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Individuals with SCI, often as a result of their injury, have problems or issues that require qualified professional advice, ranging from paying for medical services, to ensuring that their rights to fair housing, employment and access are protected. This chapter includes legal and advocacy services and books that are available for persons with SCI. The agencies listed below have experience working with disability issues.

### **Adult Protective Services**

408/928-3860

591 N. King Rd.

San Jose, CA 95133

- Advocates for dependent adults
- Abuse reporting agency

### **American Civil Liberties Union**

415/621-2488

1663 Mission St., Suite 460

San Francisco, CA 94103

- Free legal advice on civil liberty issues

### **Asian Law Alliance**

408/287-9710

184 E. Jackson St.

San Jose, CA 95112-5153

- Free legal advice to people of any nationality in Santa Clara County
- Legal representation for immigration, housing, domestic violence and public benefits issues
- Translation services, as available, for people who speak Vietnamese, Chinese, Cantonese, Mandarin and Laotian

### **California Rural Legal Assistance**

415/777-2752

631 Howard Street, Suite 300

San Francisco, CA 94105-3907

- Assistance with wage claims, unemployment, and state disability
- 15 branches throughout California

Branches:

2115 Kern Street, Suite 370

Fresno, CA 93721

209/441-8721

7949 Wren Ave., Suite B

Gilroy, CA 95021

408/847-1408

# 14. Legal and Advocacy Services

## California Rural Legal Assistance Branches (cont.)

117 South Lake St.  
Madera, CA 93638  
209/674-5671  
After Hours: 209/674-5672

818 "D" Street  
P.O. Box 2600  
Marysville, CA 95901  
530/742-5191  
After Hours: 530/742-5194

1020 15th Street, Suite 11  
Modesto, CA 95354  
209/577-3811  
After Hours: 209/577-3814

215 S. Coast Highway, Suite 201  
Oceanside, CA 92054  
619/966-0511

1732 Spring Street  
Paso Robles, CA 93446  
805/239-3708

2424 "K" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916/446-7901

3 Williams Rd.  
Salinas, CA 93905  
831/757-5221

1160 Marsh Street, Suite 114  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
805/544-7997

2050 G South Broadway  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
805/922-4563

725 Farmers Lane, Suite 10  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
707/528-9941

242 N. Sutter, Ste 411  
Stockton, CA 95202  
209/946-0605  
After Hours: 209/946-0629

## Catholic Charities Immigration Program

408/468-0100  
Spanish: 408/944-0691  
Vietnamese: 408/944-0362  
2625 Zanker Rd, Suite 201  
San Jose, CA 95134

- Visas and petitions for low income immigrants

## 14. Legal and Advocacy Services

### **Central Coast Center for Independent Living**

831/462-8720  
FAX: 831/462-8727  
1395 41st Ave., Ste B  
Capitola, CA 95010

234 Capitol St., Ste A  
Salinas, CA 93901

831/757-2968  
FAX: 831/757-5549

- Information and referral
- Advocacy

### **Client Assistance Program (CAP)**

#### **Dept. of Rehabilitation Ombudsman**

916/322-5066  
800/952-5544  
830 "K" Street Mall, Room 308  
Sacramento, CA 95814

- CAP advocates between the consumer and the Department of Rehabilitation to help resolve problems such as those related to consumer's rights and responsibilities and personality conflicts between the consumer and counselor

### **Disability Rights Advocates**

510/451-8644  
FAX: 510/451-8511  
449 15th Street, Suite 303  
Oakland, CA 94612-2821

- Non-profit law center for people with disabilities
- Legal representation for people with disabilities
- Publishes consumer handbooks

## 14. Legal and Advocacy Services

### **Disability Rights Education of Defense Fund (DREDF)**

800/466-4232

202/986-0375

1629 "K" Street, NW, Suite 803

Washington, DC 20009

Website: <[www.dredf.org](http://www.dredf.org)>

2212 Sixth Street

Berkeley, CA 94710

510/644-2555

- Information and referral on disability rights, laws and policies
- Legal representation to adults and children with disabilities involving their rights to employment, education, transportation, housing and access to public accommodation
- ADA training

### **Friends Outside**

408/295-6033

551 Stockton Ave.

San Jose, CA 95126

- This organization helps with people who are in jail or prison

### **Independent Living Resource Center of San Francisco**

415/543-6222

FAX: 415/543-6318

649 Mission Street, 3rd Floor

San Francisco, CA 94105

- Advocacy/human rights
- Attorney referrals
- San Francisco residents
- ADA discrimination

### **Kato and Feder**

415/974-5715

685 Market Street, Suite 490

San Francisco, CA 94105

- General civil practice with a focus on the legal issues facing people who are elderly or disabled

