

# KLS Legal Assistance for Veterans



**KLS provides legal assistance for Veterans who are homeless or at-risk for homelessness.**

Legal assistance addresses the top seven areas identified by Veterans in the Veterans' CHALENG survey as being their top legal problems:

- court fees/court fines,
- credit issues/debt collection,
- expunging criminal records,
- child support,
- family law,
- discharge upgrade appeals, and
- tax issues.

Other legal services addressed include family law, protective orders and other matters related to domestic or intimate partner violence, access to health care; requests to upgrade military discharge, consumer law, such as financial services, debt collection, garnishments, usury, fraud and financial exploitation, and

employment law.



Kansas Legal Services (KLS) has been a respected provider of free legal aid in Kansas for over 47 years. We have worked with thousands of Veterans on a wide array of civil legal issues, including housing, family law, consumer, employment issues and more.

## **Home = Shelter**

### **Providing Veterans with stable housing shows respect and gratitude**

Homelessness can exacerbate mental health issues such as PTSD, depression and substance abuse. Housing can provide a stable environment for seeking treatment and recovery.

Homeless Veterans are a higher risk of physical harm and victimization.

Stable housing provides a foundation for Veterans to regain employment, pursue education and reintegrate into society.

### **Having a home is a priority**

Living in safe, affordable housing is an essential foundational building block of fulfilling an individual's basic needs.

If the individual also has a family, the housing needs take on even more importance for the health and well-being of the family.

## **Keep Your Home or Get a Home**

### **Keep Your Home**

KLS negotiates with lenders to keep a home from foreclosure, and works with landlords to stop eviction proceedings.

### **Clear Your Record**

Get your criminal record expunged (including arrests and/or convictions), get driver's license issues resolved to drive legally.

### **Resolve Other Legal Barriers**

Other legal barriers that negatively impact well-being may be child support problems (arrearages, etc.) consumer and debt disputes, credit card issues and other problems.

### **Well-Being and Stability**

The Department of Veteran's Affairs awarded grants to legal services in every state in the U.S. to help Veterans overcome risks for losing their homes, and to help Veterans who are homeless get housed.





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