



Who we are:

LAWM is a nonprofit law firm. We provide free legal help to eligible clients in 17 West Michigan counties. **We help seniors on many kinds of civil legal issues, including Social Security and other income benefits, consumer protection, healthcare, and housing security.** Our services range from brief legal advice to full representation, depending on the case type and available resources. We do not handle criminal cases, and we do not do estate planning (like wills).

We help West Michigan seniors with:

- Income maintenance, including denials, terminations, and other problems with:
 - Social Security Retirement, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), State Disability Assistance (SDA), and Veterans Administration (VA) benefits
 - Cash and food assistance
- Consumer law, including protection from predatory lending, scamming, and other unfair practices.
- Healthcare access, including Medicare/Medicaid, home health, home help, waiver services, and more.
- Housing, including:
 - Evictions
 - Federal housing subsidies
 - Foreclosures (mortgage and property tax)
 - Mobile home park litigation
 - Problems with land contract forfeitures and option-to-purchase contracts
 - Predatory lending and other unfair housing practices

Our primary goals

- ➔ Income Maintenance
- ➔ Consumer Protections
- ➔ Healthcare Access
- ➔ Housing Safety, Security, & Quality

Who is eligible for legal help? Generally:

Income: We help people with household income at or below 125% of the Federal poverty level. We can help some people with a total household income up to 200% if they have other qualifying expenses. We can also help some seniors (60+), veterans, and people with either federal tax or mortgage issues even if their income is over our normal criteria.

Assets: Generally, clients must have less than \$15,000 in assets, but we can waive this restriction with some senior clients.

Restrictions: Due to federal funding rules we cannot represent:

- people who are not US citizens, except we may be able to help 1) survivors in domestic violence cases, and 2) some Lawful Permanent Residents
- people who are incarcerated

Not sure if a client is eligible? Ask us or send your client to us!

Can we work together?

We partner with service providers on:

- Trainings for your staff on legal issues
- Community education events

Contact: Steve Grumm, Dir. of Community Engagement,
sgrumm@lawestmi.org 616-608-8061

Client intake:

Apply for help online or by phone:

- <https://lawestmi.org/i-need-help> (includes regional office phone #s)
- Grand Rapids area phone: 616-774-0672