

# Community Legal Centre (CLC) Referral Sheet (Criminal Law)

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### Who is this Infosheet for?

This Infosheet is designed to provide referral and contact information for Community Legal Centres (CLCs) operating in Victoria, specifically those assisting with **criminal law matters (crimes, offences, infringements)**. CLCs are independent organisations providing free or low-cost legal assistance to members of the community, including legal advice and casework services as well as education and advocacy. If you are unable to afford private legal representation or assistance, CLCs may be able to help you with your legal matter.

**If you need urgent legal assistance or advice, call Victoria Legal Aid (VLA) at 1300 792 387, Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm.**

**If you or another person are at immediate risk of harm, call 000.**

If you are unsure which CLC may be able to help you, you can call the **Federation of Community Legal Centres (FCLC)** at **(03) 9652 1500** for assistance in finding the right CLC for you.

Please see below for a list of some CLCs in Victoria that are **able to assist with a criminal law matter**.<sup>1</sup> This not a comprehensive list. The ASRC does not make any endorsements or assurances as to the quality of any legal assistance received from any of the CLCs listed below.

Please note that **a number of CLCs may have closed their offices** or are not currently operating or operating with a reduced capacity due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. **You should not attempt to visit a CLC's office without checking to see if they are currently open and should not do so if it would be a breach of current COVID-19 isolation or lockdown laws.** Check the relevant CLC's website for more information and call or email before attending an office.

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<sup>1</sup> All CLCs listed are registered with the Federation of Community Legal Centres (FCLC). You can learn more about the FCLC's work at the following link: <https://www.fclc.org.au/>

Victorian Community Legal Centres	Where is it and who can access it?	What type of legal matters can they help me with?	How can I get in contact and get help?
<b>Fitzroy Legal Service</b>	<p><b>Address:</b> 126 Moor St, Fitzroy Library Fitzroy, VIC 3065</p> <p><b>Open to:</b> any person living in the Fitzroy and Darebin regions.</p>	<p><b>Assists with:</b> most general legal matters, including <u>criminal law</u>, <u>traffic offences</u>, motor vehicle accidents</p>	<p><b>Phone:</b> (03) 9419 3744  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:enquiries@fitzroy-legal.org.au">enquiries@fitzroy-legal.org.au</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.fitzroy-legal.org.au">www.fitzroy-legal.org.au</a></p>
<b>Inner Melbourne Community Legal Centre</b>	<p><b>Address:</b> 508 Queensbury St North Melbourne, VIC 3051</p> <p><b>Open to:</b> any person on low income and living in the Melbourne City District, Docklands, West Melbourne, North Melbourne, Carlton and Parkville regions.</p>	<p><b>Assists with:</b> most general legal matters, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Family law and family violence;</li> <li>● <u>Criminal law</u>;</li> <li>● VOCAT applications.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Phone:</b> (03) 9328 1885  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@imcl.org.au">info@imcl.org.au</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.imcl.org.au">www.imcl.org.au</a></p>
<b>Monash Law Clinic</b>	<p><b>Address:</b> 60 Beddoe Ave Clayton North, VIC 3168</p> <p><b>Open to:</b> any person living, working or studying in Melbourne or Clayton.</p>	<p><b>Assists with:</b> most general legal matters, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Criminal charges</u>;</li> <li>● Traffic offences;</li> <li>● Infringements;</li> <li>● Car accidents;</li> <li>● Family law and family violence;</li> <li>● Intervention orders;</li> <li>● Tenancy;</li> <li>● Centrelink;</li> <li>● Contracts;</li> </ul>	<p><b>Phone:</b> 1800 860 333  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:law-clinics@monash.edu">law-clinics@monash.edu</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.monashlawclinics.com.au/">https://www.monashlawclinics.com.au/</a></p>
<b>Victoria Legal Aid (VLA)</b>	<p><b>Address:</b> Melbourne, VIC</p> <p><b>Open to:</b> <u>any person</u> needing legal advice or representation in court.</p>	<p><b>Assists with:</b> providing <u>legal advice and representation in the certain courts and tribunals</u> for certain criminal offences and infringements. VLA may also be able to provide you with a</p>	<p><b>Phone (Mon – Fri, 8am – 5pm):</b> 1300 792 387  <b>Email:</b> N/A  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/find-legal-answers/family-violence-">https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/find-legal-answers/family-violence-</a></p>

