

Free Legal Help Available

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Disaster Legal Services (DLS) is a free service, funded by FEMA and available to southern New Mexico residents impacted by the South Fork and Salt Fires and flooding that began June 17 through Aug. 20. If you are in need of legal services and you live in **Lincoln, Otero, Rio Arriba or San Juan Counties or the Mescalero Apache Reservation**, DLS may be able to help.

Disaster Legal Services are provided through the Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association (ABA). You can reach them at **1-855-204-2569**. DLS may only give advice and help with cases that won't have a fee. For fee cases, they may suggest a local lawyer referral service.

DLS may help with matters that include:

- Insurance claims for medical bills, loss of property, loss of life, etc.
- New wills and other legal papers lost in the disaster.
- Home repair contracts and contractor fraud.
- Problems with landlords.
- Proof of home ownership.
- FEMA appeals.

DLS attorneys are not FEMA employees. Their services are confidential, and they do not share information with FEMA.

To qualify, your primary residence must be in one of the counties mentioned above or on the Mescalero Apache Reservation at the time of the initial disaster date of June 17 through Aug. 20, 2024. Visit FEMA's [Disaster Legal Services](#) page for more details.

Other Legal Aid Programs Available in New Mexico

- **Disaster Legal Services - New Mexico Legal Aid** at <https://newmexicolegalaid.org/disaster-legal-services/> or call 833-545-4357



FEMA

- [New Mexico \(freelegalanswers.org\)](https://freelegalanswers.org)

Free Legal Helplines for New Mexicans

- **Legal Resources for the Elderly Program**, a free legal helpline for New Mexico residents 55 and older. Call 505-797-6005.
- **Modest Means Helpline**, a free legal helpline for New Mexico residents of modest means. Call 505-797-6013.

