

From: Ha, Pauline

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Subject: U.S. Trademark Application Serial No. 87882281 - ASK JIM FIRST - 1075512 - REMAND REQUEST TO TTAB - Message 1 of 2

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Attachment Information:

Count: 22

Files: collins - business def.jpg, collins - information def.jpg, wiki business information.jpg, apricotlawblog.jpg, attorneyatwork1.jpg, attorneyatwork2.jpg, attorneyatwork3.jpg, paperstreet1.jpg, paperstreet2.jpg, paperstreet3.jpg, YourDictionary - referral def.jpg, alamedacountybarassociation1.jpg, alamedacountybarassociation2.jpg, alaskabarassociation.jpg, alleghenycountybarassociation.jpg, masslegalservices.jpg, eriebar1.jpg, eriebar2.jpg, eriebar3.jpg, indylawyerfinder.jpg, indylawyerfinder2.jpg, 87882281.doc

**United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)**

**U.S. Application Serial No.** 87882281

**Mark:** ASK JIM FIRST

**Correspondence Address:**

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**Applicant:** James Kelleher

**Reference/Docket No.** 1075512

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**MOTION TO REMAND**

**MOTION TO REQUEST SUSPENSION OF THE APPEAL AND  
REMAND OF THE APPLICATION FOR SUBMISSION OF NEW EVIDENCE**

**Before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board on Appeal**

The trademark examining attorney requests that the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board suspend the appeal proceeding and remand the application to the trademark examining attorney under 37 C.F.R. §2.142(d) in order to submit additional evidence into the record relevant to the issue on appeal.

The trademark examining attorney is making this request at this time because a new trademark examining attorney has taken over the case and wishes to supplement the evidence of record to support the current refusal under Trademark Act Section 2(d) that the services of applicant and registrant are related. The evidence consists of the following:

1. Definition evidence for the wording “business information” and evidence by third parties showing that the name and contact information of a particular business, including businesses that provide legal services, is business information. Please see attachments from *Collins Dictionary*, *Wikipedia*, *ApricotLaw Blog*, *AttorneyatWork*, and *PaperStreet*.
2. Definition evidence for the wording “referral” and evidence by third parties showing the purpose of lawyer referral services is to provide business information about lawyers and law firms to consumers. Please see attachments from *Your Dictionary*, *Alameda County Bar Association*, *Alaska Bar Association*, *Allegheny County Bar Association*, and *MassLegal Services*.
3. Evidence by third parties showing that the same entity commonly provides (i) legal referral services, including lawyer referral services, and (ii) business advice, inquiries or information. Please see attachments from *Erie County Bar Association*, *Indy Lawyer Finder*, *Legal Shield*, *Legal Zoom*, *Oregon State Bar*, *Palm Beach County Bar Association*, and *Rocket Lawyer*.

Accordingly, the undersigned trademark examining attorney requests suspension of the appeal in this case and remand of jurisdiction to the examining attorney based on the aforementioned rationale.

Respectfully submitted,

/Pauline Ha/

Examining Attorney

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Definition of 'business'

business Video English: business American: business Example sentences COBUILD Idioms Trends Translations

business

Word Frequency Collins COBUILD

Word forms: plural businesses

1. uncountable noun

Business is work relating to the production, buying, and selling of goods or services.

...young people seeking a career in business.
Jennifer has an impressive academic and business background.
...Harvard Business School.

Synonyms: trade, selling, trading, industry More Synonyms of business

2. uncountable noun

Business is used when talking about how many products or services a company is able to sell. If business is good, a lot of products or services are being sold and if business is bad, few of them are being sold.

They worried that German companies would lose business.
Business is booming.

3. countable noun

A business is an organization which produces and sells goods or which provides a service.

The company was a family business.
The majority of small businesses go broke within the first twenty-four months.
He was short of cash after the collapse of his business.

Synonyms: establishment, company, firm, concern More Synonyms of business



4. uncountable noun [oft. as NOUN]

Business is work or some other activity that you do as part of your job and not for pleasure.

I'm here on business.
You can't mix business with pleasure.
...business trips.

5. singular noun

You can use business to refer to a particular area of work or activity in which the aim is to make a profit.

May I ask you what business you're in?
...the music business.

Synonyms: profession, work, calling, job More Synonyms of business

6. singular noun

You can use business to refer to something that you are doing or concerning yourself with.

...recording Ben as he goes about his business.
There was nothing left for the teams to do but get on with the business of racing. [t. of]

7. uncountable noun

You can use business to refer to important matters that you have to deal with.

The most important business was left to the last.
I've got some unfinished business to attend to.



8. uncountable noun [with poss]

If you say that something is your business, you mean that it concerns you personally and that other people have no right to ask questions about it or disagree with it.

QUICK WORD CHALLENGE

Question: 1
Score: 0 / 5

wait or whale?

Drag the correct answer into the box.

wait whale

The \_\_\_\_\_ of bagpipes could be heard in the distance.

Next



Word of the day Catherine wheel

A Catherine wheel is a firework in the shape of a circle which spins round and round.

See full definition
See previous words Nov 05, 2019



Updating our Usage

There are many diverse influences on the way that English is used across the world today. We look at some of the ways in which the language is changing. Read our series of blogs to find out more.

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Collins

English information



Welcome to the all-new 2020 Subaru Legacy.

