

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 Division of Special Education and Student Services
 Office of Dispute Resolution and Administrative Services
LEGAL/ADVOCACY GROUPS AND RESOURCES FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION¹

<p>American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law 740 15th Street, N.W., 9th Floor Washington, D.C. 20005 Phone: (202) 662-1570 Fax: (202) 662-1032 E-mail: cmpdl@abanet.org Web: http://www.abanet.org</p>	<p>The ABA's Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law (Commission) was established to promote the ABA's commitment to justice and the rule of law for persons with mental, physical, and sensory disabilities and to promote their full and equal participation in the legal profession. The Commission offers access to a list of attorneys who handle disability-related matters.</p>
<p>Children's Law Center T. C. Williams School of Law University of Richmond, Virginia 23173 Phone: (804) 289-8921 Fax: (804) 287-6489 Web: http://www.law.richmond.edu/clinic/</p>	<p>The Children's Law Center (CLC), affiliated with the T. C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond, handles special education law and due process cases in the Richmond Metro Area (including Hanover, Henrico, and Chesterfield Counties). The CLC assists low-income families with special education issues and may consider representing parties in neighboring counties on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<p>Council of Parents, Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA) P.O. Box 6767 Towson, Maryland 21285 Phone: (434) 451-5270 E-mail: contact@copaa.org Web: http://www.copaa.org/</p>	<p>COPAA offers a list of members who can assist parents of children with disabilities. However, it does not provide direct services, individual advocacy or representation to children with disabilities.</p>
<p>Education Law Project c/o Legal Services of Northern Virginia 4080 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax, VA 22030 (703) 504-9141 or (1-866) 534-5243 (1-866) 778-6001 or (703) 273-6476 - FAX E-mail: ntubbs@lsnv.org Web: www.lsnv.org</p>	<p>The Education Law Project of The Law Center for Children is a child advocacy program of Legal Services of Northern Virginia which offers eligible low income families free consultation, advice and representation regarding special education issues including school discipline matters. The Education Law Project serves families in Northern Virginia.</p>
<p>Independence Center, Inc (EC) 6000 E. Virginia Beach Blvd. Norfolk, Virginia 23502 Phone: (757) 461-8007 Fax: (757) 455-8223 E-mail: ecinorf@endependence.org Web: www.endependence.org</p>	<p>EC offers a referral service for parents who have children with disabilities and are in need of legal assistance. In addition, EC will advise parents in the filing of special education complaints and represent parents in special education hearings. EC has an advocate on staff.</p>

¹ This list was compiled from various sources, including Virginia law schools, legal aid societies, Internet listings, etc. This list is not exhaustive and does not purport to represent all legal advocacy groups or resources that specialize in special education law. Where advocacy groups are listed, their inclusion on this list presents no endorsement of the scope and quality of services provided. Where advocacy is provided by non-lawyers, these individuals are not governed by specific ethical obligations or mandatory codes of conduct. Organizations wishing to be added to this list may contact VDOE at 804-225-2013 (voice) and Voice/Relay at 1-800-292-3820. Text users dial 711 for Relay service.

<p>Just Children (JC) c/o Legal Aid Justice Center 1000 Preston Avenue, Ste. A Charlottesville, Virginia 22903 Phone: (434) 977-0553 Fax: (434) 977-0558 Web: www.iustice4all.org/programs/justchildren/</p> <p>Just Children (JC) c/o Legal Aid Justice Center 6066 Leesburg Pike, Ste. 520 Falls Church, Virginia 22041 Phone: (703) 778-3450 Fax: (703) 778-3454</p> <p>Just Children (JC) c/o Legal Aid Justice Center 41 Bollingbrook Street Petersburg, Virginia 23803 Phone: (804) 862-2205 Fax: (804) 862-2297</p> <p>Just Children (JC) c/o Legal Aid Justice Center 123 East Broad Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 Phone: (804) 643-1086 Fax: (804) 643-2059</p>	<p>JC, <i>affiliated</i> with the Legal Aid Justice Center, assists low-income families with special education law issues and cases in Albemarle, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson Counties and Charlottesville City. The center may consider representing parties in other counties on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<p>Legal Aid Society for Eastern Virginia (LASEV) 125 St. Paul's Boulevard, Ste. 400 Norfolk, Virginia 23510 (757) 627-5423</p>	<p>Legal Aid Society for Eastern Virginia offers a referral service for parents who have children with disabilities and are in need of legal assistance. It serves Accomack County, Northampton County, James City County, York County, Williamsburg, Newport News, Hampton, Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Chesapeake.</p>
<p>Legal Aid Society (LAS), Roanoke Valley 132 Campbell Avenue, S.W., Ste. 200 Roanoke, Virginia 24011 Phone: (540) 344-2088 Fax: (540) 342-3064</p>	<p>The LAS may assist low-income families with special education law issues and cases in its service area. LAS may consider representing parties in neighboring counties on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<p>Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC) 100 N. Washington Street, Ste. 234 Falls Church, Virginia 22046 Phone and TDD: (703) 536-3023 Toll free in Virginia: (800) 869-6782 Fax: (800) 693-3514 E-mail: partners@peatc.org Web: www.peatc.org/</p> <p>Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC-Richmond) 2922 West Marshall Street Richmond, Virginia 23230 Phone: (804) 819-1999 Fax: (804) 819-1990</p>	<p>PEATC assists parents and professionals in translating the legal rights of children with disabilities into genuine opportunities for full participation in school and community life.</p> <p>PEATC assists parents and professionals in translating the legal rights of children with disabilities into genuine opportunities for full participation in school and community life.</p>

