

JOIN THE MILWAUKEE BAR ASSOCIATION'S
LAWYER REFERRAL AND INFORMATION SERVICE

Registration: \$150/yr. \$295
non-MBA member rate

For more information, contact
Director Britt Wegner at
bwegner@milwbar.org or by
phone at (414)276-5931



HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE MBA'S LRIS

Fill out this form and sign twice on the reverse side

1. Include a copy of the declarations page of your professional liability insurance policy
2. Make a copy of both sides of this form for your records
3. Include a check for the \$100 registration fee, made payable to 'Milwaukee Bar Association LRIS
4. If you are not an MBA member, please include a check for the non-MBA member panel rate of \$150
5. If you are interested in joining an LRIS Experience Panel, please refer to the separate registration form* and complete

<p>LRIS CASE TYPES</p> <p><i>Debtor</i> <i>Creditor</i></p> <p>Bankruptcy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Business Bankruptcy <input type="checkbox"/> Debt Consolidation <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Bankruptcy</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Business and Taxes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Banking <input type="checkbox"/> Collections <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Franchises <input type="checkbox"/> Income Tax <input type="checkbox"/> Investments <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profits <input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships/Corporations <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase/Sale of Business <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p> <hr/> <p><i>Defendant</i> <i>Plaintiff</i></p> <p>Consumer</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Debt Collection/Credit Reports <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon Law <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p> <hr/> <p>Criminal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Federal* <input type="checkbox"/> Felonies* <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile and JIPS <input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanors</p> <hr/> <p><i>Defendant</i> <i>Plaintiff</i></p> <p>Discrimination</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> ADA <input type="checkbox"/> Age <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Racial <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Harassment <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p>	<p><i>Employer</i> <i>Employee</i></p> <p>Employment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disability Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Employment Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> ERISA <input type="checkbox"/> FMLA <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Compete Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Pensions <input type="checkbox"/> Severance Packages <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployment Compensation <input type="checkbox"/> Wrongful Termination <input type="checkbox"/> Worker's Compensation <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental</p> <hr/> <p>Estate/Probate</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Decedents Estates <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare/Medicaid <input type="checkbox"/> POA <input type="checkbox"/> Trusts <input type="checkbox"/> Wills <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p> <hr/> <p>Family</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adoption <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support <input type="checkbox"/> CHIPS <input type="checkbox"/> Custody <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce <input type="checkbox"/> Grandparents Rights <input type="checkbox"/> Guardianship <input type="checkbox"/> Name Changes <input type="checkbox"/> Paternity <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Judgment Divorce* <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-nuptial Agreements <input type="checkbox"/> School Issues <input type="checkbox"/> Termination of Parental Rights <input type="checkbox"/> Visitation <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p>	<p>Government</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing and Regulation <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Affairs <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p> <hr/> <p>Immigration</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship <input type="checkbox"/> Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> Green Cards <input type="checkbox"/> VISA's <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p> <hr/> <p>Intellectual Property</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Copyrights/Trademarks <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Patents <input type="checkbox"/> Software/Internet Law <input type="checkbox"/> (Other)</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Landlord <input type="checkbox"/> Tenant</p> <hr/> <p>Malpractice*</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Provider* <input type="checkbox"/> Legal* <input type="checkbox"/> Other Professionals*</p> <hr/> <p><i>Defendant</i> <i>Plaintiff</i></p> <p>Personal Injury/Torts</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Defective Products <input type="checkbox"/> General P.I. <input type="checkbox"/> HIPAA Privacy Violations</p> <hr/> <p>Real Estate</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Condo/Timeshare <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial</p> <hr/> <p>Social Security</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Adults <input type="checkbox"/> Children</p> <hr/> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/MOV's</p>	
	<p>Please check if you would be willing to do any of the following:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Small Claims <input type="checkbox"/> Installment Payments Possible <input type="checkbox"/> Evening/Weekend Appointments</p>		

*This field requires a separate experience panel registration

Name: _____ Firm: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ States Licensed In: _____

Foreign Languages: _____ Would you like to receive daily confirmation reports? ___Fax ___Email ___US Mail

ATTORNEY AGREEMENT

I am licensed to practice law in Wisconsin and am a member in good standing. I have read and agree to be bound by the LRIS Rules Governing Panel Membership which are incorporated herein by reference. I represent that I am competent to handle referrals in the categories I have marked. I agree to render an additional one-half hour consultation for a fee not to exceed \$20. I will remit to the MBA a referral fee of 10% of gross fees paid and collected on all LRIS referred cases generating \$200 or more and 15% of gross fees exceeding \$10,000 on cases. I agree to maintain professional liability insurance as per Section III.3 of the Panel Rules during the period of my membership. I agree to notify LRIS of any changes in my professional liability carrier or status with the State Bar of Wisconsin. I agree to provide a copy of my declaration page of my insurance policy.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

RULES GOVERNING PANEL MEMBERSHIP

Section I. Purpose

These rules govern the operation of the Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) sponsored by the Milwaukee Bar Association, Inc. (MBA). The purpose is to provide a service to the community in selecting the appropriate resource for assistance with legal problems, as well as a benefit to the members. Often people do not know where to turn for legal service and this referral service plan assists the public in readily obtaining legal advice and service from an attorney.

Section II. Governance

LRIS will be operated under the general supervision of the Lawyer Referral and Information Service Committee (Committee) of the MBA, which shall have the authority to adopt and implement policies consistent with these Rules. Day to day operations shall be under the direct supervision of the Director of LRIS and the general supervision of the Executive Director of the MBA. Amendment of the Rules requires approval of the Board of Directors of the MBA submitted in writing.