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### Definition of 'information'

information Video English: information American: information Example sentences COBUILD Idioms COBUILD Collocations

## information

Word Frequency Collins COBUILD

*infeɪməʃn*

1. uncountable noun

**Information** about someone or something consists of facts about them.

*Pat refused to give her any information about Sarah.* [*about*]

*Each centre would provide information on technology and training.* [*on*]

*For further information contact the number below.*

*...an important piece of information.*

*The information was passed on to another government department.*

Synonyms: facts, details, material, news [More Synonyms of information](#)

2. uncountable noun

**Information** consists of the facts and figures that are stored and used by a computer program.

[computing]

*Pictures are scanned into a form of digital information that computers can recognize.*

3. uncountable noun

**Information** is a service which you can call to find out someone's phone number.

[US]

REGIONAL NOTE:  
in BRIT, use [directory enquiries](#)

### QUICK WORD CHALLENGE

Question: 1  
Score: 0 / 5

#### stake or steak?

Which version is correct?

The only thing on the menu was **stake** and kidney pie.

The only thing on the menu was **steak** and kidney pie.

Next

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This November is Wikipedia Asian month.  
Join the contest and win a postcard from Asia.

[\[Help with translations\]](#)

## Business information

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Business information** is one of the three main segments of the **information industry**. The other two segments are *scientific, technical and medical (STM)* and *educational and training content*.<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup>

While most of the **content industry** revenues are advertising-driven, the business information segment remains largely driven by **paid content**, either via subscription or transaction (pay-per-view)

The primary forms of business information include:

- [News](#)
- [Market research](#)
- [Credit and financial information](#)
- [Company and executive profiles](#)
- [Industry, country and economic analysis](#)
- [IT research](#)

The primary business information formats can be divided into the following categories:<sup>[1]</sup>

- Basic reference sources such as [guides](#), [bibliographies](#), [dictionaries](#), [almanacs](#), [encyclopedias](#), [handbooks](#), [yearbooks](#) and internet resources
- [Directories](#)
- [Periodicals and newspapers](#)
- [Loose-leaf services](#)
- [Government information and services](#)
- [Statistics](#)
- [Electronic business information](#)

While Wall Street's thirst for information traditionally drove the business information market, its use is much more widespread today. In addition to the financial markets, business information is used heavily for sales and [marketing](#), [competitive intelligence](#), [strategic planning](#), [human resources](#) and many other strategic business functions.

There are more than 210<sup>[2]</sup> providers of business information. While the Internet has made it easier for business information publishers to deliver content directly to their users, there remains a strong market for aggregators of such content which package and customize business information.

### References [ edit ]

- ↑ Moss, R. W. (2004) *Strauss's handbook of business information: a guide for librarians, students, and researchers*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc.
- ↑ "Premium Business Information Databases - AlacraWiki" Ⓔ. Archived from the original Ⓔ on 2007-03-12. Retrieved 2007-04-13.

Categories: [Business terms](#)

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June 20, 2019

## Are Directory Listings Important for Law Firms?

Whether you are with a law firm that's just starting out, or you are a seasoned lawyer looking to boost your marketing efforts, you might be wondering whether legal directories will help to grow your business.

Online directory listings are websites that collect business information to make it easier for someone to find a business they're looking for, and to compare businesses' basic information to see which one will meet the potential client's needs. There are many different types of directories but generally the most helpful are ones that are industry-specific.

For example, legal directories are going to be most helpful for law firms. There are even directories that further break down the listings into practice areas, such as personal injury, bankruptcy, family law, or criminal defense. Directory listings are very helpful for law firms, but the trick is in finding the right ones.

### Finding the Right Listings to Help You Build Your Website and Firm

Why would you even want to advertise or list your business on another website? Can't you just create your own law firm website and people can find you that way? Unfortunately, [people can't just stroll by your online law firm](#) like they can in the real world; they have to be led there.

One of the ways a potential client can stroll into your law firm's website is if you're listed on the correct directories. There are some directories that have authority, which means that people trust them and will be more likely to hire a lawyer who is listed on that directory.

For instance, [Avvo](#), [Lawyer.com](#), and [FindLaw](#) are a few popular and well-known directories. If you're listed with these directories, your chances are better at obtaining and retaining clients.

### What Else Can a Legal Directory Listing Do for You?

Recently, directories do more for you than just listing your business' profile. You can even get clients to review your law firm, which can help to bring in more and better business for you.

Additionally, you can sometimes answer questions on directories and engage with potential clients in many other ways. Links back to your site from legitimate high-authority sites are going to improve your attorney brand, your authority, and your website SEO.

### Get in Touch With a Law Firm SEO Company You Can Count On

As you can see, legal directory listings can be very important to your SEO efforts and to your legal practice's business in general. Figuring out which directories will help you rather than hurt you isn't an easy thing to do. Many law firms are too focused on their clients to spend the time researching legal directories.





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GOOGLE MY LAW FIRM

## GMB 411 FTW: Setting Up Your Law Firm's Google My Business Listing

Create, claim and verify to make it into the pack.

By Mike Ramsey

If you use Google, you've seen the "local packs" at the top of the page. Local packs display local businesses that match your search requests. And using these packs, potential clients can find, learn about and select a lawyer, sometimes without even clicking through to an actual website. That's pretty powerful.

