

## Informational Brochure



# LAWYER REFERRAL AND INFORMATION SERVICE

### *What is the Lawyer Referral & Information Service?*

Finding a lawyer can be a very difficult challenge for an individual who has never had to hire one. Of course, friends or work associates may be good sources for a referral. However, the State Bar of Nevada is also a resource when you need an attorney but are not sure where to turn.

The Lawyer Referral & Information Service ("LRIS") is a nonprofit public service and a service to the members of the State Bar of Nevada. Each year, LRIS assistants handle more than 28,000 calls from Nevada citizens and individuals residing outside of Nevada with various legal questions and problems. When appropriate, assistants refer callers to Nevada attorneys who are members of LRIS. Over 250 attorneys throughout the State of Nevada participate in the referral service.

To be a member of LRIS, an attorney must be an active member in good standing with the State Bar of Nevada. The attorney-member must provide the State Bar with evidence of liability insurance. An attorney who is a member of LRIS may charge no more than **\$45** for an initial consultation. However, there is no consultation fee in a contingency fee case. If the client chooses to hire the attorney after the initial consultation, the attorney will negotiate the fee with the client.



### *Is there a charge for using the Lawyer Referral & Information Service?*

No, there is no charge for LRIS. You can call LRIS at **702-382-0504**, or toll-free within Nevada at **1-800-789-LRIS** (5747).

### *How does LRIS operate?*

The LRIS hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. When a caller contacts LRIS, an LRIS assistant will ask the caller a series of questions. The assistants are not attorneys and cannot provide legal advice. The caller will be given the name and telephone number of an attorney who accepts cases in the area of law that addresses the problem. The referred caller and attorney will receive a confirmation of the referral in the mail. If the attorney is not able to assist the referred caller with the legal problem, the caller may contact LRIS again for another referral. An maximum of six referrals per legal issue may be requested.

*Over for more* →

# LAWYER REFERRAL AND INFORMATION SERVICE *(continued from other side)*



## *What if I cannot afford an attorney?*

Please note that the service is “phone-in” only. The Bar Office does not have attorneys on staff, cannot answer legal questions and does not provide referrals in the office.

All of the attorneys on LRIS are private attorneys and will arrange their fee with the client. If the client cannot afford to pay an attorney’s regular fee, the LRIS assistants will attempt to qualify the client for a reduced-fee attorney or may refer the client to another consumer agency if appropriate. Attorney members on the reduced fee panel can charge no more than \$25.00 for the initial consultation and no more than \$75.00 per hour thereafter.



## *Are attorneys on LRIS qualified?*

Attorney-members of LRIS must be active members in good standing with the State Bar of Nevada and provide evidence of liability insurance. Attorneys choose the practice area panels from which they will accept cases. However, a referral to an attorney who has indicated his or her willingness to accept cases in a particular area of law does not mean that the State Bar of Nevada, or any other agency on board, has certified such lawyer as a specialist or expert in an indicated field of law.

In addition, the referral of an attorney on the Lawyer Referral & Information Service does not mean that the attorney is necessarily any more competent than any other lawyer. All callers are urged to make their own independent investigation and evaluation of any lawyer being considered.

*Contact the State Bar of Nevada’s*

**Lawyer Referral & Information Service**

at **702-382-0504**

toll-free in Nevada at **1-800-789-5747**

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