

# CUSTODY- HOW TO OBTAIN A LAWYER

First Contact - CALL MidPenn Legal Services (MPLS) **717-232-0581**  
www.midpenn.org 213-A N. Front St. Hbg.

Applicant screened for financial eligibility by MPLS

Not financially eligible

Financially eligible  
<125% Fed. Poverty Guidelines\*

Case "conflict" for MPLS?

**YWCA Legal Clinic**  
 Domestic Violence / Sexual Assault victim  
 <230% Fed. Pov  
 Merit screening\*  
**238-7273**

Area Agency on Aging  
 > 59 free  
**255-2790**

**D. Co Bar Lawyer Referral 232-7536 #2**  
 Referred to:  
 1. Area Agency on Aging if > 59 free 255-2790  
 2. Modest Means (\$500 initial retainer) Attorney  
 3. Neighborhood Dispute free Mediation **233-8255**  
 4. Attorney to hire

No Yes

**D. Co. Bar Pro Bono Program**  
 (Free Volunteer Atty.)

If Domestic Violence present

Client interview  
 Merit screening\*

MPLS non-priority case\*

MPLS Staff Attorney

MPLS priority case\*

**Widener Law School Legal Clinic**

D. Co. Bar/MPLS Custody Clinics

\***Merit screening**- Applicant interviewed to determine the legal issues, factual background and parties' positions to assess the level of service required and appropriate referral  
 \***MPLS "priority" case** - Involves issues and/or facts which fall within MPLS's policies governing cases to be accepted by the program. Non-priority cases are referred to other legal service providers.  
 \***Modest Means Atty.** -Applicant < 200% Fed. Pod. Guideline Income. Pay Atty. \$500 retainer towards reduced \$50 /hr. rate for 1<sup>st</sup> 10 hours.