

WELCOME TO THE BERKS COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

We will help you if we can, and we will treat everyone equally, including people with disabilities. However, we are limited by law and are unable to provide legal advice. **WE RECOMMEND YOU CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY.**

This is a list of some things the staff CAN and CANNOT do for you.

CAN answer general questions about how the Court works

CANNOT give legal advice or legal interpretations

CAN provide you with the telephone number and address for the local lawyer referral service, legal services program, and the law library

CANNOT refer you to specific lawyers or contact programs or lawyers for you

CAN give you general information about court rules, terminology, procedures and practices

CANNOT advise you as to how the court rules and procedures will be applied to your case

CAN refer you to the Law Library to find statutes, court rules and ordinances

CANNOT research the statutes, court rules or ordinances for you

CAN give you public case information

CANNOT give you confidential case information

CAN give you court forms and written instructions that are available and answer some basic questions regarding the completion of the forms, such as, where to put the caption

CANNOT fill out forms for you or give you advice on how to fill them out, UNLESS, you have a physical disability that prevents you from completing the form on your own

CAN check your forms to see if they are complete

CANNOT tell you how to correct forms

CAN answer general questions that court appeal deadlines exist

CANNOT tell you what specific deadlines apply to your case

CAN provide information about the court Schedule

CANNOT change an order issued by a Judge

CAN provide referrals to the Pennsylvania Self-help center, www.palawhelp.org

CANNOT tell you what to file or what to say in court

CAN provide directions to Courtrooms and appropriate key offices such as the Law Library, Clerk of Courts, Prothonotary's Office, and Sheriff's Office

CANNOT deny access, discourage access for encourage litigation

CANNOT let you talk to a Judge outside of court

CANNOT predict the outcome of a case

CANNOT recommend whether or not to appeal a decision