

# How to Apply for Free Legal Help

**Legal Services Center of  
Harvard Law School**  
122 Boylston Street  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

## *Phone*

(617) 522-3003

## *Fax*

(617) 522-0715

## *E-mail*

[veteranslegalclinic@law.harvard.edu](mailto:veteranslegalclinic@law.harvard.edu)

**Less than  
Honorable  
discharge?**

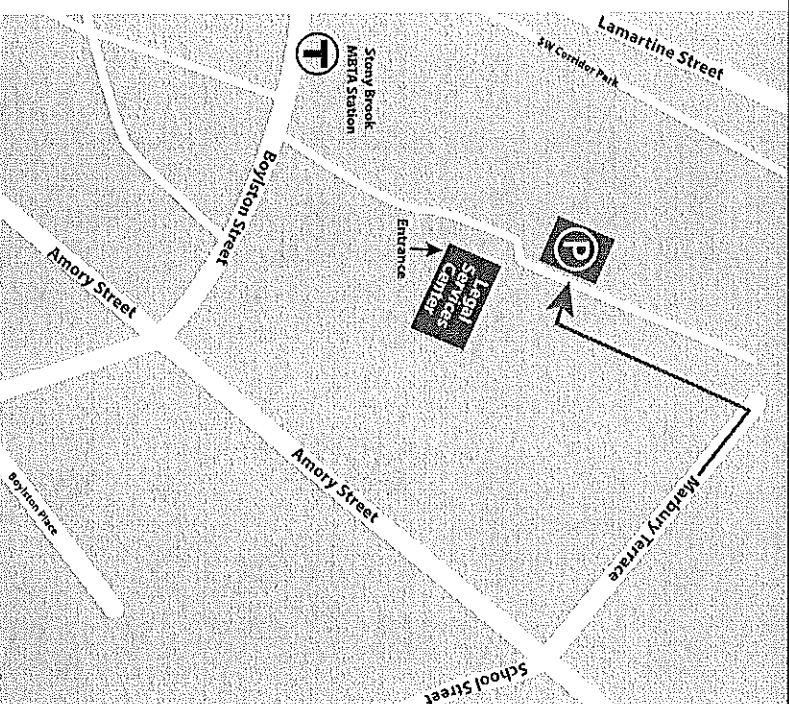
**Want  
free legal help  
to seek a  
discharge upgrade?**

## *Call Our Intake Number*

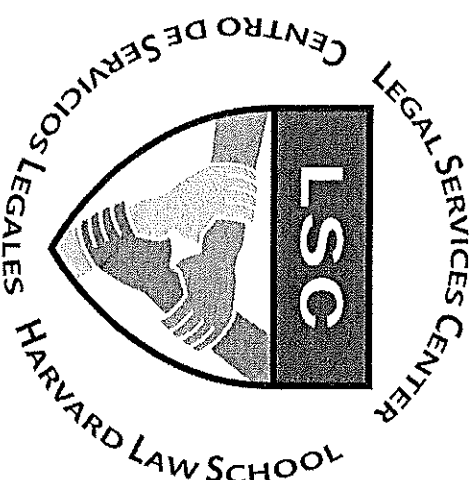
**(617) 390-2525**

## *Come to Our Office*

**Monday-Friday,  
9 a.m.-5 p.m.**



# **Veterans LEGAL CLINIC**



### How much does it cost?

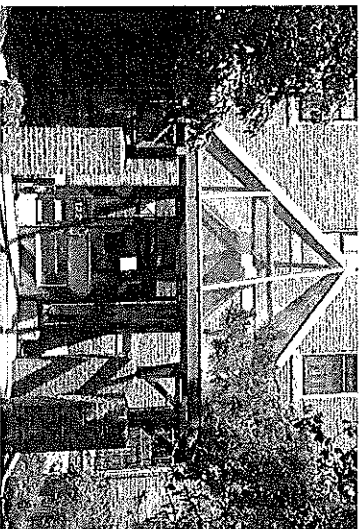
Our representation is free if you have limited income and meet our case criteria.

### How do I apply for legal aid?

Call our intake line at (617) 390-2525 or come to our office Monday through Friday during our walk-in hours (9am-5pm). Before we can decide whether to accept a client, we first need to learn the facts of your case, find out your goals, and determine your eligibility for our services.

### How do I get to your office?

The Veterans Legal Clinic is part of the Legal Services Center. We are located in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston. We are right next to the Stony Brook T station on the Orange Line. For those who wish to drive, we have free parking behind our building.



