

**Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer
Invites you to the**

**Los Angeles County
HOMELESS
COURT CLINIC**

**January 20, 2016
10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
6054 Yucca Street
Los Angeles, CA 90028**

Assisting adults who are homeless and/or at risk of being homeless throughout Los Angeles County who may also struggle with:

- Mental illness,
- Substance abuse,
- Co-occurring disorders, or
- Veteran related issues

Providing help in resolving legal barriers and connecting participants to appropriate service providers throughout Los Angeles County.

The LA County Homeless Court Clinic aims to assist those on the road to recovery, security and self-sufficiency, including removing legal barriers to permanent supportive housing.



Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl



Procurador de la Ciudad de Los Angeles Mike Feuer

Invita

Condado de Los Ángeles

CLÍNICA

**PARA PERSONAS SIN HOGAR
CON CITA EN LA CORTE**

20 de enero 2016

10:00 am a 2:00 pm

**First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
6054 Yucca Street
Los Angeles, CA 90028**

Para ayudar a los adultos de riesgo sin hogar o en todo el condado de Los Ángeles que luchan con:

- Enfermedades mentales,
- Sustancias o trastornos concurrentes,
- Asuntos relacionados con Veteranos

Proporcionar ayuda para resolver barreras legales y conectar con proveedores de servicios apropiados en todo el Condado de Los Angeles.

La Clínica para Personas Sin Hogar con Cita en Corte busca asistir a personas en camino de recuperación, en su seguridad y autosuficiencia, incluida la eliminación de barreras legales a lograr obtener vivienda permanente.



Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl



Office of the City Attorney



HOMELESS COURT CITATION CLINIC
OFFICE OF THE LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY
200 N. Spring Street 14th Floor, Los Angeles CA 90012
Fax 213) 978-1312 or ATT.Heart@lacity.org

The HOMELESS COURT CITATION CLINIC is operated by the Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney Homeless Engagement And Response Team (HEART), which is aware of the problem that many citations issued to individuals who are homeless or are at risk of being homeless, suffer from substance abuse, mental health issues or co-occurring disorders or are veterans in need of services. Often these individuals fail to appear in court or are unable to pay fines and fees which causes problems for themselves and for the courts. The citations remain unresolved, are referred to collections, or result in warrants being issued, and the cases clog the system. For the participants, these unresolved criminal matters can become stumbling blocks for those trying to put their lives back together.

At the clinic, participants are allowed to inquire about their unresolved citations, cases referred to collections, license holds or failures to appear (these situations will be collectively referred to as "warrants"). A check is done to determine if a warrant exists and from which court it was issued. The warrant will not be recalled or dismissed at that the clinic. The participant is told that if he or she completes a number of "community obligation" hours with an approved service provider, the matter will be resolved, the warrant will be recalled and the fines will be cleared and often the citation will be dismissed. Our hope is that the Homeless Court Citation Clinic will serve as an incentive for the participants to connect with the service providers to do their obligation hours and receive other services.

The obligation hours are not the same as community service hours. Frankly, some of the defendants do not have the resources or ability to successfully complete standard community service. The obligation hours are not done through the courts and there is no enrollment fee. The City Attorney's Office has established connections with service provider organizations in the community, such as Midnight Mission, Union Rescue Mission and PATH (People Assisting The Homeless). These providers have agreed to work with the defendants and to monitor their hours of community obligation. Community obligation hours can be satisfied by activities such as general labor, meeting with a counselor, or attending AA or NA meetings.

When a participant has completed the community obligation hours, the service provider will send a fax or an email with verification of completion to the Homeless Court Citation Clinic email address: ATT.Heart@lacity.org. When this verification is received, a motion to dismiss for each citation case will be prepared and submitted to the court without the participant having to make a court appearance. The court staff will only be asked to act on the case when the community obligation is completed, a motion is submitted, and the case is ready to be dismissed.

The court administrator will be asked to return verification that a citation has been dismissed which will be sent to the City Attorney's Office, who will notify the service provider who will notify the participant.

LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY
HOMELESS COURT CITATION CLINIC

What is THE HOMELESS COURT CITATION CLINIC?

The Los Angeles City Attorney HOMELESS COURT CITATION CLINIC assists adults who struggle with issues of homelessness, mental health, substance abuse and current or former members of the U.S. Armed Forces in the City of Los Angeles to resolve minor traffic tickets or pedestrian citations in exchange for required hours of community obligation work with an approved service provider.

The community obligation work can be to benefit the community by working at a service organization to provide general labor, office work, food service or to benefit the individual such as job readiness training, life skills classes, AA or NA meetings, anger management training, mental health counseling or other approved activities.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible you must be an adult who is homeless or at risk of being homeless, suffers from substance abuse, mental health issues or co-occurring disorders or are a current or former members of the U.S. Armed Forces in need of services. You must not have any open felony cases or outstanding warrants in felony or misdemeanor matters. Infraction ticket warrants or failures to appear do not make a person ineligible. A Public Defender will be present at the clinic to answer questions about criminal matters.

If you qualify → Here is what you need to do:

1. You must attend the HOMELESS COURT CITATION CLINIC and fill out the Intake Form in person to start the process.
2. At the clinic you will be informed of your outstanding tickets and which ones are eligible for dismissal. A new ticket is not eligible for dismissal if it has not been entered into the court database yet.
3. You will be given a list of approved service providers and it will be your obligation to select an approved service provider from the list, sign up and complete the community obligation hours. Some providers will be present at the clinic to sign up individuals that day.
4. Once you have completed the required hours of community obligation work for each ticket, the service provider will fill out the Completed Hours Confirmation form and email it to the L.A. City Attorney's Office.
5. After the Completed Hours Confirmation form is received by the L.A. City Attorney's Office, a motion to dismiss the ticket will be prepared and submitted to the appropriate court. With the current back up on paperwork it may take several months to process the dismissal. You do not have to go to court.
6. You can use the services of the HOMELESS COURT CITATION CLINIC more than once.