



# MEETING WITH A JOURNEY PROJECT LAWYER

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A Guide For Survivors

This resource provides information about what to expect when meeting with a Journey Project lawyer. It answers some common questions about the process.

This information is general in nature and does not constitute legal advice.

Through our Journey Project Legal Support Service, the Journey Project connects survivors with lawyers who can offer free legal advice. Meeting with a lawyer can be intimidating and overwhelming, especially for the first time. If you have more questions or would like some support during this process, you are welcome and encouraged to contact us at The Journey Project.

A note on Language: Language is important. It holds a lot of power. You may identify with the word “survivor,” “victim,” both, or neither. Legal systems may refer to you as a “victim,” “complainant,” or “witness,” even though you may not identify with any of these terms. This is the language used by the court and does not mean you or your reaction to the incident is being judged. In this guide, we use the term “survivor.” However, we know that not everyone who has experienced sexual violence will identify this way, and that’s ok.

TEL: 1-709-722-2805

TOLL-FREE/VRS: 1-833-722-2805

TEXT: 709-986-2801

EMAIL: [support@journeyprojectnl.com](mailto:support@journeyprojectnl.com)

[www.journeyproject.ca](http://www.journeyproject.ca)

Twitter: @JOURNEY\_NL

Facebook: @THEJOURNEYPROJECTNL

Instagram: @JOURNEYPROJECTNL

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## THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE JOURNEY PROJECT LAWYERS

**Lawyers who participate in The Journey Project do so voluntarily. They have completed at least three hours of trauma-informed training with The Journey Project team.**

**If you meet with a lawyer through The Journey Project, you are the client. The lawyer will act in your best interests and answer your questions. All conversations with the lawyer are confidential, except where there is a legal duty to report.**



**To connect with a lawyer, reach out to  
The Journey Project:**

**TEL 1-709-722-2805**

**TOLL-FREE/VRS 1-833-722-2805**

**TEXT: 709-986-2801**

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# CONTACTING THE LAWYER'S OFFICE



You will need to connect with a Legal Support Navigator at The Journey Project to get matched with a lawyer on our roster. You can contact a Legal Support Navigator at [support@journeyprojectnl.com](mailto:support@journeyprojectnl.com) or 1-833-722-2805.

- 1 The Legal Support Navigator will provide you with contact information for a lawyer and a referral certificate number.**
- 2 You can contact the lawyer's office directly to schedule an appointment or ask your Legal Support Navigator to connect you.**
- 3 The lawyer will ask you for your referral certificate number.**
- 4 If you would like to bring along a support person, ask if that is ok.**
- 5 Mention any accessibility or accommodation requests you may have.**
- 6 Make a note of when and where your appointment will take place. If you are calling from outside the province, remember to clarify the time for your time zone.**
- 7 If you need to change or cancel your appointment, let the lawyer know in advance.**

# PREPARING FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT

Write down any questions you have so you do not forget them. Leave some space to write the lawyer's answers to your questions.

The lawyer may have to ask you difficult or invasive questions about what happened. You should answer these questions as completely and truthfully as you can. Remember that the lawyer wants to help you and will not judge what you tell them.

The lawyer may ask you for proof of identity (e.g. a driver's licence, MCP card).





## THE LAWYER MAY WANT TO KNOW

- **Information about your personal life and background.**
- **If you have spoken to any other lawyers about this incident.**
- **If the accused has spoken to any lawyers.**
- **If there were any witnesses to the incident(s).**
- **What your goals are.**



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## CONSIDER BRINGING

- **The police report number (if you have filed a report).**
- **Any court documents you have from previous or ongoing legal actions related to the incident(s).**
- **Any notes you have taken or other documents related to the incident(s). This could include information on doctor or hospital visits, a copy of your report to police, or messages from the accused person(s).**



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# THE LAWYER CAN PROVIDE INFORMATION ON:

- What your rights are.
- Possible limitation periods to consider.
- Whether or not you have a case and what results you can expect.
- How long things might take.
- Next steps.





**The Journey Project** exists to strengthen justice supports for survivors of sexual violence and/or intimate partner violence. It was established in 2017 as a collaborative initiative of

Public Legal Information Association of NL (PLIAN) &  
the NL Sexual Assault Crisis and Prevention Centre (NLSACPC).

**[www.journeyproject.ca](http://www.journeyproject.ca)**

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**PLIAN** is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating Newfoundlanders and Labradorians about the law. PLIAN provides public legal education and information services with the intent of increasing access to justice.

Contact PLIAN's Legal Information Line by calling toll-free/VRS **1-888-660-7788** or e-mail

**[info@publiclegalinfo.com](mailto:info@publiclegalinfo.com)**

To reach the St. John's office call **709-722-2643**

To reach the Happy Valley-Goose Bay office call **709-896-5235**

**[www.publiclegalinfo.com](http://www.publiclegalinfo.com)**

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The **NLSACPC** is a non-profit, community-based, charitable organization that exists to support individuals of all genders who have been impacted by sexual violence.

To contact the St. John's office call **709-747-7757**

To reach the Happy Valley-Goose Bay office call **709-896-6758**

The NLSACPC operates a 24-hour Support and Information Phone Line that can be reached at **1-800-726-2743**

You can also text/chat with the **NLSACPC** Monday 2pm-8pm, Wednesday 2pm-8pm, and Friday 12pm-8pm by texting 1-800-726-2743 from your mobile phone, or using the "Get Support Now" button on the NLSACPC website,

**[www.endsexualviolence.com](http://www.endsexualviolence.com)**

