



**LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE (LRS)
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JUNE 1, 2025– MAY 31, 2026**

1. _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Initial)
2. _____
(Street Address) (Suite Number) (City/State/Zip)
3. _____
(Firm Name, if any) (Business Telephone Number)
4. _____
(Email Address)
5. Provide your Lee County Office address (if different from above).
Applicants must have an office in Lee County (registered with FL Bar) to be eligible to participate in the LRS.

(Street Address) (Suite Number) (City/State/Zip)

(Firm Name, if any) (Business Telephone Number)

(Email Address)
6. Paralegal/Legal Assistant _____
(Name) (Email Address)
7. Are you a member of the Lee County Bar Association? __Yes __No
8. List other counties where you practice regularly _____
9. Date admitted to The Florida Bar _____ Florida Bar # _____
10. In what other state(s) are you licensed to practice law? _____
11. Admitted to the Federal Bar? __Yes __No
12. Have any ethics complaints been filed against you? __Yes __No

Please answer all of the following (if not applicable please notate):

Investigating Agency: _____

Date of Complaint _____ Status of Complaint _____

* Please list all states in which complaints have been filed against you in: _____

13. Have you been the subject of an ethical grievance filed with any disciplinary authority or been personally Sanctioned by any court in this or any other jurisdiction in which you are admitted? ____ Yes ____ No

14. Engaged in private practice in Florida since _____

15. Engaged in private practice since _____

16. Foreign languages in which you are fluent _____

17. Have you ever been denied admission to any state bar? _____

Please include the following with your application:

____ Proof of your professional liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$100,000. This is an eligibility requirement.

____ Panel Selection– You may select an unlimited number of subpanels within your main panel selections.

____ *Include supporting documents when requested.

____ Member Annual non-refundable registration fee.

____ Non-Member Annual non-refundable registration fee.

____ LCBA Member \$150

____ LCBA Non-Member \$400

Payment Method of choice:

____ Credit Card

(Over the phone or via the CC authorization form– attached)

____ Check

(By mail or in person)

Please return signed application, supporting documents and a check payable to the Lee County Bar Association, 2077 First Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901.

For further questions and concerns please contact us at:

239-334-0047 ext. 101

LRS@leebar.org

Signature _____

Date _____

**LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

LOW FEE PANEL

In an effort to meet the varied legal needs of the public, the Lee County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service has established a Low Fee Panel. Your decision to join the Low Fee Panel will help meet the profession's responsibility of providing legal services to all Lee County residents.

INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

The individual qualifying for referral through this panel is entitled to a free 30-minute initial consultation. Participating attorneys then will consider the individual's financial obligations when determining additional fees for legal services. If the legal problem is one that can be handled easily, such as a will or an uncontested divorce, and the individual is genuinely in need of reduced rates, the fee should be lower than your regular rate. **The suggested rate is one-half your regular rate.** Participating attorneys are encouraged to use a payment plan or another method of assisting the individual in paying legal fees.

Initial determination of an individual's eligibility for this program is made by the Lawyer Referral Service Coordinator. Further determination of eligibility is to be made by your office during the initial consultation.

If the attorney determines that the individual has an income exceeding the Low Fee Panel guidelines, or is financially able to pay reasonable attorneys' fees, additional fees for legal services should be at the attorney's regular fee. Fee-generating cases, such as personal injury cases or any other tort cases, are not part of this reduced fee program and should, therefore, be handled through regular billing procedures.

The income eligibility guidelines for the Low Fee Panel are as follows:

Family Size	Yearly Gross Income
1	\$11,170.00
2	\$15,130.00
3	\$19,090.00
4	\$23,050.00
5	\$27,010.00
6	\$30,970.00
7	\$34,930.00
8	\$38,890.00

PANEL MEMBERSHIP

Any member in good standing of The Florida Bar with no pending probable cause complaints with The Florida Bar or the Supreme Court of Florida, who joins the Lee County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service on the Regular Panel, is eligible to participate on the Low Fee Panel. There is no extra charge for panel membership on the Low Fee Panel. If you wish to participate on the Low Fee Panel, please so indicate on the Membership Application.

As an attorney participating on the Low Fee Panel, you must agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Lee County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service, including carrying and continuing to carry \$100,000 of professional liability insurance.

The Lee County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service will refer individuals to participating attorneys on a rotation basis according to the type of case.

**LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JUNE 1, 2025– MAY 31, 2026**

PANEL MEMBER AGREEMENT

Reporting and Fee-sharing:

- Member agrees to remit an additional 10% of the total fees received from a referred client on the referred matter on fees over \$500 (except in Low Fee Panel Matters). However, if a percentage fee is for general representation (such as general corporate work) rather than a specific matter, the obligation for additional contributions shall apply only to fees earned for the services performed within the first year after the referral.
- Member agrees to report to LRS, in forms to be furnished by LRS, the disposition or status of referred matters with fourteen (14) days of the date of the request and fees received for service in connection therewith.
- Member agrees to remit required fee-sharing within fourteen (14) days after the receipt of payment of each such fee from the referred client.
- Member agrees to report all fees received, the date fees were paid, and submit the final client billing or settlement statement and submit payment in order for LRS to close and process a final status on a referred case.

Accepting Referrals:

- Member agrees to grant a free initial consultation of up to thirty-minutes to any client referred to him/her by LRS unless otherwise provided by law.
- Any charge for legal services beyond the initial consultation will reflect a reasonable attorney's fee, in keeping with the goal of increased access and service to the public. Panel members are not obligated to accept employment beyond the initial consultation.
- Member agrees to notify LRS of unavailability in writing. Referrals to a panel member will be suspended for the duration of the attorney's vacation, illness or other non-availability.
- **A member shall not refer a matter referred by LCBA LRS to another lawyer.** If he/she is not able to assist that client, the member will refer the client back to LRS to receive another referral. However, a member may permit a law firm associate, partner, or professional association member to conduct the necessary legal services under such member's guidance if the assisting lawyer is also a member of LRS and on the same area of practice list. If a panel member refers the client to another attorney, the panel member will continue to be responsible for the quality of the services performed, for all reports to the LRS and for the 10% remittance on the attorney's fees over \$500 as well as any fees earned within the first year of the case. The panel member is responsible for informing the associated counsel of this provision and for protecting the interest of the LCBA in all attorney's fees.

**LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JUNE 1, 2025– MAY 31, 2026**

PANEL MEMBER AGREEMENT

- If a member leaves the referred case with the firm after his/her departure, he/she will be responsible for ensuring that the status of all cases is reported to LRS and any fees due to the LRS are remitted in a timely manner. Former panel members will continue to receive the Matter Dues, and it will be their responsibility to contact their former firm to ask them to report the status of the cases to LRS and remit fees due.
- Member agrees to arbitrate fee disputes before the Fee Arbitration Program of The Florida Bar if the fee disputes arising between LRS and its members cannot be resolved through intervention by the Executive Director of the LCBA or the LRS Committee. The LRS may require members to open for inspection any financial or accounting records and the legal files regarding referral clients. The audit may include, but is not limited to, chart of accounts, general account records, court filing records, calendars, appointment records, time sheets, docket sheets, engagement letters, fee agreements, and contracts with LRS Clients.
- Member agrees to specifically abide by the Florida Bar Rules of Professional Conduct.
- Member agrees to maintain professional liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$100,000.00, to furnish a copy of the insurance policy or a certificate of insurance to LRS upon request, and to hold the Lee County Bar Association harmless from any claim made against it by a referred client on account of the member's alleged negligence or mistake.

The LRS may survey all or a portion of the LRS-referred clients to determine their satisfaction with the LRS and with the services provided by panel members. Survey results may be shared with panel members, and reports may be compiled from survey results for use by the LCBA.

Failure to abide by these rules may result in suspension or removal from LRS. Please review the bylaws for additional information.

Removal, suspension, or withdrawal from LRS does not relieve a panel member of his/her obligations to report on and remit funds for pending LRS cases, nor will any portion of the panel member's registration fees be refunded.

_____ I certify I have read and agree to the above mentioned rules and procedures for the LCBA LRS panel members.

Date _____

Signature _____

**LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JUNE 1, 2025– MAY 31, 2026**

LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE PANEL SELECTION

Select ***ALL*** areas of which you practice with an unlimited number of sub-categories. Only select areas for which you wish to receive referrals under the terms of the Lawyer Referral Service Rules and in which you concentrate your practice.

