



COVID-19 affects more than health.

Introducing COVID HELP, a free online tool to help Illinoisans get legal help during the COVID crisis

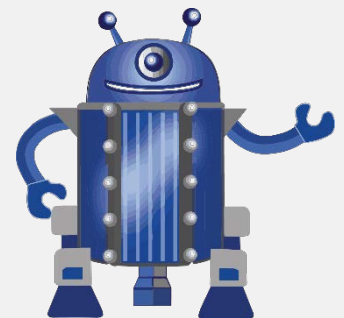
Nearly half a million Illinoisans are unemployed and thousands more face an abrupt and significant loss of income after the illness or death of a family member due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Since the pandemic began eight months ago, there have been efforts to provide relief to those who have lost their income. As several of those relief efforts end in Illinois on Dec. 14, legal professionals are anticipating a record number of evictions, foreclosures, and debt lawsuits.

COVID HELP (Housing and Economic Loss Prevention) is a statewide initiative to provide no-cost legal guidance and representation to Illinoisans experiencing common legal problems due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Illinois residents can access free legal assistance 24/7 at [COVIDhelpillinois.org](https://www.COVIDhelpillinois.org), from their smartphones or computers.

COVID HELP offers a team of virtual legal assistants, including Gigi, pictured at right. Created by a team of legal aid attorneys, each virtual assistant address common, pandemic-related issues facing Illinoisans:

- Personal debt and bankruptcy
- Housing (landlord/tenant, eviction, and foreclosure)
- Employment
- Unemployment
- Wills, estates and guardianship



Many legal problems are not simple and with the law changing often, people need up-to-date information.

COVID HELP and its virtual legal assistants were created by a collaboration of CARPLS, the Lawyers Trust Fund, the Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing, The Chicago Bar Foundation, the Westside Justice Center, Illinois Legal Aid Online, and many other organizations providing free legal services around the state.

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