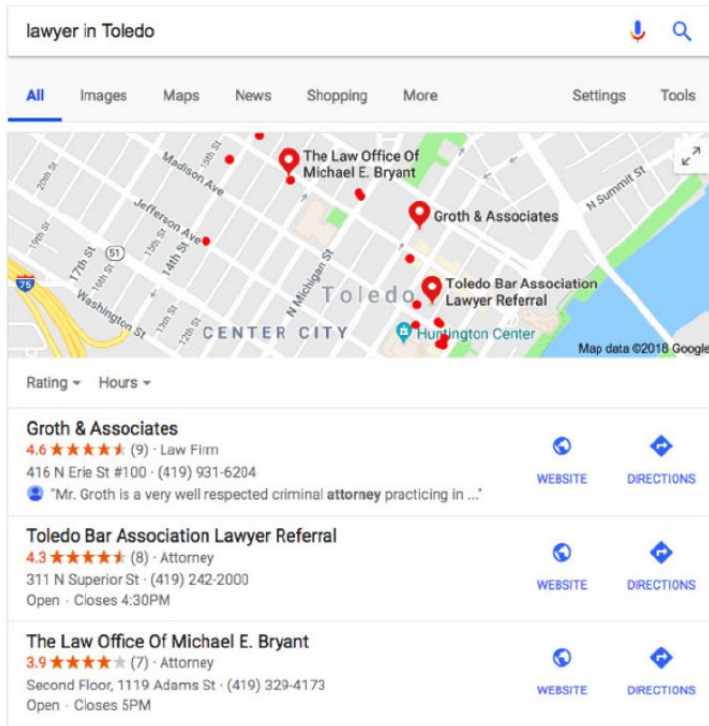
These "3 pack" local listings are controlled in Google's local business dashboard, called Google My Business (GMB). Without properly setting up your listing, there's little chance you'll make it into the pack.

Every lawyer should create, claim and verify their Google My Business listing. Not sure how? This post is here to help.





## Creating, Claiming and Verifying GMB Listings



Google is pretty good about knowing, through information on the internet, that some businesses already exist. So if your law firm has been around for a while, chances are good it has an existing listing.

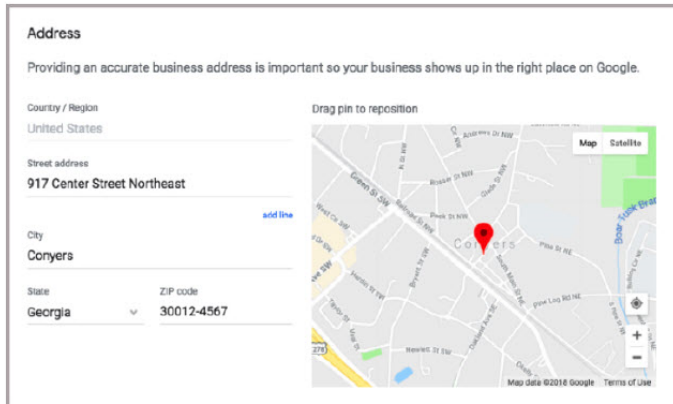
That said, go to [Google My Business](#) and create an account. Once you've done so, you'll be asked to type in the name of your business. If a listing already exists, you can simply select your business and then proceed to verify. If not, you'll be asked to finish inputting your business information.

The verification process generally means Google will snail-mail you an authorization pin to confirm that you do, in fact, have access to that address. Get more information on adding and claiming GMB listings [here](#).

### Basic GMB Setup

#### Correct Business Information

Having an old, nonworking phone number listed is a great way to get passed up by potential clients. It's important to make sure your business address and contact information are correct — and across all your business and directory listings. Earlier in the decade, consistent information across various business listing sites was considered an essential local ranking factor. More recent studies about local ranking factors show it's not as important as it used to be. Nonetheless, it's still a best practice to have your business name, address and phone number (NAP) and website URL consistent and correct.







### Proper GMB Business Category

This may not seem important, but according to Moz, your business category is one of the most influential factors for ranking in local packs. If you are a personal injury lawyer, that should be your primary category — instead of simply “law firm.” Correcting the primary category has been seen to help positively influence rankings — even for competitive terms like “car accident lawyer” — overnight.

**Category**

Categories describe what your business is, not what it does or sells.

**Primary category**  
Personal Injury Attorney

**Additional categories**  
Law Firm ✕

[ADD ANOTHER CATEGORY](#)

[CANCEL](#) [APPLY](#)

### Pro GMB Tips

Looking to take your local marketing campaigns to the next level? Google gives you some insights into calls, visits to your website and requests for directions to your office. However, as helpful as it might be, this data only provides a small glimpse into your performance in local. Here are a few best practices that can give you more data and insights into your marketing campaigns.

#### Tracking Numbers

You want to use a unique tracking number as your primary number on your GMB listing. Your GMB dashboard offers insights into how many clicks-to-call on a mobile device your listing receives — but that doesn't tell you how many unique callers you're receiving. It may be that all 20 calls reported in your dashboard insights are from the same caller. Using a tracking number can give you better insights into who is calling, how many times they are calling, what days people are calling and what times calls are happening. This data can help you understand where to put your marketing dollars. This data can also help you understand how important your listing is.

