

## FREE Legal Services Include:

- Initial consultation
- Advice & advocacy
- Legal Representation
- Information & referral to other agencies
- Referrals to private volunteer attorneys
- Public education and outreach, including presentations

For help, call the Legal Aid Society and ask for an appointment.

(650) 558-0915  
(800) 381-8898  
(650) 558-0786 (TDD)

### Hours:

Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 12 noon  
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 pm

### Location:

330 Twin Dolphin Drive, Suite 123  
Redwood City, CA 94065

## REPORT ELDER ABUSE

### Call 911

If you fear that you or someone else is in immediate physical danger, call 911!

### Aging & Adult Services / Adult Protective Services (APS)

(800) 675-TIES

Use this number to report suspected elder or dependent adult abuse.

### Local Police Department

Call your local police department to report abuse as well.



## LEGAL RESOURCES

### San Mateo County District Attorney

Main Office: (650) 363-4636

Consumer Protection Unit: (650) 363-4651

### California Attorney General

(800) 952-5225

2008 Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County  
Funded by San Mateo County Aging & Adult Services

# Senior Advocates Program



LEGAL AID SOCIETY  
OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

The Natalie Lanam Justice Center  
Sobrato Center for Nonprofits  
Redwood Shores  
330 Twin Dolphin Drive, Suite 123  
Redwood City, CA 94065  
(800) 381-8898 or (650) 558-0915  
<http://www.legalaidsmc.org/>

The Senior Advocates Program is a free service that helps San Mateo County residents who are 60 and older with these legal issues:

- **GOVERNMENT BENEFITS**
  - Social Security
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - Medi-Cal / Medicare
  - In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)
  - Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI)
  - Food Stamps
  - General Assistance
- **ELDER ABUSE (emotional, physical & financial)**
- **LANDLORD/TENANT**
- **CONSUMER LAW & DEBT COLLECTION**
- **ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVES**
- **BASIC ESTATE PLANNING**
- **GUARDIANSHIPS (for seniors caring for young children)**
- **DISABILITY RIGHTS**

We can accommodate all languages with in-house translators or by calling Language Line.

## Hot Topics

**Deeds:** Talk to your own attorney before removing yourself from the deed to your home or adding another person to the deed. These are important decisions that should not be made lightly.

**Power of Attorney for Finances:** Think carefully before signing a Power of Attorney for Finances. These give a lot of power to another person, such as accessing your bank account and transferring your property. Get individual legal advice before signing one because it might not be in your best interest and there are alternatives.

**Elder Abuse:** Elder abuse can take many forms — physical, financial, emotional. Get confidential advice from a lawyer and report it to Adult Protective Services — (800) 675-TIES.

**Notices from Government Agencies:** You have the right to appeal most decisions from government agencies about your benefits. Act quickly so you don't miss the deadline! The notice should tell you how long you have to appeal.

**Caregivers:** Before hiring a caregiver, be sure to check references! If you use an agency, consider one that does thorough background checks. Be sure that anyone who works in your home is someone you can trust.