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## **Massachusetts Bar Association offers free legal advice to Western Mass. residents by phone, Oct. 26**

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Western Massachusetts residents can receive free legal advice on Wednesday, October 26, through the **Massachusetts Bar Association’s** semiannual **Western Mass. Dial-A-Lawyer call-in program.**

Volunteer lawyers from the MBA will field phone calls from 4 to 7 p.m., from residents of Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties who have legal concerns or problems. The legal advice is provided at no charge as a public service of the MBA.

The Dial-A-Lawyer phone number is **(413) 782-1659**. If a caller gets a busy signal, they are asked to hang up and try again. Normal telephone charges will apply. **(EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE: this number is only active from 4 to 7 p.m. on October 26.)**

The MBA’s Dial-A-Lawyer program is co-sponsored by Western New England University School of Law, *The Republican*, *El Pueblo Latino*, the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys and the Hispanic National Bar Association.

“As the state bar association, we’re committed to making legal assistance more accessible to people in Western Massachusetts who otherwise might fall through the cracks of our legal system,” said MBA President Jeffrey N. Catalano. “Dial-A-Lawyer not only offers free legal advice from local attorneys; in many cases, it can provide a lifeline to someone facing the loss of their home or their job — or some other difficult legal challenge — who doesn’t know where to turn for help.”

*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.*