<p>Rappahannock Legal Services, Inc. (RLS) 910 Princess Anne Street, 2nd Floor Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401 Phone: (540) 371-1105 Fax: (540) 371-1114 E-mail: rlsfred@rapplegal.com Web: www.rapplegal.com</p>	<p>RLS assists low-income families with special education law issues and cases in its service area. RLS may consider representing parties in neighboring counties on a case-by case basis.</p>
<p>Richmond Metro Pro Bono Services</p> <p>Pro Bono services that might be able to offer assistance in the Richmond Metro area include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henrico Bar Association Pro Bono Volunteers Phone: (804) 282-8494 • Legal Aid Hotline Phone: (866) 534-5243 www.valegalaid.org • Virginia Poverty Law Center Phone: (804) 782-9430 	<p>The Virginia State Bar (VSB) works in participation with the Central Virginia Legal Aid Society to recruit and train volunteers from the legal professions for legal services to those unable to afford a lawyer.</p>
<p>Southwest Virginia Legal Aid Society (SWLAS) 227 W. Cherry Street Marion, Virginia 24354 (276) 783-8300 (888) 201-2772 Toll-free in Virginia Web: http://www.svlas.org/</p>	<p>SWLAS may assist low-income families with special education law issues and cases in its service area. SWLAS may consider representing parties in neighboring counties on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<p>The Law Center for Children c/o Legal Services of Northern Virginia-Main Office 6066 Leesburg Pike, Ste 500 Falls Church, Virginia 22041 (703) 778-6800 Fax: (703) 778-4790</p>	<p>The Law Center for Children assists families in the areas of education, public benefits, health and family law.</p>
<p>Virginia Legal Aid Society, Inc. (VLAS) Administrative Office 513 Church Street P.O. Box 6200 Lynchburg, Virginia 24503 (434) 528-4722 (866) 534-5243 (Toll-free client access #) Web: http://www.vlas.org/</p>	<p>VLAS provides free legal services to eligible low-income residents in 20 counties and seven cities in central, south, and western Virginia. VLAS serves these communities by providing free information, advice and representation in areas that include special education. In addition, VLAS represents and provides legal advocacy to expelled or suspended students with disabilities on issues that include the provision of special education services.</p>

<p>Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy (VOPA) 1910 Byrd Avenue, Ste. 5 Richmond, Virginia 23230 (804) 225-2042 (Voice/TTY) (800) 552-3962 (Voice/TTY) (Toll-Free in Virginia) Fax: (804) 622-7075 E-mail: generalvopa@vopa.state.va.us Web: www.vopa.state.va.us</p>	<p>VOPA assists with disability-related problems, such as abuse, neglect, and discrimination. VOPA helps people with disabilities obtain services and treatment. VOPA also provides advocacy services and/or legal representation for individuals, including students with disabilities.</p>
<p>Virginia State Bar Virginia Lawyer Referral Service (VLRS) (804) 775-0808 (800) 552-7977 (Nationwide Toll-free) Web: http://www.vsb.org/vlrs.html</p>	<p>VLRS will provide the name and telephone number of a lawyer in your community who has indicated a particular interest in handling special education law issues and cases.</p>

Revised December 28, 2010