

Free Legal Help Available for Illinois Severe Storm and Flooding Survivors

Release Date: December 7, 2022

ST. CLAIR COUNTY, Ill. – Free legal help is available to individuals in St. Clair County who were impacted by the July 25-28 floods. Lawyers can answer questions and address concerns about FEMA benefits, home repair contracts, property insurance claims, landlord or tenant problems, disability-related access to assistance, and more.

A hotline is available to connect survivors to free legal services who cannot afford an attorney. Survivors can call **877-342-7891**.

Low-income people impacted by the disaster may qualify for free legal help with issues like:

- FEMA and SBA financial benefits
- Home repair contracts and property insurance claims
- Re-doing wills and other important legal documents destroyed in the disaster
- Price gouging, scams, or identity theft
- Landlord or tenant problems, or threats of foreclosure
- Disability-related access to federal, state, and local disaster programs

Survivors can call the hotline at **877-342-7891** during the following times:

- Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

The Disaster Legal Services (DLS) program works with state and local partners to provide free legal help for low-income disaster survivors. The service is a partnership between the [American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division](#) and [FEMA](#). The Land of Lincoln Legal Aid will be providing support.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency, or economic status. If you or



FEMA

Page 1 of 2

someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 833-285-7448. If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Multilingual operators are available (press 2 for Spanish and 3 for other languages).

For disaster updates from FEMA, follow [@FEMAreion5](#) on Twitter, and turn on mobile notifications. Visit the disaster webpage at fema.gov/disaster/4676.

For disaster updates from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), follow @ReadyIllinois on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and turn on mobile notifications. <http://www.illinois.gov/iema/> continues to be a go-to, single source to help Illinois residents easily find information and disaster-related resources.

###

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.



FEMA

Page 2 of 2