**Phone number**

**Primary phone**  
🇺🇸 (206) 460-1784

**Additional phone**  
🇺🇸 (206) 430-6096 ✕

[ADD PHONE NUMBER](#)

[CANCEL](#) [APPLY](#)

For some law firms, more calls are happening through the business listings than the website. So, if you are basing the success of your online marketing efforts solely on how many calls are coming from your website, you aren't looking at the full picture.

**Related:** For more how-tos, read “Time to Use Call Tracking with GMB”

#### UTM Parameters

UTM parameters are basically code that gets added onto your website URL. These parameters let you track your website traffic in more detail. This provides more specific information in Google Analytics so you can understand where those website visitors are actually coming from, giving you additional insight into various marketing efforts.

**Related:** For more on how to implement UTM parameters, read “UTM Parameters Keep Tabs on Local Leads.”

### GMB the Difference-Maker

Having your law firm's GMB listing properly set up and optimized is crucial. It can be the difference-maker in showing up when local searchers are looking for representation.

**Categories:** Digital Marketing, Lead Generation, Local Marketing, Marketing



# Best 49 Directory Listings for Law Firms



## Directory Listings are the Key to Traffic

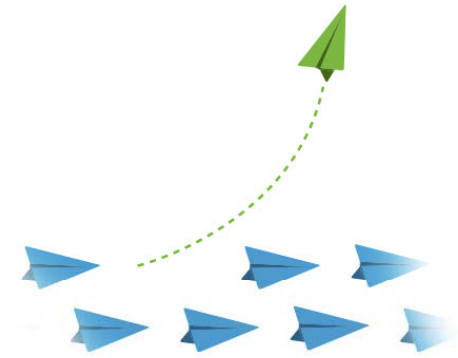
Great. You have a website. But it is merely sitting there and getting no traffic. One way to get traffic to your website is by getting signed up for the top legal and non-legal directories.

Directories offer two primary purposes. The first is to provide traffic to your website, which can generate new leads. The second is to provide more backlinks and information on the web about your business, which is vital for ranking high within Google search.

There are thousands of directories online to list your business. Some are free, others are paid and both types can be found in all kinds of categories. Your business should get listed in the directories that are high quality and relevant to your website.

Excellent directories include local directories like Yellow Pages, industry-specific directories like Avvo and paid general directories like BBB.org. The more listings your business has, the more information you are sharing with Google and proving your legitimacy as a business.





## Local Presence is Needed and Consistency is Key

When trying to rank well within your local area, making sure your business has a listing in all of the essential local directories is critical. It is not enough for your business to be included in each directory, but it is crucial that the information, especially your business name, address and phone (NAP), matches precisely what is on your website. This NAP information must then be consistent across all online directories, or your rankings could be negatively affected.

Consistency means that if you are using "Street" for your office address on your website, all of the listings should also have "Street" fully spelled out and not listed as "St." Some directories will automatically abbreviate certain parts of the address which cannot be controlled, and Google is smart enough to understand this, but it is best that everything starts as consistent as possible.

We recommend referring to [this list of acceptable abbreviations](#). The same theory goes for your business name. Some businesses will do business under alias names, but it is imperative that the business name you use on your website is transferred to all listings, and multiple names are not being used. Phone numbers are also an element that a business may vary which number they provide to clients, but it is vital to use a specific local number to each office and make sure this is reflected in each directory.

[Read List of Acceptable Abbreviations](#)

## Other Directories



### ExpressUpdate

This is a data aggregator which collects data on businesses and then distributes it onto the web for different directories to pick up. It is vital that your business information is valid on this website, or it will affect dozens of other websites.

Ahrefs Rank: **179,694**  
 Domain Rank: **64**  
 Backlinks: **2.75 Million**  
 Referring Domains: **1,900**  
 Organic Traffic: **4,400**



### Better Business Bureau

The Better Business Bureau collects information on businesses so consumers can research companies and post feedback on their services. They allow businesses to purchase accreditation if they meet specific criteria and display ratings and give a grade based on their complaint history.

Ahrefs Rank: **110**  
 Domain Rank: **93**  
 Backlinks: **1.41 Billion**  
 Referring Domains: **283,000**  
 Organic Traffic: **18.5 Million**



### Yelp

This platform is most popular for restaurants and those in the travel industry. However, businesses of all kinds can create a free company page and obtain reviews. Yelp has a specific filtering system for reviews and only shows those that are the most credible based on their own algorithm.

Ahrefs Rank: **53**  
 Domain Rank: **94**  
 Backlinks: **276 Million**  
 Referring Domains: **216,000**  
 Organic Traffic: **212 Million**



### Neustar Localize

This data aggregator allows businesses to update their basic information but requires annual payment to include a backlink to their website and other enhanced features.

Ahrefs Rank: **68,698**  
 Domain Rank: **72**  
 Backlinks: **1.79 Million**  
 Referring Domains: **3,890**  
 Organic Traffic: **13,400**



### YellowPages

This free directory lists all of your business information for free and allows photos and client reviews.

Ahrefs Rank: **1,187**  
 Domain Rank: **90**  
 Backlinks: **24.1 Million**  
 Referring Domains: **70,000**  
 Organic Traffic: **20.2 Million**



### Foursquare

This network began by allowing users to check into locations on their phone. Businesses can create a free profile and upload images as well as a website and social links.

Ahrefs Rank: **372**  
 Domain Rank: **92**  
 Backlinks: **125 Million**  
 Referring Domains: **182,000**  
 Organic Traffic: **25.6 Million**



### Factual

This data aggregator collects information on businesses but does not actively allow users to update this information as they did in the past.