Administrative & Government

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Dept. of Insurance
- ☐ Educational Law
- ☐ Licensing
- ☐ Medicare/Medicaid
- ☐ School Law
- ☐ Social Security
- ☐ Unemployment
- ☐ Veterans Rights

Admiralty Law

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Contracts
- ☐ Tort Claims

Bankruptcy

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Debtors-Chapter 13
- ☐ Debtors-Chapter 7
- ☐ Repossession (Creditors)
- ☐ Repossession (Debtors)

Civil Litigation

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Claims
- ☐ Collections (County)
- ☐ Collections (Small Claims)
- ☐ Collections Defense
- ☐ Construction
- ☐ Contracts
- ☐ Defense
- ☐ Ecclesiastical
- ☐ Foreclosure
- ☐ Lemon Law/Automobile
- ☐ Libel/Slander
- ☐ Personal Property
- ☐ Small Claims
- ☐ Tax Controversies

Civil Rights

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Baker Act

Computer Law

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Cyber Law

Consumer Rights

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Collections Defense
- ☐ Credit
- ☐ Garnishment
- ☐ Repossessions
- ☐ Tenants Rights
- ☐ Warranties

Corporate & Business

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Anti-Trust
- ☐ Commercial Litigation
- ☐ Construction Litigation
- ☐ Contracts
- ☐ Customs
- ☐ Franchising
- ☐ Incorporation & Partnership
- ☐ Mechanics Lien
- ☐ Non-Profit Organization
- ☐ Pension & Profit Sharing
- ☐ Purchase & Sale
- ☐ Securities

Criminal Law

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ DUI
- ☐ Domestic Violence
- ☐ Federal
- ☐ Felony
- ☐ Juvenile
- ☐ Misdemeanor
- ☐ Parole & Probation
- ☐ Prisoner's Rights
- ☐ Traffic

Other:

Elder Law

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Nursing Home Abuse

Environmental Law

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Acquisition

Estates & Probate

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Baker Act
- ☐ Complex Estate
- ☐ Durable Power of Attorney
- ☐ Elder Law
- ☐ Guardianship
- ☐ Litigation
- ☐ Living Trust
- ☐ Living Wills
- ☐ Marchman Act
- ☐ Myer Act
- ☐ Probate
- ☐ Senior Will
- ☐ Simple Wills
- ☐ Testament Trust
- ☐ Wills & Trusts

Immigration Law

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Naturalization

Insurance

- ☐ Other/ All areas
- ☐ Automobile
- ☐ Personal Injury Protection
- ☐ Property
- ☐ Subrogation

**LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
JUNE 1, 2025– MAY 31, 2026**

LEE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE PANEL SELECTION FORM

Select ***ALL*** areas of which you practice with an unlimited number of sub-categories. Only select areas for which you wish to receive referrals under the terms of the Lawyer Referral Service Rules and in which you concentrate your practice.

Intellectual Property

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Trademark/Copyright

Labor & Employment

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Discrimination
- ☐ Employee Representation
- ☐ Employer Representation
- ☐ Employment Contracts
- ☐ Harassment

Landlord/Tenant

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Landlord
- ☐ Tenant

Malpractice

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Dental
- ☐ Legal
- ☐ Medical

Marital & Family

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Adoption
- ☐ Annulment
- ☐ Child Custody & Visitation
- ☐ Child Support
- ☐ Delinquency
- ☐ Department of Children & Families
- ☐ Dependency
- ☐ Dissolution (Contested)
- ☐ Dissolution (Uncontested)
- ☐ Domestic Abuse
- ☐ Emancipation
- ☐ Grandparents' Rights

- ☐ Guardianship
- ☐ Name Change
- ☐ Paternity
- ☐ Pre- and Post-Nuptial Agreements
- ☐ Separation
- ☐ Support Enforcement

Personal Injury & Negligence

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Automobile Accidents
- ☐ Defense
- ☐ Nursing Home Negligence
- ☐ Plaintiff
- ☐ Product Liability
- ☐ Property Damage

Real Property

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Commercial Real Estate
- ☐ Condominium & Time Share
- ☐ Condominium Associations
- ☐ Condominium Litigation
- ☐ Eminent Domain/Condemnation
- ☐ Foreclosure
- ☐ Homeowners Association
- ☐ Land Trust
- ☐ Liens
- ☐ Litigation
- ☐ Mobile Homes
- ☐ Property Transfer
- ☐ Sales & Leases
- ☐ Time Shares
- ☐ Zoning, Land Use & Permits

Social Security

- ☐ Other/All areas

- ☐ SSI
- ☐ Social Security Disability

Workers' Compensation

- ☐ Other/All areas
- ☐ Employee Representation
- ☐ Employer Representation
- ☐ Federal
- ☐ State/Local

Veterans' Rights

- ☐ Other/All areas

LOW FEE PANEL

- ☐ I agree to accept Low Fee cases in the areas of practice I have selected above.