Secondary Consultations

with the Seniors Legal and Support Service

SECONDARY CONSULTATIONS ARE A FORM OF INDIRECT LEGAL HELP

Secondary consultations are useful to gather more information if the older person is not yet ready for a referral, or wants to know more about their legal options or the process before speaking to the lawyer or social worker.

You may wish to confidentially discuss legal issues a person is experiencing with a lawyer from the Seniors Legal and Support Service (SLASS), or talk about socio-economic issues a person might be experiencing with a SLASS social worker.

NO NEED TO IDENTIFY THE PERSON

In order to comply with Caxton Community Legal Centre's privacy law obligations, no personal, confidential or sensitive information will need to be shared during secondary consultations. This means that you can call to discuss the person's issues without identifying them by name, for example:

I have a person saying ... what sort of legal advice would you give?

You can use hypothetical scenarios if that is your preference:

Hypothetically, if an adult is emotionally abusing their senior parent or relative by threatening to hurt them if they did not give them money, would you describe that as elder abuse?

Secondary consultations can help you explain some legal processes to the person. You can ask questions such as:

Do you have to appear in person for a DVO application?

Can you recover money that was loaned if there was never a written agreement to repay it?

You can also use secondary consultation to better support a person. For example, you can inquire about the social supports that are available for that person.

CONTACT AND REFERRAL

The lawyer or social worker will be available to discuss de-identified matters of the person, explain key legal issues and provide legal information or social support information to you for the benefit of the person, or provide referrals where the information is not within their scope of work.

Secondary Consultations with the Seniors Legal and Support Service

If you want to make a direct referral to SLASS, or have concerns about family conflict and information sharing with SLASS, please contact the social worker.

For a secondary consultation, please call:

- one of our SLASS lawyers:
  Alex Ladd 0400 854 423
  Jessica Sebastian (07) 3187 8104
  Stephanie Saint James (07) 3214 6306
- our community social worker Sally Richardson 0427 727 399
- the SLASS client services desk on (07) 3187 7187 or 1800 229 866

CAXTON COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE

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