



SERVING VICTIMS OF CRIME

NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES

Because Justice is for All



**CIVIL LEGAL AID FOR
VICTIMS OF CRIME**

VOCA PROGRAM

What is the VOCA Justice for Crime Victims' Program?

The **Victims of Crime Act**, also known as **VOCA**, supports direct civil legal services for crime victims (those who have suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of a crime).

Victims, their families, and communities often need help understanding and using the legal system to enforce their rights. The *Justice for Crime Victims' Project* at NLS provides lawyers and social workers who step in and help victims resolve legal issues resulting from victimization.

NLS helps in these civil matters:

- Custody problems
- Housing loss
- Domestic violence
- Identity theft/fraud
- Physical/Sexual Assault
- Reviewing Power of Attorney spending
- Harassment
- Stalking
- Some name changes
- Revoking Powers of Attorney

Who We Are

Neighborhood Legal Services (NLS) is a non-profit law firm.

In 1966, we opened our doors with a commitment to **equal access to justice for all people** and a mission to meet the civil legal needs of economically disadvantaged individuals and families in our community.

We are attorneys, social workers, and staff working to provide civil legal aid in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence counties.



NEIGHBORHOOD
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What We Do

NLS provides civil legal representation and social work support from trained staff at no cost to victims of crime.

Our lawyers provide:

- Legal education
- Court representation
- Advice and limited services

We focus efforts on helping to keep individuals and families **SAFE** by:

- Getting protection orders
- Keeping custody of or access to children
- Leveraging financial resources
- Staying safely housed
- Keeping income and assets protected from identity theft

NLS social workers connect clients to community resources and support in order to successfully stabilize and address housing, food insecurity, safety, and employment concerns. They also help individuals apply for Victim Compensation Assistance.

Who We Can Help

Crime victims* may be any age, gender, race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. Being the victim of a crime has a lasting impact on the physical, emotional, psychological, social, financial, and legal well-being of individuals and their families.

We work to build:

- Legal awareness and empowerment
- Information and referral
- Partnerships with service organizations that support our shared community

**There are some limitations on who we can help and what types of cases we can handle. For example, we do not handle personal injury cases or represent anyone charged with a crime. Other restrictions may apply.*

If you are a victim of crime and are experiencing a civil legal problem as a result, contact NLS for help.



NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES

How to Get Help

Visit our website and apply online at

www.nlsa.us

and choose “Get Legal Help”

or call **1-866-761-6572**

NLS provides interpreters and translation services.
All services are confidential.

*This is a project funded through the Pennsylvania
Commission on Crime and Delinquency.*

ALLEGHENY COUNTY OFFICE

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BEAVER COUNTY OFFICE

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500 MARKET STREET | BRIDGEWATER, PA 15009-2998

BUTLER COUNTY OFFICE

HOLLY POINTE BUILDING, SUITE 306
220 S. MAIN STREET | BUTLER, PA 16001

LAWRENCE COUNTY OFFICE

TEMPLE BUILDING, SUITE 329
125 EAST NORTH STREET | NEW CASTLE, PA 16101-3751



Funded, in part, by the Commonwealth and through a contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The official registration and financial information of Neighborhood Legal Services may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Federal regulations applying to NLS require that we notify all donors that no funds can be expended by NLS for any activity prohibited under P.L. 104-134 or otherwise prohibited by 45 C.F.R. §1600 et seq