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**FREE LAWYER REFERRALS NOW AVAILABLE TO  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY AND IMPERIAL VALLEY CONSUMERS 24-7**

*New Automated Referral Service Launched By San Diego County Bar Association Allows Public Easy Virtual Access to Qualified Lawyers*

**SAN DIEGO (January 18, 2021)** — Members of the public in both San Diego County and Imperial Valley can now receive free referrals to qualified lawyers 24 hours a day and in real time through a new [online tool launched by the San Diego County Bar Association](#) (SDCBA).

The technology allows consumers to complete a brief online questionnaire about their legal needs and immediately receive up to three referrals to attorneys qualified by SDCBA's Lawyer Referral and Information Service, or LRIS. Alternatively, consumers can receive live consultations and referrals from a trained LRIS specialist by calling 1-800-464-1529 between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Since 1952, the LRIS has connected the San Diego community with qualified, pre-screened local lawyers and legal resources. The program refers community members seeking counsel to an appropriate lawyer in more than 40 areas of law or directs them to the appropriate legal resource. There is no charge for the consumer to get a referral, and participants receive up to 30 minutes of free consultation when they connect with an LRIS attorney. In addition, LRIS attorneys work on a flat-fee basis with clients in cases involving the following areas of law: personal or Chapter 7 bankruptcy, incorporation and LLC formation, estate planning, tenant consultations, and family law.

The more than 400 attorneys who participate in the LRIS program are required to meet rigorous criteria and be approved by the SDCBA's LRIS committee. Approved attorneys must be in good standing with the California State Bar, maintain proper insurance, and submit letters of recommendation from colleagues and/or judges.

In 2020, the Lawyer Referral and Information Service made nearly 37,000 referrals. Late last year, the program expanded into the Imperial Valley, allowing more members of the public to easily find a qualified attorney for their legal needs.

"For more than 65 years, the Lawyer Referral and Information Service has provided a crucial public service by linking members of the San Diego community with qualified counsel across a wide variety of legal areas," said SDCBA Executive Director Jill Epstein. "The launch of our online referral service is a logical extension of our ongoing commitment to increasing access to justice in both San Diego County and Imperial Valley. This new features assumes a particular importance during COVID-19 when people are disconnected and isolated."

**Members of the public can receive a referral to an attorney** by [using the online referral service](#) or by calling the SDCBA Lawyer Referral and Information Service at 1-800-464-1529. Consumers can learn more about LRIS at [www.sdcba.org/lawyer-referral](http://www.sdcba.org/lawyer-referral).

**Attorneys who would like to join the LRIS referral network** may call 1-800-464-1529 or e-mail [iris@sdcb.org](mailto:iris@sdcb.org). Interested attorneys can learn more at [www.sdcba.org/joiniris](http://www.sdcba.org/joiniris).

*The San Diego County Bar Association, founded in 1899, is the region's largest law-related organization, dedicated to serving the needs of all attorneys and the legal community in San Diego County.*

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