Section III. Conditions of Panel Membership

1. A member is obligated to immediately notify the LRIS in writing if the member has a formal complaint with the Supreme Court or the equivalent thereof in every jurisdiction or if there are any restrictions on their license through the Office of Lawyer Regulation, as well as suspension or revocation of their license in any jurisdiction in which they practice. In the event that any of these situations apply, the Committee will act as they see fit.
2. Panel members must be presently engaged in the private practice of law.
3. All panel attorneys must carry professional liability insurance, at least to the minimum offering under the Wisconsin State Bar sponsored program, and must agree to maintain such coverage during the entirety of their LRIS membership. The attorney must immediately report in writing to the LRIS about the lapse, expiration, termination, or replacement of said insurance.
4. Panel members may elect to accept referrals only in fields of law in which they consider themselves competent, or must have the active and ongoing supervision of an attorney experienced in such areas, consistent with Wisconsin Supreme Court Rules 20:7.1, 20:7.4, and within the registration fee guidelines outlined below in Section IV.1 of these Rules.
5. The charge for the initial thirty (30) minute consultation with a referral client shall be no more than twenty (20) dollars. If the attorney is retained to provide further services, the panel member shall advise the referral client how he/she charges for additional professional services. This will be determined prior to providing such further services.
6. Panel members agree in advance to the submission of any fee dispute with a referral client relating to the initial referral only to binding arbitration by the MBA Fee Arbitration Committee, if the client consents to such arbitration.

7. Consistent with Supreme Court Rule 20:6.1 and 20:6.2, panel members are encouraged to enter into reduced fee arrangements when a referral client's resources may require.
8. Referrals to panel members shall be made on an impartial rotation basis. However, geographical location of the attorney, as well as languages spoken and other states licensed in, shall be considered when so requested by the client.
9. Failure to return LRIS Monthly Accounting of Referrals form within thirty (30) days of the date on the letter containing such form will result in suspension from the referral rotation until full compliance has been achieved.
10. Failure to return all fees owed to the LRIS within thirty (30) days of date on the Monthly Accounting of Referrals form will result in immediate suspension from the panel, with full responsibility for all fees owed, as well as reporting to the Office of Lawyer Regulation or other action if deemed necessary by the Committee.
11. Failure to update insurance forms as stated in Section III, Rule 3 will result in immediate suspension from the panel until current forms are submitted.
12. If for any reason the designated attorney is not retained, the members shall refer the client back to the LRIS.
13. Panel members may not transfer a referral to any attorney in an outside firm. However, if a panel attorney does transfer a referral to another attorney at the same firm, the original panel attorney is responsible for the referral, is still obligated to pay all fees owed to LRIS, and submit to fee arbitration as specified in Section III, Rule 6 per the client's request. Violation of this rule may result in suspension or termination from the panel at the discretion of the Committee.
14. Mediators are required to have a minimum of 30 hours mediator training before listing as a mediator on the LRIS Panel. Early Neutral Evaluators must have substantial experience in the substantive area identified.
15. MBA Membership of LRIS Panel attorneys will be handled in compliance with rule IV of the American Bar Association's Model Supreme Court Rules Governing Lawyer Referral & Information Services.
16. For LRIS Experience Panel procedures, see attached registration form.

3. Members shall provide each potential client, as a result of an LRIS referral, a consultation fee of no more than \$20 for the first half-hour. Members may waive this fee for any cases they choose. All other fees shall be negotiated between the client and the attorney.

Section IV. Payment of Registration and Referral Fees

1. Members shall pay an annual registration of \$100.00 or \$150.00 for non-MBA members (unless special circumstances apply), for which fee members may register to receive referrals in any of the substantive fields of law: [See table on reverse]
2. On any referral that generates an attorney's gross fee of

\$200 or more, regardless of the area of law that the referral is made, the member agrees to remit ten percent (10%) of such fee to the MBA within thirty (30) days from date of the letter on the LRIS Monthly Accounting of Referrals form. For cases that yield fees in excess of \$10,000, the referral fee is 10% of the first \$10,000 in gross fees and 15% of any gross fees beyond the first \$10,000. All fees paid to the Lawyer Referral Service will be used to cover LRIS expenses or similar public service programs

Example 1: \$20,000 contingency fee paid to the attorney. The first \$10,000 remits 10%, totaling \$1,000. The remaining \$10,000 remits 15%, totaling \$1,500. The total amount to remit to the LRIS in trust for a \$20,000 case is \$2,500.

Example 2: \$8,000 initial retainer fee paid for a criminal defense case. Before the trial, an additional \$6,000 is charged, totaling \$14,000 in fees. After final payment is received and the case is closed, the first \$10,000 remits 10%, totaling \$1,000. The remaining \$4,000 remits 15%, totaling \$600. The total amount to remit to the LRIS in trust for a \$14,000 case is \$1,600.

Section V. Enforcement

If in the Committee's opinion, there is reasonable cause to believe a Panel member has violated these Rules or policies of Panel membership, the Committee may bring the matter up to the Board of Directors of the MBA for disciplinary proceedings as described in the by-laws of the MBA. Disputes regarding referral fees that may be due the MBA, if not resolved between the attorney and the LRIS Committee, shall be resolved through arbitration by the Fee Arbitration Committee of the MBA. Unpaid referral fees owed to the MBA shall accrue interest at the rate of 12% per annum until paid. The decision of the Fee Arbitration Committee shall be binding upon both parties. Repeated violation of any conditions of Panel membership may result in removal from the Panel. LRIS also retains the right to contact the Office of Lawyer Regulation at any time to determine if there have been any prior suspensions or revocations of the attorney's license. In the event that there has been, the Committee will decide whether or not that attorney is eligible to participate on the panel. No LRIS panel attorney has the right to use the LRIS name or logo without prior permission from the Committee, and should this be violated, the Committee will determine what repercussions are appropriate.