For Immediate Release

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Alaska Attorneys Provide Free Legal Services on 2025 MLK Day

Events in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Bethel Give Alaskans Access to Free Legal Advice

Anchorage, AK— On Monday, January 20, 2025, the Alaska Bar Association, in partnership with the Alaska Court System, Alaska Legal Services Corporation, and local Bar associations, will host its sixteenth annual MLK Day Free Legal Help events in Anchorage, Juneau, Fairbanks, and Bethel.

"The Alaska Bar Association embraces the national tradition of turning Martin Luther King, Jr. Day into a 'day on, not a day off' as a meaningful way to strengthen our community and give back," stated Lea McKenna, Pro Bono Director of the Alaska Bar Association. "The demand for free legal services in Alaska is significant, and we are proud that our legal community continues to rise to the challenge with generosity and dedication."

Free legal services will be available to any low-income Alaskan in need of legal counsel for civil issues such as family law, landlord/tenant, public benefits, employment law, probate, or wills.

At the Anchorage event, free shuttle service will be provided by Catholic Social Services between 1 PM and 4 PM. The shuttles will connect the main event location with the 56th Avenue Shelter (1111 E. 56th Avenue) and the Hope Center Downtown Soup Kitchen (240 E. 3rd Avenue). Additionally, Alaska Legal Services Corporation will be on-site to screen applicants for ongoing legal assistance through a pro bono attorney or community justice worker, and the Alaska Court System will offer filing fee waivers to eligible participants during the event.

In addition to the one-day event, Alaskans have access to a virtual legal clinic -<u>alaska.freelegalanswers.org</u>. Alaska Free Legal Answers is an online clinic hosted by the Alaska Bar Association and is an ongoing free and confidential service that allows Alaskans of modest means to receive answers to civil (non-criminal) legal questions, at no cost, from licensed Alaska lawyers.

"Alaska's volunteer attorneys are eager to provide free legal advice on a range of issues, from family law to housing and public benefits," said Lea McKenna, Pro Bono Director of the Alaska Bar Association. "This is a great opportunity for low income Alaskans to get free answers to their legal questions."

More details about the MLK Day Free Legal Help events can be found at <u>https://alaskabar.org/for-our-community/martin-luther-king-day/</u>

Monday, January 20, 2025 MLK Day Free Legal Help Event Times and Locations:

Anchorage

Mountain View Girls and Boys Club – 315 Price Street

Noon to 4 PM

Shuttles will run between the event and the following two locations from 1 PM to 4 PM:

- Shelter at 1111 E. 56th Avenue
- Hope Center Downtown Soup Kitchen at 240 E. 3rd Ave.

Fairbanks

UAF Community and Technical College – 604 Barnette Street (6th Avenue Doors) 10 AM to 4 PM

Bethel Evangelical Covenant Church 2 PM to 5 PM

Juneau Dimond Courthouse – 123 4th Street 9 AM to 1 PM

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