



for free legal advice

advice | representation | education | reform

closing the gap between law and justice

For free legal advice, information or education

Established in 1972 as an independent, non-profit making, community organisation, Fitzroy Legal Service (FLS) is one of the oldest Community Legal Services in Australia. FLS is largely staffed by volunteers and has a long history of running public interest cases and plays a significant role in the areas of law reform and community legal education.

FLS aims to work towards:

- demystifying the law,
- self-help and empowerment, and
- the prevention of legal problems.

It achieves this through:

- the practice of preventative law,
- the provision of free legal advice for those who cannot afford it,
- community legal education,
- law reform,
- seeking direction from its community,
- innovative service delivery, and
- critical analysis of government and legal systems.

FLS provides legal advice for people who live, work or study in Abbotsford, Brunswick, Carlton, Clifton Hill, Collingwood, East Melbourne, Fitzroy, North Fitzroy and Richmond.

Night Service

Monday to Friday between 6.30-8.00pm. This drop in service is free and there is no need to make an appointment. We can provide advice on matters including:

Police matters
Social security problems
Going to court
Consumer problems
Discrimination
Intervention orders

Family law matters
Criminal matters
Young people's issues
Motor vehicle accidents
Debts
Housing

Day Practice

Provides legal advice and representation (such as going to court) for legally aided matters. If you are not eligible for Legal Aid, the lawyers at FLS may still be able to assist you on a fee-paying basis. Our rates are competitive and affordable. Day Practice staff specialise in:

Criminal charges
Divorce proceedings
Driving offences
Victims of crimes

Intervention orders
Family law
Fines
Social security problems

Please note that there are no catchment limitations for clients wishing to utilise our day-time practice.

Neighbourhood Justice Centre

FLS has a lawyer based at the Neighbourhood Justice Centre at 241 Wellington Street Collingwood.

Richmond Outreach

A free service operating on Tuesday evenings from 6.30-8.00pm (available by appointment only) from North Richmond Community Health Centre at 23 Lennox Street Richmond.

Drug Outreach

With a strong focus on harm minimization, the Drug Outreach Lawyer aims to address and assist individuals and the community with legal problems related to drug use. The Drug Outreach Lawyer provides community legal education, referrals, advice and, where appropriate, advocacy and casework services to drug users.

Family Law Clinic

A free Family Law Clinic specialising in legal advice on family law issues is available at FLS on Thursday nights from 6.30 to 8.00pm - available by appointment only.

Financial Counselling

Information and assistance to people on low incomes experiencing financial problems - by appointment only.

If you would like to make an appointment or know more about our legal services please call 9419 3744.

We can also assist you to contact other supportive legal practitioners or community organisations.

For other helpful contacts, visit the Federation of Community Legal Centres website at www.communitylaw.org.au or our website at www.fitzroy-legal.org.au

Please bring as much supporting documentation as you can when you attend one of our services.

If necessary a telephone interpreter can be arranged, or you may bring a friend to interpret for you. You can also use the Telephone Interpreter Service (TIS) to contact us, the TIS number is 131 450.

If you would like to become a member or volunteer, join our management committee, get involved in reform campaigns or make a donation; please contact us at the address below.

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