



Frequently Asked Questions

July 2025 Report

Civil Legal Regulatory Reform Task Force

What is the Civil Legal Regulatory Reform Task Force?

In July 2023, the District of Columbia Courts established the Civil Legal Regulatory Reform Task Force with the aim of further pursuing and achieving its strategic goal of ‘Access to Justice for All.’

The Task Force was comprised of members of the judiciary and bar, experienced in a wide range of legal areas across the District of Columbia.

The Courts asked the Task Force to get broad input from the legal community and relevant stakeholders about this idea and to prepare a report for the D.C. Courts summarizing that feedback within one year.

Among other things, the Task Force studied a draft report from the D.C. Bar on the topic, explored other jurisdiction’s nonlawyer assistance programs, and solicited feedback from the D.C. community.

You can find a copy of the administrative orders about the task force below. Please also see this [overview of the task force](#).

What is in this report?

The Civil Legal Regulatory Reform Task Force developed three primary recommendations, which they put into this report. The recommendations are:

1. Establish a framework for non-lawyers to assist low-income individuals with legal matters
2. Study the License Legal Practitioner (LLP) model, where trained non-lawyer legal practitioners can serve the public directly without attorney supervision for lower fees
3. Encourage organizations to develop and seek approval of innovative approaches to allow people who are not members of the D.C. Bar, including non-lawyers, to provide legal services

Why non-lawyers?

Due to a significant gap in legal services for low- to moderate-income District of Columbia community members, there was an urgent call to address this critical need. Non-lawyers who receive specialized training may be able to fill this unnecessary void, providing important services to District of Columbia residents under the appropriate circumstances.

What about criminal cases?

This report solely focuses on legal support in non-criminal matters (including, for example, landlord and tenant, small claims, family, and probate).

Who can provide comments?

The court seeks robust public participation and feedback during the comment period for this report, in particular from communities that have the highest unmet need for civil legal services. As the courts consider the next steps, and the prudent allocation of resources, it is essential to gain a clear sense of where assistance is most needed, would be most welcome, and might be most efficiently utilized.

How long do I have to provide comments?

From its opening on July 31, 2025, people have 90 days to provide comment (or until October 31, 2025).

What happens after the comment period closes?

After the comment period closes, feedback will be reviewed by the D.C. Court of Appeals and the D.C. Superior Court and used to assist in determining and pursuing next steps. Future updates and developments will be shared publicly and posted to the Courts' website.

How do I provide feedback?

There are many ways you can provide your comments:

- Email your thoughts to CLRRTaskForce@dccsystem.gov
- Mail your thoughts to the Executive Office of the D.C. Courts, ATTN: CLRRTF, 500 Indiana Ave, N.W., Suite 6680, Washington, D.C. 20001

All comments submitted will be available to the public.