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FAMILY LAW LITIGANTS CAN NOW RECEIVE AFFORDABLE ASSISTANCE FROM AN ATTORNEY

New Service Offers Aid with Family Law Case Preparation without Hourly Attorney Fees

SAN DIEGO (May 17, 2018) – The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA), through its Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS), is providing a service that will help those in family law matters prepare and understand the documents that need to be filed in their case.

Through the flat fee family law program will pay one set fee to have an attorney help them in drafting and preparing documents such as petition/response for dissolution of marriage, marital settlement agreements, and responses to request for order regarding child custody and/or child support. While the attorneys involved in the program will not represent the parties in court, they will provide significant guidance and help the clients prepare to represent themselves.

“Family law matters can be confusing,” said Kristin Rizzo, 2018 SDCBA President. “Individuals involved in family law matters are often going through a very difficult and emotional time and having an attorney assist them through this program can give them confidence that they are representing themselves well, without dealing with the added burden of hourly attorney fees continuing to accumulate.”

Fees through the program include a \$1,500 packet for dissolution of marriage or legal separation, and \$1,000 for assistance in drafting a motion for support or custody. The fees charged through the Bar program do not include court filing fees, which the individual is responsible for paying directly. In addition to the new family law program, the SDCBA also offers select set fee services in bankruptcy, business formation, estate planning, and landlord/tenant matters.

“Through our flat fee programs, we are able to offer access in an affordable way, while providing the assurance that an experienced attorney has guided them through the process,” said Ellen Miller-Sharp, SDCBA Executive Director and CEO.

Miller-Sharp added that there were plans to further expand the LRIS flat fee program in the future to continue to provide low-cost legal services in San Diego County. If you have a family law matter and would like assistance through the flat fee panel, or if you need a referral to a lawyer, contact the SDCBA’s LRIS at (619) 231-8585 or www.sdcba.org/ineedalawyer.

The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) is the region’s largest law related organization and the hub of the county’s legal community, headquartered in downtown San Diego. As the representative of the legal profession, the SDCBA aims to serve the county’s lawyers and legal professionals, and the greater San Diego community. For more information, please visit www.sdcba.org.

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