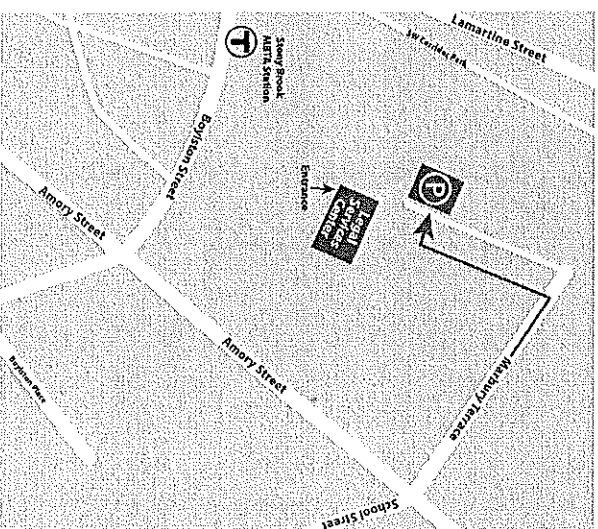
This brochure is neither a solicitation nor an offer to represent you concerning any legal problem. The information conveyed in this brochure is not intended to and does not create an attorney-client relationship with you and the Legal Services Center or any attorney at LSC. Please be aware that unsolicited letters, facsimiles or emails do not create an attorney-client relationship and we will not have an attorney-client relationship with you until and unless you and LSC enter into a formal agreement of engagement.

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**(617) 390-2525**

### Come to Our Office

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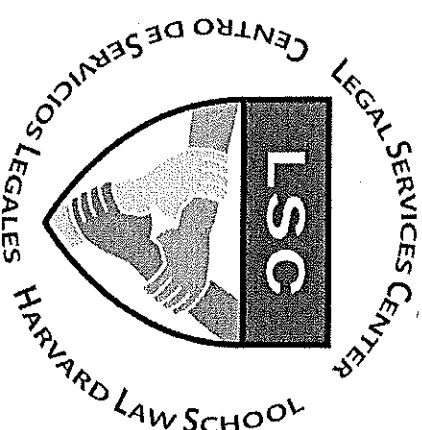
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Please visit us on the web at:  
**[legalservicescenter.org](http://legalservicescenter.org)**

May 2016

**Have you served in  
the military?  
Are you the family  
member of a  
veteran?  
Do you need  
legal help?**

# Veterans LEGAL CLINIC





## THE VETERANS LEGAL CLINIC

In 2012, the Veterans Legal Clinic opened its doors to provide pro bono legal assistance to disabled veterans and their family members. Our goal is to protect the legal rights of the veterans community through determined, passionate, and effective advocacy.

## TYPES OF CASES WE HANDLE

### Veterans Benefits

We provide representation in appeals at all levels (agency and court) involving access to:

- ▶ Massachusetts Chapter 115 Veterans' Services Benefits
- ▶ VA service-connected disability compensation benefits
- ▶ VA pension benefits
- ▶ VA dependency & indemnity compensation (DIC) benefits
- ▶ VA healthcare

### Military Discharge Upgrades

We provide representation before the military review boards and in federal court when a veteran unjustly received a less-than-honorable discharge that causes continuing harm. We handle cases involving:

- ▶ Discharge upgrades
- ▶ Records corrections
- ▶ Changes to narrative reason and re-entry code

In addition to representing individual clients, the Clinic also pursues broader initiatives to improve the systems that serve the veterans community. As a teaching site of Harvard Law School, our advocacy team includes both experienced attorneys and second- and third-year law students.

### Estate Planning

We assist veterans and their family members in a variety of estate planning matters:

- ▶ Wills and living wills
- ▶ Powers of attorney
- ▶ Health care proxies
- ▶ Guardianships and conservatorships
- ▶ Trusts and special needs trusts
- ▶ Probate of estates
- ▶ Qualifying for VA pension or MassHealth

### Social Security Disability

We represent veterans before the Social Security Administration and in court when they have been denied Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

For more information about our legal services and client success stories, please visit us on the web:  
[legalservicescenter.org](http://legalservicescenter.org)

## THE CLIENTS WE SERVE

We help veterans of all backgrounds and all generations, from World War II to the Post-9/11 era. We also help the family members of veterans. Our clients include LGBT veterans, women veterans, combat veterans, less-than-honorably discharged veterans, veterans who have experienced MST, and Guard and Reserve veterans.

### What other types of cases does the Legal Services Center handle for veterans?

#### Student Loan Issues

If you attend or attended a for-profit school and have student loan problems, call us. We help clients fight back against predatory student lending.

