



Legal Benefits for 32BJ Retirees

BUILDING SERVICE 32BJ LEGAL SERVICES FUND

800-551-3225

Monday – Friday | 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

www.32bjfunds.org

The Legal Fund provides lawyers and legal services to retirees in the Building Service 32BJ Pension Fund and to their eligible spouse.

What the plan covers for a retiree and spouse

The Legal Fund will provide legal services, including going to court, in the following areas of law:

Immigration Law	Petitions for Citizenship, Permanent Residence, Temporary Protected Status, Deportation, or Asylum for you and your spouse, as well as 4 additional petitions for relatives.
Family Law	The Legal Fund will represent you once every 5 years in Family Court except in the case of a substantial change in family circumstances. (The five-year requirement may be waived at the sole discretion of the director of the Legal Fund.) If there is a dispute between a 32BJ retiree and his/her spouse, the Legal Fund will only represent the 32BJ retiree.
Matrimonial Law	Divorce (limited to uncontested matters, once every 10 years).
Administrative Agency	Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security: The Legal Fund will conduct preliminary discussions on these issues with the retiree only. Upon request, you will receive a referral to a lawyer with expertise in these areas of the law. You will be responsible for the full cost of the lawyer.
Civil Litigation Law	Simple bankruptcy (not Chapter 13 reorganization cases) once every 8 years; Telephone advice only regarding Credit Reports, Debt, Home Improvement, and Lemon Law matters.
Property Law	Purchase or Sale of a Home – provided it is your primary residence - once every 10 years. Refinance once every 5 years.
Wills & Estates	Simple Wills (cannot include Trusts, Estates, or Tax Planning) once every 3 years except in the case of the death of a beneficiary or substantial gain or loss of assets; Small Estate Administration, including consultation and advice obtaining Letters of Administration (Court Authority to Administer Estates)

Will these legal services cost me anything?

The Legal Fund provides lawyers at no cost to you. The Legal Fund will also help you to pay litigation expenses up to \$6,000, as long as you use a Legal Fund attorney. You are responsible for the first \$500 of expenses and then the Legal Fund will pay half of all expenses over \$500 up to a maximum of \$6,000. The benefit does not cover the cost of title insurance or any other expense related to the purchase, sale or refinancing of a home.

The Legal Fund's Immigration Assistance Program helps cover more of the cost of immigration application fees, as long as you use a Legal Fund attorney. You pay just \$100 of the government fee for Citizenship, Relative Petitions and Adjustment of Status applications and the Legal Fund pays all of the rest.

Who will be my lawyer?

We have staff lawyers at 25 West 18th Street in Manhattan. For legal matters in other geographic areas, the Legal Services Fund will refer you to a cooperating attorney, which is a lawyer in private practice that the Legal Services Fund will pay to represent you.

ALL LEGAL MATTERS ARE
100% CONFIDENTIAL.

Please note: Coverage for eligible retirees is limited as set forth herein, in addition to any limitations stated in the Plan for Active Members. This is an outline of your legal benefits. It is not a Summary Plan Description (SPD) as defined by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). For a complete description of your benefits, please refer to your SPD, which is the official plan document. Your SPD is also available online at www.32bjfunds.org.