

WELCOME TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA COURT

WE ARE HAPPY TO HELP YOU IF WE CAN. HOWEVER, WE ARE ALLOWED TO HELP YOU ONLY IN WAYS THAT ARE FAIR TO EVERYONE.

This is a list of some things the court staff can and cannot do for you.

WE CAN:

Explain and answer questions about how the court works.

Provide the telephone numbers of the SC Bar Lawyer Referral Service or Ask-A-Lawyer, SC Legal Services Legal Aid Telephone Intake Service (LATIS), and other services where you may be able to get legal information.

Give general information about where to find court procedures, deadlines, rules, and practices.

Provide court schedules and information about how to get a case scheduled.

Provide basic information about your own case file.

Provide approved/authorized court forms and available instructions.

WE CANNOT:

Tell you whether or not you should bring your case to court.

Tell you what to say in your court papers. (However, we CAN check your papers for completeness as in signatures, proper notarization, correct county name and case number, and verify any attachments.)

Tell you what to say in court.

Give you an opinion about what will happen if you bring your case to court.

Talk to the judge for you.

Let you talk to the judge outside of court.

Change an order signed by a judge.

We are prohibited from giving legal advice as we are not attorneys and do not wish to misinform you.

For additional information, please contact a lawyer or your local law library. For forms, visit <u>www.sccourts.org/forms/index.cfm</u>. For court rules, visit <u>www.sccourts.org/courtReg/index.cfm</u>. **Thank you.**

This sign is the result of the South Carolina Access to Justice Commission's Clerk of Court Work Group and is based on a sign approved by the Judicial Council of California.

