

## **Who are Legal Document Assistants (LDAs)?**

Legal Document Assistants (LDAs) were once commonly known as Independent Paralegals; however, as of January 1, 2000 only Paralegals working directly for attorneys may now be called Paralegals. Those formerly known as Independent Paralegals are now officially known as Legal Document Assistants (LDAs).

LDAs are REQUIRED by law to be registered and bonded in the county in which they have their principal place of business.

### **Do I need an LDA?**

If you have already decided on a course of action but are uncertain about how to fill out the paperwork, you may need the services of an LDA.

An LDA may be especially helpful to you in finishing and filing your legal paperwork.

If you do not know your legal rights, it is likely that you will need to see an attorney. If you can't afford an attorney, an LDA can provide you with general, published factual information that has been written or approved by an attorney pertaining to legal procedures, rights or obligations to assist you in representing yourself.

For many years, consumers have been using non-lawyers self-help services for most legal matters.

# **CALDA**

## **CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL DOCUMENT ASSISTANTS (LDA)**

**LDA REFERRAL SERVICE  
AT**

**[WWW.CALDA.ORG](http://WWW.CALDA.ORG)**

Providing Non-Attorney Self-Help Services  
AFFORDABLE LEGAL DOCUMENTS  
& FORMS PREPARATION SERVICES



A PUBLIC SERVICE OF

## **CALDA**

THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION  
OF LEGAL DOCUMENT ASSISTANTS  
A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

TO FIND AN LDA IN YOUR AREA  
GO TO

**[WWW.CALDA.ORG](http://WWW.CALDA.ORG)**

At [WWW.CALDA.ORG](http://WWW.CALDA.ORG) you will find Registered and Bonded LDAs who can provide you with services in the following and many other legal matters:

- Divorce - Dissolution of Marriage
- Custody – Visitation - Child Support
- Paternity
- Restraining Orders
- Bankruptcy
- Living Trusts - Wills
- Probate -Trust Administration
- Small Claims
- Unlawful Detainers (Evictions)
- Civil Complaints - Answers
- Deeds - Affidavits
- Adoptions - Guardianships
- Name Changes... and many other services

## **HOW CAN A LEGAL DOCUMENT ASSISTANT (LDA) HELP YOU?**

- ◆ An LDA provides self-help services to members of the public who are representing themselves in legal matters.
- ◆ An LDA completes legal documents by typing or otherwise completing the documents at the client's specific direction.
- ◆ An LDA provides general published factual information that has been written or approved by an attorney pertaining to legal procedures, rights or obligations, to assist clients representing themselves.
- ◆ An LDA makes published legal documents available to persons representing themselves in legal matters.
- ◆ An LDA files and serves legal forms and documents at the specific direction of clients representing themselves in legal matters.
- ◆ An LDA is not an attorney and can only provide self -help services at the client's specific direction.