At DePaul, we believe your studies are crucial to your future success. Legal issues may distract you from getting the full value of your education. DePaul’s new Office of Student Legal Services (SLS) is here to help.

SLS provides high quality, free or low-cost legal advice to DePaul students on a wide range of common problems, including contract disputes, misdemeanor criminal offenses and more. While we cannot represent you in court, we can help you understand your rights and obligations, provide general recommendations, and help you find useful resources. If you need a lawyer, we can refer you to a licensed practicing attorney with experience related to your case.

SLS was created through a recommendation of the Student Government Association and operates out of DePaul University’s Office of the General Counsel.

The Office of Student Legal Services
DePaul University
990 W. Fullerton Ave., 1st Floor
Chicago, Illinois  60614
(773) 325-4959
FREE / LOW COST SERVICES

If you’re currently enrolled at DePaul, you are eligible to use SLS. Our services are free if you are a full-time undergraduate student who has paid your $25 Student Activity Fee. If you are a graduate student or a part-time undergraduate, we will assist you for a small fee of $10 per case. You are responsible for all out-of-pocket expenses, including court filing fees, long-distance telephone calls, postage, and fax and photocopying charges associated with your case.

SLS STAFF

SLS operates under the direction of Father Thomas Croak, C.M., a Vincentian and an attorney with many years of experience at DePaul University.

SLS ASSISTS STUDENTS WITH:

- Routine traffic violations
- Landlord–tenant issues
- City ordinance violations
- Misdemeanor criminal offenses
- Leases & minor business contracts
- Other minor legal problems

SLS GENERALLY DOES NOT PROVIDE ADVICE ON:

- Will and trusts
- Name changes
- Bankruptcy actions
- Small claims actions
- Contingent fee matters
- Complex real estate issues
- Student discipline matters
- Conflicts between DePaul students
- Claims involving DePaul or its employees
- Auto accidents and insurance problems
- Divorce, custody, legal separation
- Income-producing activities
- Felony criminal offenses
- Immigration issues

OFFICE LOCATION AND HOURS

SLS is available during the Autumn, Spring, and Winter Academic Quarters, and is located at DePaul's Lincoln Park Campus at 990 W. Fullerton. Office hours vary. We encourage you to call or stop by to schedule an appointment.

FOR MORE COMPLEX LEGAL ISSUES, SLS CAN REFER YOU TO A LICENSED, PRACTICING ATTORNEY.

MISSION

The SLS aims at helping students resolve their legal problems with as little disruption as possible to their educational endeavors. The SLS focuses on preventative law and on enabling students to make educated choices.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The SLS staff are obliged to preserve the confidences of the student client. SLS will not divulge to anyone any information or communication pertaining to the student client's issues without the client's permission, except as required by law. As the legal right to keep information confidential belongs to the student client, she/he must be careful not disclose information about her/his case inadvertently.

ZEALOUS REPRESENTATION

SLS is obliged to represent the student client's interest zealously within the bounds of the law. SLS reserves the right to assess the merits of a particular matter and determine whether legal services will be given to the student applicant in that matter.