



MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL SERVICE

The Mental Health Legal Service (MHLS) is a specialist legal service dedicated to providing free legal assistance in relation to mental health law in Queensland. The treatment and protection of people who have mental illness in Queensland is governed by the Mental Health Act 2000 (Qld).

Assistance is free, confidential and independent of Queensland Health or the Mental Health Review Tribunal.

What type of work does the MHLS do?

The focus of the service is to provide advice and representation to people who have matters before the Mental Health Review Tribunal. This includes:

- Review of an involuntary treatment order
- Review of a forensic order
- An application for electroconvulsive therapy.
- An application to have an involuntary patient move out of Queensland.

Assistance can range from providing one off legal advice, preparing written submissions, making referrals and representing clients before the Mental Health Review Tribunal.

We do not provide representation before the Mental Health Court. If you require assistance for a Mental Health Court matter, please contact Legal Aid Queensland on 1300 65 11 88

If the MHLS cannot assist an individual, we will try to refer the person to another organisation who may be able to assist.

Who does the MHLS assist?

The MHLS will only assist people who are consumers of mental health services. The MHLS is respectful of and encourages the assistance of family, friends and other support people. However, unless exceptional circumstances exist, only a consumer of mental health services can be a client of the MHLS.

Priority for assistance is given to people who are in-patients.

The MHLS is a Brisbane-based service, unless effective assistance can be provided by telephone.

How do I get help?

Please contact us on (07) 3844 4200. You will be required to provide the MHLS with certain personal details which are necessary for the MHLS to perform its functions. All personal information is treated as strictly confidential.