## 14. Legal and Advocacy Services

### **La Raza Centro Legal**

415/575-3500

474 Valencia Street, Suite 295

San Francisco, CA 94103

- Referrals and free legal service for low-income persons
- Spanish speaking

### **Legal Aid Society of Santa Clara County**

408/998-5200

480 N. First St.,

San Jose, CA 95112

Mailing:

P.O. Box 103

San Jose, CA 95103-0103

Website: <[www.legalaidsociety.org](http://www.legalaidsociety.org)>

- Immigration services
- Help with housing discrimination
- Family law
- Special education

### **Robert Ludlow, Esq.**

831/475-5592

365 Lake Ave.

P.O. Box 1184

Santa Cruz, CA 95061

- Attorney with a specialized interest in traumatic brain injury & SCI

### **Mental Health Advocacy Project**

408/294-9730

FAX: 408/293-0106

111 W. St. John St., Suite 315

San Jose, CA 95113

E-mail: [MHAP@lawfoundation.org](mailto:MHAP@lawfoundation.org)

- Provides services to those who have a mental health diagnosis, are developmentally disabled, or have a traumatic brain injury
- Patient rights
- Landlord/tenant rights
- Economic rights

# 14. Legal and Advocacy Services

## **Pacific Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center**

800/949-4232

2168 Shattuck Ave., Suite 301

Berkeley, CA 94704

- ADA information line

## **Patient Advocate Foundation**

800/532-5274

FAX: 757/873-8999

753 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite B

Newport News, VA 23606

E-mail: [help@patientadvocate.org](mailto:help@patientadvocate.org)

Website: <[www.patientadvocate.org](http://www.patientadvocate.org)>

- Organization serves as a liaison between patients and their insurers, employers and/or creditors
- Helps people resolve insurance, job discrimination and/or debt crisis matters resulting from their illness or disability

## **Protection and Advocacy**

800/776-5746

510/839-0811

FAX: 510/839-5780

449 15th, #401

Oakland, CA 94612

- Legal assistance for mental health consumers
- Must have a mental illness or emotional impairment and/or have been released in the last 90 days from a mental health facility

## **Redwood Caregiver Resource Center**

707/542-0282

P.O. Box 1556

Santa Rosa, CA 95402

- State funded agency that offers counseling, respite care and legal aid

## **San Mateo County Aging and Adult Services**

800/675-8437

225 W. 37th Ave.

San Mateo, CA 94403

- Adult Protective Services
- Public guardians
- Case management
- In-home support

## 14. Legal and Advocacy Services

### **Schneider and McCormac Attorneys at Law**

415/440-3440

415/440-3640

FAX: 415/342-0763

1700 California Street, Suite 340

San Francisco, CA 94104

- Civil litigation with an emphasis on disability rights work
- Ask for Social Worker/Advocacy Worker on duty
- Assists disabled General Assistance clients to access Social Security System

### **Silicon Valley Independent Living Center**

408/894-9041

FAX: 408/894-9050

2306 Zanker Rd.

San Jose, CA 95131

Website: <[www.svilc.org](http://www.svilc.org)>

Gilroy office:

408/847-1805

7415 Egleberry Street, Suite C

Gilroy, CA 95020

- Bilingual (Spanish) and attorney-directed representation in public benefits appeals as well as individual and system advocacy for an integrative, barrier-free community

### **U.S. Department of Justice**

Civil Rights Division

800/514-0301

- ADA information line available 24 hours/day
- ADA publications available

### **Victim Witness Assistance Program**

408/295-2656

777 North First Street, Suite 500

San Jose, CA 95112

E-mail: [VWAC@victim.org](mailto:VWAC@victim.org)

- Crisis intervention
- Emergency assistance
- Resource and referral
- In-court support
- Education on the court system

# 14. Legal and Advocacy Services

## **Victims of Crime Resource Center**

800/842-8467

University of the Pacific

McGeorge School of Law

3200 5th Ave.

Sacramento, CA 95817

- Legal referrals and information to victims of crime and referrals to local victim Witness Assistance Offices for compensation under the Victims of Crime Act

## **BOOKS**

*Addressing Discrimination Against Persons With Disabilities:*

*Self-Help and the Civil Rights Lawyer*

Contact: Thomas E. Frankovich

415/673-2733

One Daniel Burnham Court, Suite 391C

San Francisco, CA 94109

- Concise 14 page paper that can assist advocates in making factual determinations
- Includes case examples and samples of letters and telephone documentation

*Legal Rights for the Catastrophically Ill and Injured*

Rosenstein and Romano, P.C.

800/331-4134

610/279-3900

Commonwealth Bank Plaza

2 West Lafayette Street, Suite 120

Norristown, PA 19401

- Book is free