Ahrefs Rank: **54,348**  
 Domain Rank: **73**  
 Backlinks: **211,000**  
 Referring Domains: **4,040**  
 Organic Traffic: **7,900**



### MerchantCircle

This local listing includes an in-depth profile and has a section to upload articles as well.

Ahrefs Rank: **3,9**  
 Domain Rank: **85**  
 Backlinks: **14 Million**  
 Referring Domains: **52,400**  
 Organic Traffic: **23,900**





# referral re-fer-ral

Use **referral** in a sentence

*noun*

The definition of a referral is the act of telling someone about the positive features of a person or a business, or the person who is being referred.

- a. An example of a referral is telling someone why a certain person or business would be a good relationship for them to consider.
- b. An example of a referral is a patient who has come to see a doctor based on the recommendation of another medical professional.

YourDictionary definition and usage example. Copyright © 2018 by LoveToKnow Corp

[Link/Cite](#)

## referral

1. a referring or being referred, as for professional service, etc.
2. a person who is referred or directed to another person, an agency, etc.

Webster's New World College Dictionary, Fifth Edition Copyright © 2014 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

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### 9 Great Reasons You Need UPMC for You

Health care is complex. UPMC for You makes it simple with a Health Care Concierge team, a 24/7 Nurse Line, and more.

Ad by UPMC for You

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*Noun*

(plural referrals)

1. The act or process of transferring someone or something to another, of sending by reference, or *referring*.  
*The insurance company insists I get a referral from my regular doctor, I can't just go to the specialist, a GP has got to refer me.*
2. (slang) A document used by schools detailing some form of a student's misbehavior and listing the actions taken before and after the student's receipt of the referral.  
*After misbehaving in class, George was given a referral for disrupting class and sent to the office.*

*Origin*

*refer* + "Z-al

English Wiktionary. Available under CC-BY-SA license.

[Link/Cite](#)

### SENTENCE EXAMPLES

- The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRA) reported average daycare costs ranging from around \$4500 to over \$14,000 in a 2008 survey, so this is a very important question to ask.
- Today's casting calls are just as likely to show up as email alerts or text messages; it's just a matter of figuring out who's in the cyber loop, what kind of referral services they provide, and how to sign on.
- When a depressed mood is severe and accompanied by other symptoms that persist every day for two or more weeks, the parent should ask for a referral to a mental health professional who can help the child cope and recover.
- In many cases, recipients with an approved referral can visit a civilian provider with no out-of-pocket expense or deductible, and co-payments on prescription drugs filled at civilian pharmacies are relatively low.
- If your child or loved one displays any of the following characteristic warning signs associated with autism spectrum disorder, speak with your physician about getting a referral to a developmental specialist.

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The quickest way to reach us is online at [www.acbanet.org/request-a-lawyer/](http://www.acbanet.org/request-a-lawyer/). Due to security issues, we are not able to accept walk-in requests for help. Sorry, no exceptions.

#### How do I know I'm getting the right lawyer for my case?

The Alameda County lawyer referral service has attorneys practicing in more than 70 different areas of law. We screen all LRS attorneys for their experience, knowledge and professionalism.

#### Why not just find a lawyer in the phone book or ask a friend?

People have trusted our LRS for lawyer referrals in Alameda County for 50 years. It is regulated and certified by the State Bar of California. All LRS attorneys are pre-screened for their experience, knowledge, and professionalism. Additionally, all LRS attorneys are required to carry malpractice insurance. This allows you and your attorney to focus on what's important—resolving your legal problem.



### Areas of Law Include:

#### Bankruptcy

Individual and commercial bankruptcy, collections, debt collection defense

#### Business

Contracts, partnerships, business disputes

#### Employment

Wrongful termination, review of employment contracts, and severance agreements

#### Family

Divorce, spousal support, child custody, visitation, and support, adoption

#### Immigration

Deportation defense, visas, political asylum

#### Personal Injury

Vehicle accidents, slip and fall, property damages, malpractice claims against doctors and attorneys

#### Real Estate

Landlord and tenant, border disputes, real estate litigation

#### Social Security

#### Wills and Trusts

Estate plans, probate litigation, conservatorships, and guardianships

#### Worker's Compensation



## These are just examples of the legal areas we can help with. Even if you don't see your legal issue listed here, we may be able help you—contact us today!

*DISCLAIMER: Your use of the LRS does not create an attorney-client relationship between you and the ACBA, the LRS, or the attorneys to whom you are referred unless you retain that attorney's services. However, your communications, whether by phone or email, are confidential.*

### ▼ How does it work?

When you call our Alameda County lawyer referral service, you will speak with an intake coordinator. The intake coordinator will ask you a few basic questions about your legal situation. For a \$40 fee (or \$15 fee for our modest means panels), collected at intake, you get contact information for up to two attorneys. These attorneys are qualified to consult with you for up to 30 minutes.

During the consultation, you and the attorney will decide if the attorney will take your case. You will also agree upon terms of payment. Please note that the average rate for attorneys in California ranges from \$200 to \$400 per hour.

If it turns out you do not need any attorney, we will try to direct you to a governmental, legal, or social services agency for help.

