

LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Free Confidential Help is Available



NEW YORK STATE LAWYER ASSISTANCE TRUST

As lawyers, we are charged with our clients' trust.

PERSONAL PROBLEMS such as alcoholism, substance abuse, depression and stress affect the ability to practice law. Take the time to review the following questions and consider whether you or a colleague would benefit from the available Lawyer Assistance Program services. If you can answer “yes” to any of these questions, you may need help.

1. **ARE MY ASSOCIATES**, clients or family alleging that my behavior has changed or that I don't seem myself?
2. **IS IT DIFFICULT FOR ME** to maintain a routine and stay on top of responsibilities?
3. **HAVE I EXPERIENCED MEMORY PROBLEMS** or an inability to concentrate?
4. **AM I EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES** in managing emotions such as anger and sadness?
5. **HAVE I MISSED APPOINTMENTS** or appearances or failed to return phone calls? Am I keeping up with correspondence?
6. **HAVE MY SLEEPING** and eating habits changed?
7. **AM I EXPERIENCING A PATTERN** of relationship problems with significant people in my life (spouse/parent, children, partners/associates)?
8. **DOES MY FAMILY HAVE A HISTORY** of alcoholism, substance abuse or depression?
9. **DOES MY DRINKING OR TAKING DRUGS**, or misusing prescription drugs, provide a method to deal with my problems?
10. **IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS**, have I had more drinks or drugs than I intended, or felt I should cut back or quit, but was unable to do so?
11. **IS GAMBLING** making me careless of my financial responsibilities?
12. **DO I FEEL SO STRESSED**, burned out and depressed that I have thoughts of suicide?

“There is Hope”

PROFESSIONALS WILL EVALUATE the situation and provide support and appropriate referrals. The consultation is free and confidential.

CALL:

1-800-255-0569NYSBA

212-302-5787NYC BAR

Please note the phone numbers above are for Lawyer Assistance Programs. For inquiries about Attorney Registration, call 212-428-2800, or send an e-mail to attytreg@courts.state.ny.us

VISIT THE LAP WEBSITES at: www.nysba.org, click on “for attorneys”, then “lawyer assistance program”; or www.nycbar.org, click on “lawyer assistance program”

REFERRALS MAY BE MADE to appropriate community resources, self-help groups, outpatient counseling, inpatient facilities or private clinicians.

ALL SERVICES ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND PROTECTED UNDER JUDICIARY LAW § 499, WHICH STATES:

1. CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PRIVILEGED.

The confidential relations and communications between a member or authorized agent of a lawyer assistance committee sponsored by a state or local bar association and any person, firm or corporation communicating with such committee, its members or authorized agents shall be deemed to be privileged on the same basis as those provided by law between attorney and client. Such privilege may be waived only by the person, firm or corporation which has furnished information to the committee.

2. IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY.

Any person, firm or corporation in good faith providing information to, or in any other way participating in the affairs of, any of the committees referred to in subdivision one of this section shall be immune from civil liability that might otherwise result by reason of such conduct. For the purpose of any proceeding, the good faith of any such person, firm or corporation shall be presumed.

Alcoholism, drug addiction and mental health disorders are treatable diseases.



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