

Lawyers Offering Limited Scope Legal Services

Family Law (Including Divorce, Child Support, and Custody)

Each lawyer on this list offers fee-based limited scope legal services in family law cases. You should contact an attorney directly to discuss your case and legal options. Limited scope representation is not right for every case or client, and there is no guarantee that any of these attorneys will take your case.



Do you need help with a family law problem, like divorce or custody?



Do you want a lawyer to help you with some of your case, but not all of it?



Can you pay a lawyer something to help you?



If a lawyer helped you with some of your case, could you do the rest of it on your own?

If you said yes, limited scope legal help might be a good choice for you.

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This referral list is a joint project of the Chicago Bar Association and the Chicago Bar Foundation. For information about the CBA's Lawyer Referral Service, please visit <https://lrs.chicagobar.org/>. For information about finding free and low-cost legal help, visit <https://www.illinoislegalaid.org/cook>.



Frequently Asked Questions

Limited Scope Representation

What Is Limited Scope Representation?

Limited scope representation (also called “unbundled” or “a la carte” representation) is an agreement with a lawyer to get help with *part* of a legal case, usually for a flat rate. It is different from full representation where a lawyer agrees to handle every part of a legal case; instead the lawyer and client work together to divide up the tasks in the case and to determine who will be responsible for each one.

How Much Does Limited Scope Representation Cost?

You should talk to the lawyer directly to learn more about limited scope representation costs and services. The amount you pay can vary depending on many factors including the types of services provided, how many services are provided, and the lawyer’s experience level. You will only pay the lawyer for the parts of the case that he or she handles.

What Will the Lawyer Do?

You and the lawyer will work together to decide who will be responsible for the different parts of your legal case. Your lawyer should put this agreement in writing and update it if any changes are made. Make sure you ask your lawyer what tasks you will need to do on your own and that you are comfortable completing those tasks independently before signing an agreement.

What Are Examples of Limited Scope Legal Services?

Each lawyer listed on this referral sheet offers some limited scope legal services, but the exact ones may vary. Some examples include:

- Preparing legal paperwork for you;
- Reviewing legal paperwork you prepared on your own;
- Serving court papers on the other party;
- Preparing a legal argument for a custody dispute;
- Drafting a parenting plan;
- Negotiating or reviewing a settlement agreement;
- Coaching you on how to appear in court on your own; and
- Appearing in court for a specific hearing (usually the most complicated or important one) while you appear in court on your own for all other scheduled court dates.

For more information on limited scope representation, including risks and benefits, read “A New Way to Get Legal Help: Limited Scope Representation” available online at: <http://bit.ly/limitedscope>