### ► I don't have money for an attorney, what can I do?



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## Lawyer Referral Service

[Home](#) » [For Lawyers](#) » [Lawyer Referral Service](#)

### What is the Alaska Lawyer Referral Service?

- The Alaska Lawyer Referral Service is made up of Alaska lawyers who have signed up to be listed on the Lawyer Referral Service.
- All the Alaska lawyers signed up to be on the Lawyer Referral Service are active members in good standing of the Alaska Bar Association.
- The Lawyer Referral Service does not rate the lawyers listed on the Referral Service.
- Not all Alaska cities have a lawyer(s) signed up on the Lawyer Referral Service.

### Contact Info

 Phone: 907-272-0352

 Toll Free in Alaska: 1-800-770-9999

Lawyer Referral Service is open from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

### What does the Alaska Lawyer Referral Service do and how does it work?

- The Alaska Lawyer Referral Service is organized by types of law, such as real estate, adoption, etc. [View a list of the types of law.](#)
- Lawyers who signed up to be on the Lawyer Referral Service will charge no more than \$125 for the first half-hour of consultation.

### Helpful Links

- [For Attorneys: Enrollment Agreement and Brochure](#)
- [Charter for the Statewide Lawyer Referral Service](#)
- [Categories for the Lawyer Referral Service](#)

### When you call the Lawyer Referral Service:

- You will talk to a Lawyer Referral Service Assistant. This person is **not** an attorney and **cannot** give you legal advice.
- We will ask you for your name so we can let the lawyer(s) know you were referred by us.
- We will ask you to tell us **briefly** about your legal problem so we can refer you to a lawyer who handles legal problems like yours.
- We will give you the names and phone numbers of up to three (3) lawyers who handle legal problems like yours.

### When you call the lawyer's office:

- Tell the lawyer's office you were referred by the Lawyer Referral Service, so you will be charged no more than \$125 for the first half-hour of consultation with the lawyer.
- You need to talk to the lawyer about what fees he/she will charge after the first half-hour of consultation for \$125.





## Frequently Asked Questions



01

How does the service work?

We do not answer legal questions or give legal advice. Through the ACBA Lawyer Referral Service in Pittsburgh, we are able to refer out one attorney practicing in the particular field you need. The referral entitles you to a free, 30-minute consultation. Anything above and beyond that is then between you and the attorney and at his/her normal rate.

02

How is the ACBA Lawyer Referral Service different from other lawyer directories?

The ACBA Lawyer Referral Service is not simply a lawyer directory. The service includes the initial consultation with the attorney. Many attorneys charge their normal hourly rates for a consultation which can be upwards of \$200 an hour. In addition to this, our attorneys are thoroughly screened prior to being referred out. We ensure that they are members of the bar in good standing, have no disciplinary actions taken against them, and carry liability insurance. We also refer out the attorneys based on the fields that they practice in on a regular basis. For certain fields of practice, we require them to list specific case work and regular attendance at continuing legal education classes to ensure they are up to date in that particular area of law. A referral through the ACBA Lawyer Referral Service is more than just a name.

03

Is the attorney guaranteed to represent me?

We can not guarantee that any attorney we refer will be able to assist you. Just as we cannot require you to hire the attorney, we cannot require the attorney to assist you. Sometimes after speaking with a client the attorney determines that what the client wants to have done is much more involved than initially thought, or that it would not be cost effective to retain an attorney to handle a particular matter. In that event, the attorney would likely discuss with the client additional options other than retaining an attorney.





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Home

## Lawyer Referral Services

[Forward](#)

### How do I choose a lawyer?

The Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries has written a useful guide to [finding a lawyer in Massachusetts](#).

### What is a Lawyer Referral Service?

A Lawyer Referral Service connects potential clients with lawyers. You contact the Lawyer Referral Service and give them information about your legal problem. The Lawyer Referral Service will give you contact information for one or more lawyers who might be able to help. Most of the time, you will need to pay if you want to hire the lawyer, although the first meeting is often free or low cost.

### What is Limited Assistance Representation (LAR)?

Sometimes you can hire a lawyer for only part of your case. This is called Limited Assistance Representation. Tell the Lawyer Referral Service that you are interested in LAR if you want to find out whether this might be possible for you.

Also, the Probate and Family Court has a [list of LAR lawyers](#), by county.

### Lawyer referral services in Massachusetts:

Click on the name of the service for more information, including hours, phone numbers and other contact information.

#### Massachusetts Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service

The Massachusetts Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service is one of the largest legal referral services in the nation. If you are buying/selling a home, starting a business, going through a divorce or need a will, you may need to hire the right attorney to answer your questions and help resolve your legal problems. Note: There is no cost to utilize LRS, but referrals are made to fee charging attorneys.

The Massachusetts Bar Association offers a monthly **Dial-A-Lawyer** program, where members of public can call in for free legal advice. This is held on the first Wednesday of each month between the hours of 5:30 and 7:30 pm: 617-338-0610, 877-686-0711.

**Intake Phone Number:** (617) 654-0400; (866) 627-7577

#### Boston Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service

When faced with a legal issue, you need reliable guidance. For over 50 years, the Boston Bar Lawyer Referral Service has been helping people find the right lawyer.

The Boston Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service also operates the **Military Legal Help Line**. This line connects veterans, military personnel, and their families with lawyers and other legal resources.

