

NEED LEGAL ADVICE OVER CHRISTMAS?

HPLS will be closed over the Christmas period. If you need legal advice over this period, places to go for assistance are listed on the other side.

**HPLS PROVIDES
FREE LEGAL ADVICE
AT THESE LOCATIONS
AND TIMES:**

THE HOMELESS PERSONS' LEGAL SERVICE**Who We Are**

The Homeless Persons' Legal Service provides confidential, free legal assistance to people experiencing homelessness or housing instability. We operate from five organisations that provide services to people experiencing a housing crisis. If you need legal advice you can come to any of our clinics listed. You don't need an appointment.

We can provide you with legal advice in areas such as:

- your housing rights: whether you are in public housing or private accommodation;
- your rights in dealing with Centrelink and the Department of Housing;
- fines;
- debts;
- discrimination;
- employment.

If you have a criminal, family law or immigration problem, we can help you find the legal advice you need.

The Station Ltd

82 Erskine Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Mon (weekly): 10am – 12noon
Recommences 10/01/05

Talbot Lane

(outside Matthew Talbot Hostel)
22 Talbot Lane

Woolloomooloo NSW 2011
Tue (fortnightly): 12noon – 2pm
Recommences 18/01/05

Parramatta Mission

119 Macquarie Street
Parramatta NSW 2124

Wed (weekly): 11am – 1:30pm
Recommences 12/01/05

Edward Eagar Lodge

348a Bourke Street
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

Thurs (weekly): 1pm – 3pm
Recommences 6/01/05

Vincentian Village

50 Yurong Street
East Sydney NSW 2010

Fri (weekly): 1pm – 3pm
Recommences 7/01/05

THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS OFFER FREE CHRISTMAS LUNCH:

Parramatta Town Hall • 25 December, 10:30am - 1:30pm

Parramatta Mission • 25 December, 11:30am - 2:30pm

Edward Eagar Lodge • 25 December, 11:30am - 12:15pm

Vincentian Village • 25 December, 12:30am - 1:30pm

The Station Ltd • 26 December, 11:30am - 2pm

Matthew Talbot Hostel • 26 December, 12:30pm - 1:30pm

HPLS is a joint initiative of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre Ltd (PIAC) and the Public Interest Law Clearing House Inc (PILCH)

The Service is proudly supported by the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services through the National Homelessness Strategy, and the Hon Bob Debus MP, NSW Attorney-General, through the Public Purpose Fund.

NEED LEGAL ADVICE OVER CHRISTMAS?

HPLS will be closed over the Christmas period. If you need legal advice over this period, here are some places to go for assistance:

HOUSING LAW ADVICE

If you're having legal problems with your landlord, real estate agent or head tenant over Christmas, you can call:

- **The Tenants' Union Hotline**
9251 6590 or 1800 251 101
This telephone service will operate on 24, 28, 29, 30 December 2004 and then 4-7 January 2005.
- **Office of Fair Trading, Renting Services**
9377 9100
- **Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal**
1300 135 399 or tty 9641 6521
- **The Legal Aid Commission, Sydney**
9219 5000

IF YOU NEED CRISIS ACCOMMODATION

Call the Homeless Persons Information Service
9265 9087 or 1800 234 566



FAMILY LAW OR CRIMINAL LAW ADVICE

You can get free legal advice from the Legal Aid Commission.

The Legal Aid Commission is located at:

City: 323 Castlereagh Street Sydney
ph 9219 5000 tty 9219 5037
contact hours: 9am - 4pm Mon-Fri.

Criminal Law general advice by appointment on Wednesdays 9am-4pm ph 9219 5000.

Family Law advice on a first-come, first-served basis on Monday-Friday 9am-4pm.

Parramatta: Level 5, Phillip Street Parramatta
ph 9891 1600 tty 9891 5692
contact hours: 9am - 5pm Mon-Fri.

Criminal Law and traffic matters advice Tue 2pm - 4pm, first-come, first-served.

Family Law advice on a first-come, first-served basis Mon, Wed, Fri 9am - 12noon & 1pm - 4pm.

The Legal Aid Commission office in the city will be closed from 25 to 29 December 2004, it will also be closed on 3 January 2005. On 29 December 2004 you can contact the City Office by telephone at 9219 5000 or the Parramatta Office at 9891 5692.

If you have a court date for a criminal matter:

You can get legal advice on the day of your court appearance from the Legal Aid duty lawyer. You should get to Court early and ask staff for directions to the Legal Aid Lawyer.

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS, IF YOU ARE FACED WITH EVICTION

If you are a tenant and your landlord or head tenant tries to evict you or lock you out from your home during Christmas this may be illegal. Only the sheriff can evict you, after an order from the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal.

- If your landlord or head tenant tries to evict you without taking you to the Tribunal you should apply directly to the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal (see contact above).
- If you are a tenant, and there hasn't been an order from the Consumer, Trader & Tenancy Tribunal, you may be able to claim reasonable accommodation expenses, if you have to stay somewhere else during this time.
- If you are living in a boarding house you may not have the same rights, as a tenant.
- If you need to find temporary accommodation, call the Homeless Persons Information Centre on 9265 9087 or 1800 234 566.