

Legal Resources

There are many reasons why state employees may need legal services. An estimated 90 percent of the population needs legal assistance at one time or another for things like money issues, buying and/or selling real estate, credit problems, tenant/landlord difficulties, bankruptcy and debt. Other reasons may include family matters such as divorce, child support and custody issues, taking care of senior citizens, powers of attorney, and will preparation. The following agencies and programs can help with legal matters:

- **The State Bar of Michigan** website has several resources available to assist Michigan citizens find an attorney and get information about Michigan laws. It includes links to an online attorney search, Legal Aid programs by county, a legal help website and the Michigan Online Legal Resource Center. Visit their website at: www.michbar.org/ and http://www.michbar.org/public_resources/home
- **The *Benefits for Life* Legal Plan.** The employee-paid, optional coverage program offered through the State of Michigan provides access to a network of attorneys - over the phone or in person - for many common personal legal issues. Get more information at http://www.michigan.gov/mdcs/0,1607,7-147-22854_38928_50022---,00.html
- **Call United Way 2-1-1** it is a free telephone number that connects people with community resources. The 2-1-1 call specialists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide information on community services such as health care, job training, mortgage foreclosure assistance, rent/utility assistance, food, legal assistance, shelter, support groups and more. If it's a life-threatening emergency call 9-1-1.