**Intake Phone Number:** 617-742-0625, (800) 552-7046

#### Essex County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service

The Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) is a service of the Essex County Bar Association in Salem, Massachusetts, a non-profit organization for attorneys. The ECBA LRS consists of many attorneys in every field of law to assist you with your case.

**Intake Phone Number:** (978) 741-7888

#### Fair Employment Project

Fair Employment Project is a non-profit organization whose mission is to reduce violations of employment civil rights. FEP offers information and self-help tools—legal "first aid"—to Massachusetts workers about their rights on the job and the legal process. FEP collaborates with other organizations to provide additional services when possible.

**Intake Phone Number:** 617-902-0192

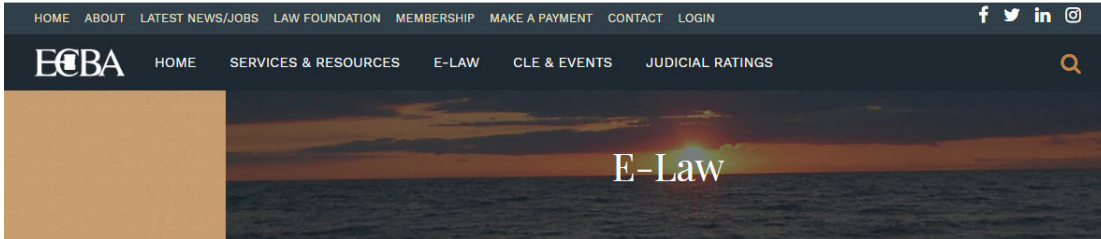
#### Hampden County Bar Association Lawyer Referral & Information Service

The Hampden County Bar Association sponsors a Lawyer Referral & Information Service that refers members of the public to private attorneys. While our service does not employ attorneys or provide legal advice over the phone, we will provide you with the name of an attorney located within Hampden County who will handle your particular problem.

**Intake Phone Number:** (413) 732-4648







Erie E-Law is a FREE service of the Erie County Bar Association designed to make basic legal information available to you with ease. You can gain access to E-Law either by reading the information found below or by [contacting us to request a copy of the transcripts](#).



### Starting a Small Business

BUSINESS LAW

When starting a small business, there are numerous steps which must be taken and many factors which should be considered. One of the first steps in starting a business is to determine the form of entity which will operate the business. There are basically four types of business entities: the sole proprietorship, the partnership, the limited liability company and the corporation.

[READ MORE](#)

### Forming a Partnership

BUSINESS LAW

When two or more persons decide to organize a business for profit, they must select the type of organization under which they will operate. One such organization is a general partnership. A general partnership is an association of two or more persons who carry on a business for profit as co-owners.

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### Patents, Copyrights, and Trademarks: When Do I Need One?

BUSINESS LAW

You need a patent when you have invented or discovered something new and useful for which people are willing to pay. A patent may be obtained for any new and useful process, machine, or article of manufacture; any new, original and ornamental design for an article of manufacture or a new asexually reproduced plant.

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### Forming a Limited Liability Company in Pennsylvania

BUSINESS LAW

The Limited Liability Company (LLC) is a relatively new entity type that is available to business owners and investors, as well as families seeking asset protection opportunities. LLCs are characterized by the limited liability protection granted to their members (owners), like a corporation, but with the option of "pass-through" taxation, like a partnership.

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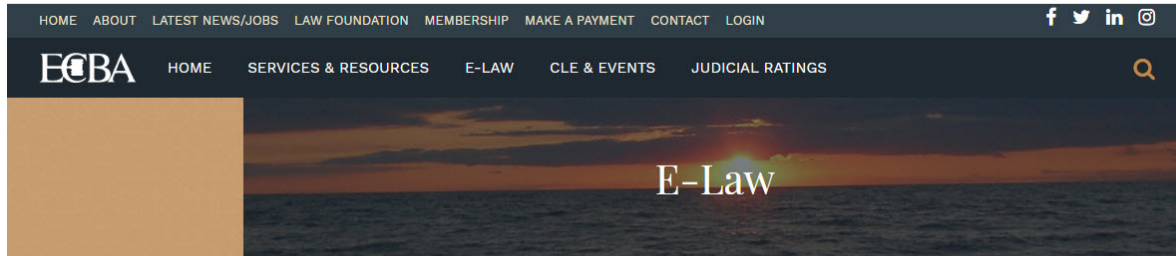
### Forming a Corporation

BUSINESS LAW

Forming a Pennsylvania corporation involves specifically following the Corporation Laws of Pennsylvania. Because a corporation is a separate legal entity created by statute, certain formalities must be followed. The first of these is a basic corporate document known as the Articles of Incorporation.

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## Starting a Small Business

*Posted on February 15th, 2019 at 11:48 AM*

If you need to consult with an attorney or would like more information on starting a small business, please contact the [Erie County Bar Association's Lawyer Referral Service.](#)

You are thinking of starting a new business? There are many things to know and consider before you do. One of the first considerations is the form of entity you will use to operate your business. There are basically four types of business entities: (1) the sole proprietorship, (2) the partnership, (3) the limited liability company, and (4) the corporation. To add to the mix, there are several sub-categories of partnerships, limited liability companies, and corporations. The most notable thing about the sole proprietorship is its simplicity. A sole proprietor is simply an individual who owns and operates a business directly. This business may or may not have employees. Other messages in the E-Law Library discuss the characteristics of partnerships, corporations and Limited Liability Company. The limited liability company is a popular choice for new businesses. How do you decide between these types of entities? The answer depends on the type of business and various legal and tax factors.

