



Community awareness

The PSO conducts community awareness and legal education throughout the Solomon Islands. If you are interested in having the PSO talk to your community, please contact our nearest office.

Women and people with disabilities

The PSO recognises that women and people with disabilities in the Solomon Islands often have difficulty accessing legal representation. The PSO is committed to ensuring that all women and people with disabilities are able to obtain legal advice. Please talk to our staff if you have any concerns about representation.

Providing the tools for self help

In matters where the PSO is unable to represent a client in Court, usually due to the eligibility guideline, information will be given to the client to ensure that they are able to effectively represent themselves. The PSO may be able to assist draft the court documents that are needed and explain the process for filling and service.

Certification of documents

The PSO Honiara office will certify documents for free on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11am to 12 noon. Bring the original and copied documents with you. If you are certifying a photograph, bring photo ID. It is not necessary to make an appointment for certification of documents at the provincial offices of the PSO.

About the Public Solicitor's Office

The Public Solicitor's Office is an independent public office established under the Constitution to provide legal aid, advice and assistance to persons in need. Please ask at our offices for the circumstances and conditions of how we can assist you with your legal problems.

Honiara Office

Placemakers Building,
P.O. Box 553
Honiara, Solomon Islands.
☎ 22348/28404/28405/28406

Lata Office

Temotu Province
☎ 53004

Kirakira Office

Makira Province
☎ 50153

Auki Office

(within the precincts of
the Auki Magistrate's Court)
PO BOX Auki 44
☎ 40008/40006

Munda Office

☎ 6204

Gizo Office

(next to the Gizo Magistrate's Court)
PO BOX Gizo 84
☎ 60682

✉ pubsol@pso.gov.sb

Honiara Legal Clinics Timetable

Family Legal Clinic

Tuesdays
9.00am to 12.00noon

Criminal Legal Clinic

Thursdays Wednesdays
2.00pm to 4.00pm

Civil Legal Clinic

Wednesdays
2.00pm to 4.00pm

Land Legal Clinic

Fridays
9.00am to 12.00noon

Legal Clinic for People with Disabilities, every Thursday on a fortnightly basis from 9am to 1pm. People with Disabilities Solomon Islands (PWDSI) Office, DSE Building, New China Town.

WHO DO WE HELP AND HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

Information about services provided by the Public Solicitor's Office and how you can access those services



The Public Solicitor's Office

The Public Solicitor's Office (PSO) is an independent public office established under the Constitution of the Solomon Islands to provide legal aid, advice and assistance to persons in need.

The PSO helps people with their legal problems. We provide information to all Solomon Islanders who meet our eligibility criteria. Our eligibility criteria take into account the person's individual circumstances including their financial situation and the nature of their legal problem, as well as other factors such as age, disability and communication difficulties.

The PSO provides a range of quality legal services throughout the Solomon Islands including:

- information and referrals
- advice and assistance
- dispute resolution
- legal representation

All of the services provided by the PSO are free, confidential, independent, and accessible in Honiara and our provincial offices.

PSO staff are able to help with the problems and issues facing our clients. Often people are confused about the type of work that is carried out at the PSO. This pamphlet is designed to explain the work of the PSO.

The PSO is staffed with lawyers who can help people to understand their legal rights and responsibilities and navigate the legal system.

The PSO provides advice and representation under 4 divisions or units: Criminal Division, Land Advisory and Legal Support Unit (LALSU), and the Civil Unit and Family Protection Unit.

Criminal Unit

The criminal division at PSO provides legal representation and advice in serious criminal matters in the Magistrates' Courts, High Court and Court of Appeal.

PSO lawyers are available on request when a person is taken into custody or charged with an offence. Alternatively, a family member may contact the PSO to ask for representation for a person in custody. Or the person charged can attend a legal clinic, held once a week.

LALSU

The Land Advisory and Legal Support Unit (LALSU) provides advice, education and legal representation to people who need assistance with logging or mining matters and customary land matters.

Due to limited resources, LALSU is only able to provide legal representation in a limited number of matters. However, where there is a dispute, assistance is provided with negotiation and drafting of correspondence.

Family Protection Unit

The Family Protection unit (FPU) assists clients with family matters including divorce, adoption, protection orders, maintenance and custody matters. The FPU will provide legal representation in the Magistrates' Courts, High Court and Court of Appeal in these matters.

Civil Unit

Civil law matters include employment and workers' compensation, personal injury, money claims, restraining orders, property claims and defamation. If you have a letters of administration matter, you should contact the Public Trustee at the Ministry of Justice.

Advice clinics

The PSO in Honiara runs weekly advice clinics for criminal, civil, family and land matters. If you contact the PSO seeking assistance, you will most likely be given an appointment with a lawyer on the next available clinic day. However, if your matter is urgent, or you are attending a provincial office, you will be given an appointment as soon as possible.

Costs

The services of lawyers at the PSO are FREE. If any lawyer tries to charge you for legal advice or assistance, you should contact the Public Solicitor (the head of the PSO). There are, maybe, court fees which may need to be paid to the Court in some civil matters. Information about these fees can be obtained from the courts or from your lawyer.

Children and juveniles

The PSO represents children and juveniles in criminal, family and civil matters. Children do not have to be accompanied by a parent or guardian in order to get legal advice.

DISCLAIMER: The information displayed on this page is provided for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. If you have a legal problem, you should see a lawyer.