



WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE BLACK SMALL BUSINESS & NONPROFIT COMMUNITY CLINIC

WHAT IS THE LEGAL CLINIC?

[Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP](#), a law firm, and [Legal Services Alabama](#), a legal aid organization, partner on this initiative to provide free legal consultations to new and established Black small business owners and nonprofit leaders with a range of business-oriented issues, including business formation, nonprofit formation, governance, contracts, and intellectual property (trademark and copyright). The clinic may provide other services, but those will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE CLINIC?

A team of attorneys will meet with you virtually to discuss your business-related questions. The meeting will last 30 minutes to an hour. The attorneys will introduce themselves and ask you to do the same. As part of your introduction, you will describe your business or nonprofit and explain the issues on which you need guidance. The attorneys will do their best to address your questions, but they may refer you to other resources or invite you to return to a future clinic.

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE FOR THE CLINIC?

You should be ready to describe your business or organization, its status, and your future plans. You will be asked to send your business registration documents in advance of your meeting. You should have them on hand during the meeting in case the attorneys have questions about them. It may help to prepare a list of questions that you want the attorneys to address during your meeting to make the best use of your time and theirs.

WILL THE INFORMATION THAT I PROVIDE TO THE ATTORNEYS BE CONFIDENTIAL?

Yes. Everything you share during your meetings will be kept confidential unless you give the attorneys permission to talk about anything you tell them outside of the clinic.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE CLINIC?

You will receive a short evaluation from Legal Services Alabama after the clinic. Please respond to it as it gives us the feedback that we need to keep improving the clinic. You may also receive a follow-up email from the attorneys summarizing what they discussed with you in the meeting and providing additional resources for you to consider.

WILL THE ATTORNEYS KEEP WORKING WITH ME AFTER THE CLINIC?

This is a legal consultation only initiative. The attorneys will do their best to answer your questions at the meeting, but we recognize they may not get to everything. The attorneys are not obligated to work with you after the clinic; however, we encourage you to return to the clinic if you need assistance after your initial meeting.

WHO CAN I CALL WITH QUESTIONS BEFORE AND/OR AFTER MY APPOINTMENT?

You can call Legal Services Alabama at **256-536-9645**.