Once you have decided on the form of entity, next you must determine a name your business. If you have decided on a sole proprietorship, you can use your own name. If you have decided on a partnership, you can use the names of the partners. If you have decided on a certain kind of partnership, a limited liability company, or a corporation, you can register that name when the entity is created. Additionally, you can use a "doing business as" name that is different from the names described above. This "d/b/a" name is called a "fictitious name" in the Pennsylvania Fictitious Name Statute. That law requires anyone carrying on a business under a fictitious name to register that name with the Pennsylvania Department of State.

Please note that the registration of a fictitious name does not give the owner exclusive right to use a word, name or symbol in connection with the sale of goods or services. To do this you must establish a prior use and/or register a trademark. You also may be limited from using your desired name by an earlier business registration or someone else's pre-existing trademark. Trademarks are discussed in a different E-Law message.

After you have decided the form of entity and the business name, you will create the entity and register any fictitious name or names you plan on using.

Next, you will need to establish proper relationships with the federal, state, and local taxing authorities. All corporations, partnerships and most limited liability companies are required to obtain an "employer identification number" or "EIN" from the Internal Revenue Service (this can also be referred to more generally as a "taxpayer identification number" or "TIN," which includes social security numbers and EINs). You may also need to register and obtain various tax numbers from the Pa. Department of Revenue. If you are operating as a sole proprietor, you will only need to obtain a separate EIN if you have employees or if you are required to file specialized federal tax returns, such as those relating to excise taxes, alcohol, tobacco, or firearms taxes. You can obtain an application for a EIN by contacting the IRS. Your attorney or accountant can also help you obtain an EIN.

If your business will be selling, leasing or licensing personal property or certain types of services, you are required to obtain a Sales and Use Tax License for your business by applying to the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue and then collect sales tax on your business's sales and pay those taxes to the Department of Revenue. Whether you will need to collect and pay sales tax or similar taxes for other states depends on many factors, and you should seek competent legal and tax advice if doing business in more than one state.

Any business owner who has employees is required to comply with numerous requirements for the withholding and payment of income and employment taxes. You should contact the IRS and the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue to obtain the forms and instructions for complying with these requirements. Whether you have to register your business or establish a relationship with other states' taxing authorities depends on your business's location as well as the location of your employees. You should also contact the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry for information regarding state unemployment compensation taxes. Fortunately, almost all the information required by the Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of Revenue can be submitted on one form, the PA-100.





# Services & Resources

## Erie County Lawyer Referral & Information Service

Do you need an experienced, prescreened attorney in Erie County, Pennsylvania? The Erie County Bar Association can help with our Lawyer Referral Service.

Facing a legal problem can be a stressful and frightening experience. The ECBA Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) is dedicated to helping you find a qualified attorney to provide you with legal advice, guidance, counseling or representation in these and other areas of law:

- [Adoption](#)
- [Bankruptcy](#)
- [Business Law](#)
- [Child Custody](#)
- [Child Support](#)
- [Commerical Law](#)
- [Consumer Law](#)
- [Criminal Law](#)
- [Divorce](#)
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- [Real Estate](#)
- [Social Security](#)
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This video provides a quick overview of how the LRIS works:



[View FAQs](#)

**Submit your legal issue anytime using the form below**  
- OR -  
**Call our Lawyer Referral Service at: 814-459-4411**  
**Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m.**

\* Your Name:

\* Phone Number:

\* E-mail Address:

**How would you like us to contact you?**

- No preference    Phone    Email

\* Legal Description:

[Send Us Your Message](#)

[Read The Erie County Bar Association's Privacy Policy for our Lawyer Referral and Information Service](#)









# Connect with the right attorney from a trusted source.

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## We can help

Indy Lawyer Finder is a free service that connects you with the Indianapolis-area attorney who best meets your legal needs. Finding legal help can be a stressful experience. Simplify that process with Indy Lawyer Finder. Get an [attorney referral through a guided process here](#) or browse our [online directory](#).

A service of the Indianapolis Bar Association, Indy Lawyer Finder features lawyers who are pre-screened and who adhere to a high standard of professionalism. Attorney referrals to lawyers participating in the service are offered at no charge to individuals seeking legal assistance.

**100+ Attorneys.** Our lawyers must be in good standing with the Indiana Supreme Court and the Indianapolis Bar Association and carry liability insurance.

**20,000+ Referrals.** Since 1970, the IndyBar has provided referral services to the community.

**150+ Practice Areas.** Attorneys are standing by in most areas of law.

**Communities.** Services are available throughout the Indianapolis metropolitan area.

If you have a legal problem, but cannot afford a lawyer, [learn more about legal service agencies that might be able to help you here](#).

*Indy Lawyer Finder can help you find an Indianapolis-area attorney for various legal needs, from family law (including divorce and custody), criminal law (including DUI and expungements), liability (including auto accidents, medical malpractice, negligence and personal injury), estate planning (wills and trusts), and real estate (including landlord/tenant issues and buying/selling property) to bankruptcy (including debt resolution, collections, Ch. 7 and Ch. 13), civil rights, immigration, school law, appeals and worker's compensation, small business law, employment law and business litigation, among others. Start your search now and find your next Indianapolis lawyer.*



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