

Help with RAP Sheet Clean-up and Sealing:

Community Service Society (CSS)

CSS's Next Door Project (NDP) helps low-income New Yorkers obtain, review, understand and fix mistakes in their official criminal record RAP sheets. Attorneys also advise, advocate for, and represent NDP clients who have faced employment, licensing, and housing discrimination on account of their records, and represent individuals eligible for records sealing under New York law.

*CSS can only obtain RAP sheets for low-income individuals in the five boroughs of New York City.

Phone: (212) 614-5441.

Messages left on this hotline will be promptly returned.

Web: cssny.org/programs/entry/the-next-door-project

No walk-ins because NDP staff are often in the field; please call the hotline or visit the website above.

Legal Action Center (LAC)

LAC provides legal help to New York State residents who have a criminal record, substance use disorder, or HIV. Legal Action Center's online resources include publications, webinars, videos, and training materials about the rights of people with criminal records. Their services include:

- Getting and correcting your New York State and FBI RAP sheets
- Certificates of Relief from Disabilities or Good Conduct
- Sealing cases under New York's limited sealing laws
- Correcting mistakes on a background check for a job or housing
- Denials of jobs and occupational licenses because of your criminal record
- Denials of New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and other publicly funded housing because of your criminal record
- Voting, higher education, and guardianship rights
- Collecting evidence of rehabilitation/positive change

Phone: 212-243-1313

Web: lac.org

No walk-ins; please call the phone number or visit the website above.

Youth Represent

Youth Represent serves people under the age of 25 who have had involvement in the criminal legal system. They correct mistakes on RAP sheets for their clients, and counsel youth on how to speak about their criminal record accurately and effectively.

Phone: 646-759-8080

Web: youthrepresent.org

No walk-ins; please call first or fill out the contact form at youthrepresent.org/contact.

Legal Help:

The legal resources below are NYC-specific; to find legal services in New York State, visit lawhelpny.org, click on "Find a Lawyer," and enter your location and legal issue to search for legal services near you. Before visiting the organizations listed below, please call first to see if the services you need are available.

The Bronx Defenders

The Bronx Defenders are holistic, community-oriented public defenders serving Bronx residents with interconnected civil/criminal legal issues.

Phone: 718-838-7878, Community Intake: x 303

Web: bronxdefenders.org

Address: 360 East 161st Street, Bronx, NY 10451

Walk-ins accepted: M, W, F: 9am-4pm; T, Th: 9am-3pm

Brooklyn Defender Services (BDS)

BDS provides legal representation and related services to low-income Brooklyn residents.

Phone: 718-254-0700

Web: bds.org

Main Office Address:

177 Livingston Street, 7th Floor Brooklyn, New York 11201

Community Office Address:

566 Livonia Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11207

Walk-ins accepted at the Community Office:

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm

The Legal Aid Society

The Legal Aid Society provides free legal services to low-income individuals and families throughout New York City.

Phone: 888-663-6880 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9:30am-12:30pm

Web: legalaidnyc.org

No walk-ins; please call the phone number above.

Legal Hand

Legal Hand has trained community volunteers who operate out of neighborhood storefront centers and provide free legal information in areas like housing, family, immigration, divorce, domestic violence, and benefits.

Web: legalhand.org

Legal Hand Crown Heights:

250 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11213

Phone: 718-619-4248

Legal Hand Brownsville:

650 Rockaway Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11212

Phone: 347-404-9585

Legal Hand Jamaica:

149-13 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11435

Phone: 646-741-6411

Legal Hand Highbridge:

1759 Jerome Avenue, Bronx, NY 10453

Phone: 929-222-2015

Legal Hand Tremont:

713 E. Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10457

Phone: 929-222-2014

Walk in or make an appointment; please call or check their website for hours.

Legal Services NYC (LSNYC)

LSNYC provides civil legal services with neighborhood-based offices and outreach sites across all five boroughs.

Phone: 917-661-4500 - Legal Assistance Hotline open Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm, in any language

Web: legalservicesnyc.org

No walk-ins; please call the phone number above.

Mobilization for Justice (MFJ), Workplace Justice Project

MFJ's Workplace Justice Project provides city-wide free legal assistance for low-wage and immigrant workers on various employment issues.

Phone: 212-417-3838 on Tuesdays, 2-5PM

Web: mobilizationforjustice.org/projects/workplace-justice-project

No walk-ins; please call the phone number above on Tuesdays.

Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem (NDS)

NDS provides legal representation to residents of upper Manhattan, primarily 96th street and above.

Phone: 212-876-5500

Web: neighborhooddefender.org

Address:

317 Lenox Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10027

Walk-ins accepted: Wednesdays, 9AM-5PM

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