

# FAMILY LAW PROGRAM

**Duty Solicitor Service**

**PHONE:** (02) 4040 9121

**TOLL FREE:** 1800 650 073

**Find us:**

## At court

### Level 4

Newcastle Family Court

### 61 Bolton Street

Newcastle NSW 2300

## At our office

Level 2, 116 Hunter St,

Newcastle NSW 2300


#### LEGAL HELP AT COURT

The Hunter Community Legal Centre (HCLC) Family Law Program operates a free duty solicitor service for self-represented parties in legal proceedings in the Newcastle Family Court.

If you do not have legal representation on your court date you should contact the HCLC duty solicitor at the Newcastle Family Court. The duty solicitor can assist you to understand the law, legal processes and procedures, your rights and responsibilities, court rules and processes, and potential court orders. Assistance under the duty solicitor service may include:

* provision of legal advice and information
* explanation of documents and orders
* representation in court for adjournments and short or procedural matters
* representation in negotiations
* representation in court for recovery orders
* urgent applications regarding children
* limited assistance if, on your first court date, your matter requires an interim hearing

#### The HCLC duty Solicitor will not represent you in court if your matter is listed for a final hearing (including hearing of a Contravention Application).

**HOW DO I GET HELP?**

**On your court date**

* Go to the HCLC duty solicitor office on Level 4 of the Newcastle Family Court Building
* Ask the registry staff or a court officer to help you locate us.

#### Before your court date

* Contact the HCLC office on (02) 4040 9121

#### ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE HCLC FAMILY LAW PROGRAM

The Family Law Program also provides free legal advice and assistance by appointment in separation, divorce, parenting and some property matters, to people who live, work or study within the Newcastle and Hunter regions, or who are parties to proceedings in the Newcastle Family Court, and who meet certain criteria for assistance. Assistance may include:

* + legal advice and information
	+ assistance with the preparation of correspondence and court documents
	+ assistance with settlement negotiations.

#### For an appointment in the Family Law Program contact HCLC on (02) 4040 9121 or 1800 650 073

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**HCLC will not be on the Court record as your legal representative. You will remain a self-represented litigant whatever assistance is provided to you under the Family Law Program.**

**ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR LEGAL AID?**

The services provided by the Family Law Program are available to any person who is ineligible for legal aid and who is unable to meet the cost of private legal services. Before contacting HCLC for assistance you should check your eligibility for Legal Aid, or apply for a grant of Legal Aid, by contacting Newcastle Legal Aid on (02) 4929 5482 or by visiting the Legal Aid website at [www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/)



**CONTACT**

**HUNTER COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE (HCLC)**

**PHONE:** (02) 4040 9121 (Admin only)

(No legal advice is provided on this number)

**FAX:** (02) 4929 7996

**ADDRESS:** Level 2, 116 Hunter St,

 Newcastle NSW 2300

**POST:** P.O. Box 84

 Newcastle NSW 2300

**EMAIL:** hunter\_nsw@clc.net.au

(No legal advice is provided via email)

**WEB:** [www.hunterclc.com.au](http://www.hunterclc.org.au/)

 @HunterCLC

Follow HCLC on Twitter or Like our Facebook page to keep up to date with Hunter Community Legal Centre and legal matters affecting your community.



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