

MBA NEWS



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Massachusetts Bar Association launches free Visiting Lawyer Program for Worcester County veterans in June

BOSTON, Mass. — The Massachusetts Bar Association has added a new layer to its Serving Our Veterans in the Law initiative: a free Visiting Lawyer Program that will first be offered to Worcester County veterans. The new program will kick off June 3 at the Northbridge American Legion.

“The MBA is delighted to expand our veterans programming to further meet the needs of men and women across Massachusetts who have served our country,” said MBA President Edward W. McIntyre, a Vietnam veteran who lives and practices in the Worcester County town of Clinton. “The MBA lawyers volunteering their time and skills for this program are honored to give back to local veterans.”

All veterans who reside in Worcester County are eligible for the free program on June 3. Veterans will be matched with attorneys based on their legal concerns. Each in-person meeting will last 15 minutes.

To participate, veterans must call for an appointment and go through a brief in-take process. Walk-ins will not be accepted. The deadline for appointments is Friday, May 22.

To schedule an appointment, call:

Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services Paralegal Gail Cavanaugh-McAuliffe

Toll free 888-844-2838, Ext. 5782, or 617-210-5782

The event is co-hosted by the MBA, Oliver Ashton American Legion Post 343 in Northbridge and Veterans’ Services Director Ken Trajanowski, who oversees the towns of Douglas, Northbridge, Sutton and Uxbridge.

The Visiting lawyer Program is provided at no charge as a public service of the MBA with the financial support of the Massachusetts Bar Foundation, the philanthropic partner of the MBA. The MBA acknowledges its partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Veterans’ Services and thanks them for their important role in the success of the program.

“I thank the Mass. Bar Association and the American Legion for holding this event,” said DVS Secretary Thomas Kelley. “Like most of us, veterans can be easily overwhelmed in matters of the law,

and often don't know where to turn. This program allows veterans to enjoy the same access to legal services as their fellow citizens.”

The MBA's Serving Our Veterans in the Law initiative also includes:

- Free Dial-A-Lawyer program on April 30. Call 617-338-0610 between 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Free weekly call-in service for veterans struggling with state and federal benefit appeals. Call 617-338-0572 on Mondays from 3-5 p.m. Qualified veterans will be matched up with attorneys who agree to represent their case free of charge.

Incorporated in 1911, the Massachusetts Bar Association is a non-profit organization that serves the legal profession and the public by promoting the administration of justice, legal education, professional excellence and respect for the law. The MBA represents a diverse group of attorneys, judges and legal professionals across the commonwealth.

The Massachusetts Bar Foundation is the Commonwealth's premiere legal charity. Founded in 1964, the MBF is the philanthropic partner of the Massachusetts Bar Association. Through its grantmaking and charitable activities, the MBF works to increase access to justice for all Massachusetts citizens.