

## Alaska Bar Association – Lawyers’ Assistance Committee – FAQ

- 1) What is the Lawyers’ Assistance Committee (LAC)?
  - *The LAC is a committee comprised of volunteer attorneys. The LAC promotes the well-being of the legal profession and protects the public by providing education, respectful confidential assistance, and referrals for members of the Alaska Bar.*
  
- 2) What services does the LAC provide?
  - *The LAC serves as a resource to the families, colleagues, and clients affected by a member’s mental health issue or substance abuse. The LAC provides overall support, guidance for attorneys and concerned colleagues, and referrals for professional evaluations and treatment. The LAC strives to be as proactive as possible to identify, prevent, and intervene before disciplinary action becomes necessary. The LAC also takes referrals from the Alaska Supreme Court when a member of the Alaska Bar is convicted of a crime relating to alcohol or drug abuse.*
  
- 3) I believe a lawyer may have a substance abuse or mental health issue, what can I do?
  - *Call the Alaska Bar office at (907) 272-7469 or click [here](#) for the list of LAC members. Explain your concerns to the LAC member. The member will discuss the issues in confidence with the committee, and a member of the LAC will reach out to the attorney to provide assistance.*
  
- 4) What happens if I call the LAC?
  - *If you are calling out of concern for another attorney or on your own behalf, your conversation is confidential. A member of the LAC will reach out to the attorney to provide support.*
  
- 5) Is the LAC confidential?
  - *Yes.*
  
- 6) Could I ever be forced to contact the LAC?
  - *Yes. Under Bar Rule 26(i), upon conviction of a crime relating to alcohol or drug abuse, the Alaska Supreme Court may refer the matter to the LAC. The LAC will meet with the attorney and provide him/her any recommendations for professional evaluation and professionally recommended treatment.*
  
- 7) How do I contact the LAC?
  - *Call the Alaska Bar office at (907) 272-7469 or click [here](#) for the list of LAC members. You may email or call any individual member of the LAC at any time.*