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		<p>grant to allow you to pay for private legal representation or advice.</p> <p>To find out more about getting free legal advice:  <a href="https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/get-legal-services-and-advice/free-legal-advice">https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/get-legal-services-and-advice/free-legal-advice</a></p> <p>To find out more about arranging for a lawyer to represent you in court:  <a href="https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/get-legal-services-and-advice/free-legal-advice/get-help-court">https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/get-legal-services-and-advice/free-legal-advice/get-help-court</a></p>	<p><a href="#">intervention-orders/get-help</a></p> <p><b>Website 2 (free legal information):</b>  <a href="https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/find-legal-answers">https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/find-legal-answers</a></p> <p><b>Website 3 (online legal help chat, Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm):</b>  <a href="https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/get-legal-services-and-advice/free-legal-advice/get-help-online-with-legal-help-chat">https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/get-legal-services-and-advice/free-legal-advice/get-help-online-with-legal-help-chat</a></p>
<p><b>Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service</b></p>	<p><b>Address:</b> <u>multiple offices across Victoria</u>. Main office located at: 273 High St, Preston, VIC 3072</p> <p><b>Open to:</b> Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples seeking legal assistance. Check the website to find your local office.</p>	<p><b>Assists with:</b> most general legal matters including <u>criminal law and infringements</u>.</p>	<p><b>Phone (24 Hour Service):</b> 1800 064 865</p> <p><b>Email:</b> N/A, see form on website in 'Contact Us':  <a href="https://www.vals.org.au/contact/">https://www.vals.org.au/contact/</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b>  <a href="https://www.vals.org.au/">https://www.vals.org.au/</a></p>
<p><b>West Justice Community Legal Centre - Footscray Branch</b></p>	<p><b>Address:</b> Level 1, 71 Buckley St Footscray, VIC 3011</p> <p><b>Open to:</b> any person living, working or studying in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne.</p>	<p><b>Assists with:</b> most general legal matters, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Consumer law;</li> <li>● Debt;</li> <li>● Employment law;</li> <li>● General legal advice;</li> <li>● Family law and family violence;</li> </ul>	<p><b>Phone:</b> (03) 9749 7720</p> <p><b>Email:</b>  <a href="mailto:admin@westjustice.org.au">admin@westjustice.org.au</a></p> <p><b>Website:</b>  <a href="http://www.westjustice.org.au">www.westjustice.org.au</a></p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fines and financial counselling;</li> <li>• International students.</li> </ul>	
<b>West Justice Community Legal Centre - Werribee Branch</b>	<b>Address:</b> Unit 1, 8 Watton St Werribee, VIC 3030  <b>Open to:</b> any person living, working or studying in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne.	<b>Assists with:</b> see above.	<b>Phone:</b> (03) 9749 7720 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:admin@westjustice.org.au">admin@westjustice.org.au</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.westjustice.org.au">www.westjustice.org.au</a>
<b>Youthlaw</b>	<b>Address:</b> Melbourne, VIC  <b>Open to:</b> people under 25 needing legal assistance.	<b>Assists with:</b> most general legal matters, including family violence, <u>criminal charges</u> , <u>traffic offences</u> , complaints, debts, discrimination, <u>police issues</u> .	<b>Phone:</b> (03) 9113 9500 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:legal@youthlaw.asn.au">legal@youthlaw.asn.au</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://youthlaw.asn.au/">http://youthlaw.asn.au/</a>
<b>Private Practitioners (lawyers and firms that charge for their services, or who represent people who have a grant from Victoria Legal Aid)</b>			
<b>Doogue + George</b>	<b>Address:</b> <u>multiple offices across Victoria</u> . Main office located at: Level 5, 221 Queen St Melbourne, VIC 3000  <b>Open to:</b> any person living in Victoria needing legal assistance with a criminal law matter.	<b>Assists with:</b> <u>criminal defence and representation</u> , including advice on traffic offences, sexual offences as well as bail applications.	<b>Phone:</b> (03) 9670 5111 <b>Email:</b> N/A <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.criminal-lawyers.com.au/criminal-law">https://www.criminal-lawyers.com.au/criminal-law</a>
<b>Dribbin &amp; Brown Criminal Lawyers</b>	<b>Address:</b> <u>multiple offices across Victoria</u> . Main office located at: Level 13, 200 Queen St Melbourne, VIC 3000	<b>Assists with:</b> <u>criminal defence and representation</u> , including drink driving offences, drug offences, summary offences and indictable offences, as well as	<b>Phone:</b> (03) 8644 7320 <b>Email:</b> N/A, see form on website in 'Contact Us': <a href="https://www.criminalsolicitorsmelbourne.com.au/email-us.html">https://www.criminalsolicitorsmelbourne.com.au/email-us.html</a> <b>Website:</b>

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	<b>Open to:</b> any person living in Victoria needing legal assistance with a criminal law or intervention order matter.	<u>representing clients who have received a grant from VLA.</u>	<a href="https://www.criminalsolicitorsmelbourne.com.au/">https://www.criminalsolicitorsmelbourne.com.au/</a>
<b>Stary Norton Halphen</b>	<b>Address:</b> <u>multiple offices across Victoria.</u> Main office located at: Level 12, 460 Lonsdale St Melbourne, VIC 3000  <b>Open to:</b> any person living in Victoria needing legal assistance with a criminal law matter.	<b>Assists with:</b> <u>criminal defence and representation,</u> including drink driving offences, assaults, drug offences, domestic violence offences, fraud and theft, and sexual offences, as well as bail applications.	<b>Phone:</b> (03) 8622 8200 <b>Phone 2 (urgent advice outside business hours):</b> 0407 410 821 <b>Email:</b> N/A, see form on website in 'Contact Us': <a href="https://www.staryl.com/contact/us/">https://www.staryl.com/contact/us/</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.staryl.com/">https://www.staryl.com/</a>
<b>Galbally Parker</b>	<b>Address:</b> Level 8, 552 Lonsdale St Melbourne, VIC 3000  <b>Open to:</b> any person living in Victoria needing legal assistance with a criminal law matter.	<b>Assists with:</b> <u>criminal defence and representation,</u> including appeals to the County Court and Supreme Court.	<b>Phone:</b> (03) 9670 8771 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:lawyers@galballyparker.com.au">lawyers@galballyparker.com.au</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://galballyparker.com.au/">https://galballyparker.com.au/</a>

### How can I get specialised legal assistance?

If you need legal help with a particular area of law, there are specialist CLCs that may be able to provide you with legal advice or representation.

- If you need help with a matter related to family or domestic violence, see our **'HRLP Infosheet – CLC Referral Sheet (Family and Domestic Violence)'**.
- If you need help with general legal matters, see our **'HRLP Infosheet – CLC Referral Sheet (Vic)'**.

**Disclaimer:** This fact sheet provides general information to people seeking asylum in Australia through the onshore protection visa application process according to the law in July 2021. This fact sheet is not legal advice. You should not rely on this fact sheet to make decisions about your immigration matter. We strongly recommend that you get independent advice from a qualified legal practitioner or a registered migration agent. For information please visit: <https://www.mara.gov.au>.

**Date: 5 July 2021**