	<p><i>Restraining orders, child custody, visitation rights, and child support</i></p> <p><i>Spanish.</i></p>	<p>There is a \$20 processing donation, but this may be waived. No fee for service or filing of a Domestic Violence Restraining Order.</p> <p>↑ Walk-ins accepted.</p> <p>Mon. - Fri.: 9am - 12 noon</p>
<p>Los Angeles Family Law Help Center 205 S. Broadway, Suite 500 Los Angeles, CA 90012 ☎ (213) 620-9991 ☎ (877) 452-9326 www.lafamilylaw.org</p>	<p>Low-cost legal assistance for self-represented family law litigants, including divorce, legal separation, annulment, child custody/visitation, child/spousal support, paternity, restraining orders, guardianship, name change, adoptions.</p>	<p><i>All services flat-rated and range from \$50-\$400.</i></p> <p><i>Appointments preferred</i> ↑ Walk-ins accepted.</p> <p><i>Mon.-Fri.: 9am - 5pm Saturday by appointment only.</i></p>
<p>Neighborhood Legal Services ☎ (800) 433-6251 www.nls-la.org</p> <p>NOTE: All Family Law and Domestic Violence Services are walk-in only; call NLS for information about which self-help center or clinic would best serve your needs.</p>	<p><i>Assistance with filing restraining orders, divorce, custody, paternity, and guardianship.</i></p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p><i>Free to low-income persons. Call to determine eligibility.</i></p> <p><i>Mon - Fri: 9am to 5pm</i></p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">AGENCY</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">SERVICES</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">FEE & HOURS</p> 
<p>Neighborhood Legal Services Antelope Valley Self-Help Legal Ctr. Los Angeles Superior Court: Antelope Valley Courthouse 42011 4th Street West 3rd Floor, Room 3700 Lancaster, CA 93534 ☎ (800) 433-6251 www.nls-la.org</p>	<p>Assistance with divorce, paternity, child visitation, custody,</p> <p><i>Spanish</i></p>	<p>Free to low-income persons. Call to determine eligibility.</p> <p>⬆ Walk-in Mon – Fri: 8:30 am – 12 pm 1:30 pm – 3 pm</p> <p>Fri: 8:30 am – 12 pm</p>
<p>Neighborhood Legal Services Van Nuys Self-Help Legal Ctr. Van Nuys Superior Court 6230 Sylmar Ave. Rm. 350 Van Nuys, CA 91401 ☎ (800) 433-6251 www.nls-la.org</p>	<p>Assistance with divorce, paternity, child visitation, custody,</p>	<p><i>Free to low-income persons. Call to determine eligibility.</i></p> <p>⬆ Walk-in. Limited to first 30 people.</p> <p><i>Mon-Fri: 8:30am - 12 pm</i></p>
<p>Office of the Family Law Facilitator Stanley Mosk Courthouse 11 N. Hill St. Room 426 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Information: ☎ (213) 974-5004 Mon-Fri: 8am to 9am www.lasuperiorcourt.org/familylaw</p>	<p>Child support, spousal support, and health insurance issues.</p>	<p><i>Free services. Appointment and ⬆ Walk- in.</i></p> <p><i>Mon - Fri: 8am – 4pm Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., 1pm - 4:30pm</i></p>
<p>Resource Center for Self- Represented Litigants (Three Clinics at this location) Pasadena Courthouse 300 E. Walnut St., 3rd Floor Room 300 Pasadena, CA 91101 (626) 356-5006 County Barrister’s DV Clinic 1st Floor, Room 100 Unlawful Detainer Answer Clinic Elder Law Clinic</p>	<p>Family law self-help workshops and clinics offered on divorce, declaration of disclosure, dis- solution judgments, paternity, child support, spousal support, and health insurance.</p> <p>Spanish offered for some workshops.</p> <p>Domestic violence response clinic provides assistance with petitions for domestic violence protective orders.</p> <p>Assistance in responding to unlawful detainer matters</p> <p>Assistance with conservatorships and elder abuse restraining orders.</p>	<p><i>Free</i></p> <p><i>Must sign up at office in order to attend the workshops.</i></p> <p><i>Office hours:</i> <i>Mon - Thurs: 8 am - 4 pm</i> <i>Fri: 8 am – 12 pm</i></p> <p><i>Tuesdays at 8:30 am</i> <i>Mon – Thurs at 1:30 pm</i> <i>Friday: 9 am – 12 pm</i></p>

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ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING MISSING CHILDREN

Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office(213) 974-7424

The National Center for Missing(800) 843-5678
and Exploited Children www.missingkids.com

Find the Children(888) 477-6721

PATERNITY TESTING

Long Beach Genetics(714) 648-0468
or (714) 648-0868 Spanish
www.lbgenetics.com

Fee for DNA Paternity Testing ranges from
\$295.00 to \$395.00
(Eligible for a discount if referred by Public Counsel)

When you have an appointment to get help on issues affecting your children, here are some important papers to bring with you if you have them:

- ☐ Your children's birth certificate
- ☐ Marriage certificate
- ☐ Divorce certificate
- ☐ Restraining order
- ☐ Police report
- ☐ Court documents
- ☐ Child support documents
- ☐ Important addresses and telephone numbers
- ☐ Proof of income (check stub)
- ☐ Proof of government benefits (like CalWORKS, Food Stamps)
- ☐ Proof of U.S. citizenship or Lawful "Green Card"



Telephone tips:

- ☐ To speak to an operator, press "0"
- ☐ Make a list of your questions & take notes
- ☐ Get the name of the person you talk to
- ☐ Be patient; you may be put on hold



For bus and Metro information, call (800) 266-6883 or visit www.mta.net or www.commutesmart.info



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