#### IRS / MA DOR Tax Issues

We assist with a variety of tax issues, including IRS audits, IRS appeals, Tax Court cases, and collection issues (including offers in compromise and installment agreements).

#### Starting or Running Your Own Business

Through our Veterans Enterprise Initiative, a collaboration with Harvard's Transactional Law Clinics, you may be able to get legal help to start or operate a small business including assistance with business formation, contracts, permits/licenses, and leases.

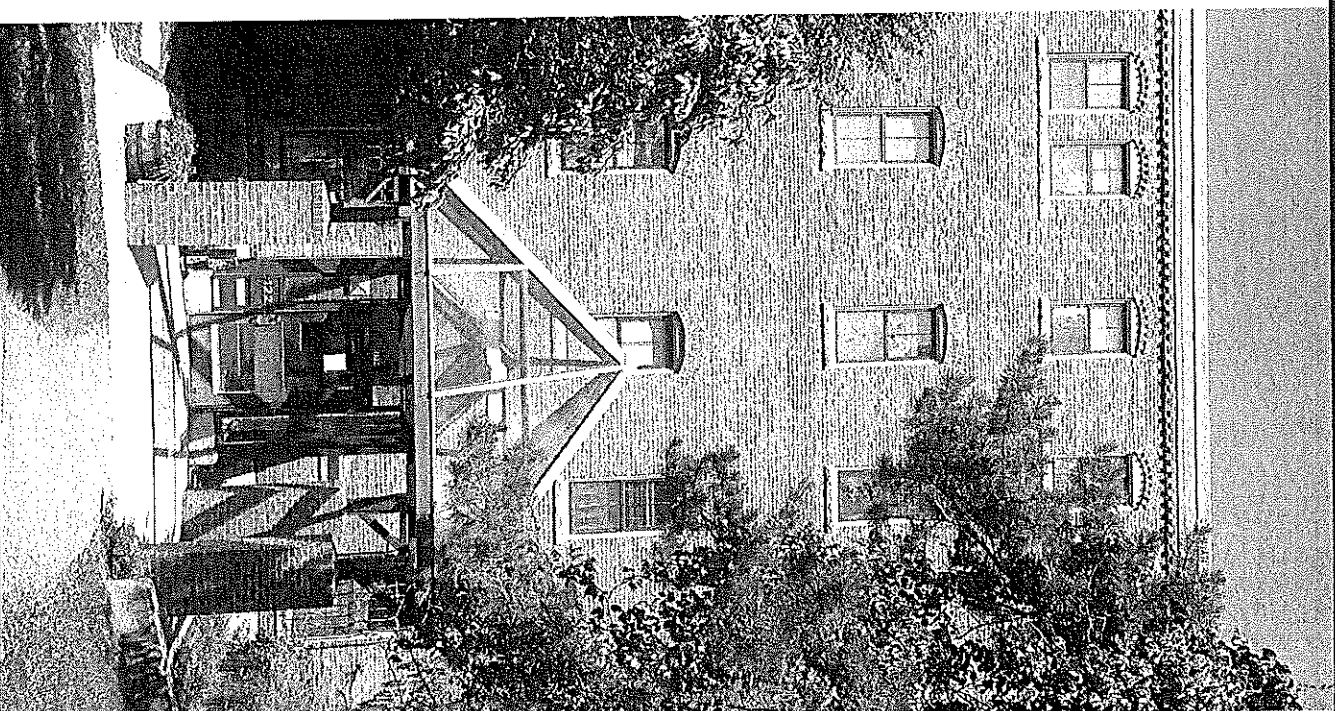
## What Services We Provide

The Veterans Legal Clinic provides free legal representation and advice to veterans who want a discharge upgrade or records correction.

We represent clients who seek to:

- ▶ Change the Character of Service or Discharge Status
- ▶ Change the Narrative Reason for Separation
- ▶ Appeal discharge-upgrade denials to records correction boards and to federal court

In addition, we represent less-than-honorably discharged veterans in applications and appeals for health care or benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services.



## Who We Are

The Veterans Legal Clinic is part of the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School. The Legal Services Center is a community-based law firm and a clinical teaching site for Harvard Law School.

Experienced attorneys and Harvard Law School students work together to represent low-income veterans and their family members for free.

## How to Find Us

The Legal Services Center is located next to the Stony Brook T stop on the Orange Line in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston. We are a short distance from the Jamaica Plain VA Medical Center. We have a free parking lot located behind our building which you can get to by taking a left at the end of Marbury Terrace off of Amory Street.