



# The Thomas Jefferson Veterans Self-Help Clinic

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# The Clinic

- \* 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 6-8 pm @ TJS�.
- \* Appointment only - (619) 961-4369.
- \* 8 half hour time slots.
- \* Each slot staffed by an attorney and a law student.
- \* Additional resources available through clinic work room .

# The Clinic

- \* Limited Assistance Clients
- \* Must prove veteran status
- \* Must have (but not prove) income below California median (around \$43,000 for a single person).
- \* Will screen by subject matter.

# The Clinic

- \* No obligation or expectation of continuing legal services to any clinic client.
- \* No prohibition on continuing services on either a pro bono or fee for service basis either.
- \* Secondary malpractice insurance provided for work done on behalf of the clinic.

# Limited Legal Assistance

- \* Unbundling
- \* CRC 3.37; CRC 5.425 – Provide for limited scope representation by non-appearing attorneys.

# Formation of Attorney-Client Relationship

- \* Except when created by court appointment, the attorney-client relationship may be found to exist based on the intent and conduct of the parties and the reasonable expectations of the potential client. Cal. Bar Ethics Committee Formal Op. 2003-164.
- \* The reasonable expectations of the prospective client are entitled to great weight. *Responsible Citizens v. Superior Court*, 16 Cal.App.4th 1717, 1733 (1993).

# Confidentiality

- \* ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct
- \* Rule 1.18(b)
- \* Even when no client-lawyer relationship ensues, a lawyer who has had discussions with a prospective client shall not use or reveal information learned in the consultation, except as Rule 1.9 would permit with respect to information of a former client.

# Conflicts of Interest

- \* Cal. R. Prof. Conduct 1-650
- \* A member who, under the auspices of a program sponsored by a court, government agency, bar association, law school, or nonprofit organization, provides short-term limited legal services to a client without expectation by either the member or the client that the member will provide continuing representation in the matter:
  - \* (1) is subject to rule 3-310 only if the member knows that the representation of the client involves a conflict of interest; and
  - \* (2) has an imputed conflict of interest only if the member knows that another lawyer associated with the member in a law firm would have a conflict of interest under rule 3-310 with respect to the matter.



# Solicitation of Clients

- \* CRPC 1-400 ...
- \* B) For purposes of this rule, a "solicitation" means any communication:
  - \* (1) Concerning the availability for professional employment of a member or a law firm in which a significant motive is pecuniary gain; and
  - \* (2) Which is:
    - \* (a) delivered in person