

ASRC Legal Referral Sheet

Free Legal Help

If you need of legal assistance and/or representation and can't afford to pay for a lawyer, you can call the following telephone advice lines:

Refugee Legal

Refugee Legal specialises in free legal advice and representation in relation to protection visas, visa cancellation and general immigration matters at primary and merits review stages.

Advice line: (03) 9413 0100 – available Wednesdays & Fridays from 10am to 2pm

Victoria Legal Aid (VLA)

VLA has a range of services to help people with their legal problems. A Victoria Legal Aid lawyer may be able to give you general information about applying for a protection visas, visa cancellation, and judicial review in the federal courts. They also have services providing criminal or civil law advice.

Advice line: 1300 792 387 – available Monday to Friday from 8.00 am to 6 pm

Paid Legal Services

Private lawyers may be able to help you with advice or representation. They will charge fees for their assistance, called legal fees or professional fees. It is very important that you get ethical and informed advice, as bad advice can be very damaging. We recommend you get advice from a firm that has a Law Institute Accredited Immigration Law Specialist employed.

A lawyer needs to follow certain rules when assisting you, including clear communication about costs. To find out information about what to expect from your lawyer, visit <https://www.lsbcc.vic.gov.au/consumers/choosing-and-working-your-lawyer>. You are not obliged to continue with services you are not happy with.

The ASRC recommends the lawyers below for assistance in relation to:

- Protection visa applications and interviews at the Department of Immigration;
- Administrative Appeals Tribunal review applications;
- Federal Circuit Court, Federal Court and High Court;
- Humanitarian requests to the Minister of Immigration;
- Family visas, skilled visas, work visas and student visas;
- Complex health and character matters.
- Visa cancellations and responses to adverse information.

Name	Phone	Email	Location
Carina Ford Immigration Lawyers	(03) 9396 0207	office@carinafordlawyers.com	Footscray
Clothier Anderson & Associates	(03) 9347 4022	info@clothieranderson.com.au	Carlton
Mary Hanna Lawyers	(03) 9077 6362	info@hjlawyers.com.au	Coburg
Abode Migration Lawyers	(03) 9607 8362	info@abodemigration.com.au	Melbourne CBD or Springvale
Playfair Visa and Migration Services	(03) 8763 3040	info@playfair.com.au	Dandenong
Erskine Rodan & Associates	(03) 9329 8744	info@erskinerodan.com.au	North Melbourne
WLW Migration Lawyers	(03) 9088 6264	info@wlwlawyers.com.au	West Melbourne

Migration lawyers do not need to be migration agents to give migration advice.

You should only accept advice from migration/refugee lawyers or registered migration agents. You can check the registration of lawyers with the Victorian Legal Services Board at <https://lsbc.vic.gov.au/register-of-lawyers> and the Commission and migration agents with the Office of Migration Agents Registration Authority at <https://portal.mara.gov.au/search-the-register-of-migration-agents/>.