From: Support@nlsa.us

Subject: Does Everyone Have the Right to an Attorney?

Date: October 26, 2023 at 10:02 AM

To: Julia Marasco marascoj@nlsa.us





Browsing a local flea market, Marsha checked her watch: Time to make sure her son was ready for work. She half expected to hear his sleepy voice complaining, "I'm up, Mom!" Instead, he answered in a panic: **Someone was banging on the front door.** 

Marsha listened helplessly as the landlord, a constable with an eviction notice and police officers with guns already drawn burst in, ready to evict the family and pets at that very moment.

An officer barked an order to drop the phone, and Marsha heard it clatter to the ground. Her terrified son was begging the officers not to hurt him or his animals.

She rushed nome, not understanding: She digotten over her past financial trouble and was just nine days late with this month's rent.

If Marsha had an attorney to call, she would have known the eviction attempt was unlawful. Instead, her family was locked out of the house with no time to grab clothing, medicine or pet food.

They had nowhere to live but in her car – until Marsha called Neighborhood Legal Services.

A team of NLS attorneys secured an order so the family could return home, and they sued the landlord on Marsha's behalf. In the end, they won a settlement that allowed the family to move to a new apartment.

Ensuring everyone has access to legal help protects families from unlawful housing practices and keeps them safe in their homes.

**LEARN MORE** 

To help our resources go further, Neighborhood Legal Services offers a convenient way for eligible clients to obtain basic legal advice and referrals to agencies that may help.

CALL TOLL-FREE 866-761-6572

## Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Voicemail can be left until 1:00 PM.

Apply for civil legal aid online at nlsa.us; just click on the Get Legal Help button.

928 PENN AVENUE | PITTSBURGH, PA 15222-3799









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Subject: Everyone Deserves Justice
Date: October 26, 2023 at 10:05 AM
To: Julia Marasco marascoj@nlsa.us





Marsha and her son were both working hard to make a better life for themselves. Yet, though they had made rent payments on time for months, a landlord swooped in as soon as they were nine days late – barging in with police officers and an eviction notice.

The eviction was unlawful, but because Marsha couldn't afford a lawyer, her family was immediately locked out of their apartment. They thought they had no recourse.

Fortunately, someone told them about civil legal aid available through Neighborhood Legal Services. Their story ultimately had a happy ending.

Every case INLO nancies has reached a point of crisis that threatens an individual's security. Learn more about how our compassionate attorneys guide people like Marsha through formidable challenges to a place of stability, better understanding ... and hope.

## **LEARN MORE**

Our staff of 84 helped served 21,300 residents of Allegheny, Beaver, Butler and Lawrence Counties last fiscal year who did not have the ability to pay for legal help. They were helped by 107 pro bono volunteers who handled 778 cases, including volunteers from the 45 area law firms and corporate law departments of the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership.

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From: Support@nlsa.us

Subject: Civil Legal Aid Can Change a Life Date: October 26, 2023 at 10:03 AM To: Julia Marasco marascoj@nlsa.us





If you ask Marsha, getting her and her son back into the apartment they were unlawfully evicted from wasn't the only thing the attorneys at Neighborhood Legal Services did for her.

## They gave her a new start ... and showed her someone cared.

Marsha's landlord wasn't interested in working with her, even though she had not been late on her rent payments for months. He didn't care that her family had to live in her car ... but NLS did.

After getting Marsha out of her car and back into her apartment, a team of NLS attorneys won a lawsuit that enabled her to find a new apartment ... one where

a landlord wouldn't take advantage of them.

NLS attorneys provide civil legal services to over 21,000 low-income, working clients each year who otherwise would have been denied justice. When vulnerable yet hardworking families live in adequate housing, with essential benefits intact and predatory landlords at bay, our entire community benefits.

## **LEARN MORE**

NLS attorneys and other staff provide a full range of legal services, from individual representation to administrative advocacy, as well as community education and social work. They are deeply committed to providing civil legal assistance to people who cannot afford an attorney.









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