



SMALL BUSINESS PROTECTION & REPRESENTATION: A Project to Save Small Businesses in Los Angeles During COVID-19

On May 5th Mayor Eric Garcetti and City Attorney Mike Feuer announced the launch of <u>LA Represents</u>, a pro bono initiative unprecedented in scope and scale, to provide free legal services to L.A. residents facing hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Among the services offered, L.A. Represents will build a new support system for small businesses devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic, overseen by volunteers and advocates at Bet Tzedek Legal Services. Now, small businesses least likely to have access to effective legal services can receive free pro bono assistance as they confront new workplace regulations, renegotiate commercial leases, apply for government relief programs, and navigate compliance with emergency health and safety orders.

Who We Help

Any business can benefit from our free webinars and FAQs. Businesses may also receive free representation if they meet an income eligibility threshold of no more than 500% Federal Poverty Guidelines (about \$8500 per month for a household of 4) and no more than \$50,000 in liquid assets.

What We're Doing

In collaboration with <u>LA Represents</u> and a network of community partners, Bet Tzedek's Small Business Project pairs pro bono volunteers from leading law firms with extremely small businesses to address urgent COVID-related issues.

Free webinars and FAQs on **SBA Loans**, local relief measures, payroll **tax credits**, **insurance** claim procedures, new **paid leave** rules, how to comply with Safer-at-Home and reopening orders, **commercial lease** and other contract obligations, and **debt** and bankruptcy are all available on <u>Bet Tzedek's website</u>.

Small businesses who need more than access to good information and seek an attorney to represent them in COVID-related matters <u>can apply for free representation</u> through





Bet Tzedek's website. Since launching the project on May 5, 2020, Bet Tzedek has already processed more than 60 such applications. Needless to say, with more than 100,000 small businesses in Los Angeles experiencing business interruption during COVID-19, we hope to do much more.

Committed Partners

We are able to pursue this ambitious aid project thanks to collaboration from key law firms and community leaders. Particular thanks to the ever-growing numbers of law firms who have stepped up to provide free services, even as they grapple with their own business uncertainties:

- Allen Matkins LLP
- Cooley LLP
- Covington & Burling LLP
- Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
- Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
- Goodwin Procter LLP
- Hogan Lovells
- King & Spalding LLP
- Kirkland & Ellis LLP
- Larson O'Brien LLP
- Latham & Watkins LLP
- Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP

- Milbank LLP
- Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
- Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP
- Nixon Peabody LLP
- O'Melveny & Myers LLP
- Paul Hastings LLP
- Perkins Coie LLP
- Seyfarth Shaw LLP
- Sheppard, Mullin LLP
- Southern California Edison
- Steptoe & Johnson LLP
- Winston & Strawn LLP

For More Information ...

To apply for free small business legal services click here

To learn more about LA Represents click here

Have questions about LA Represents? Email law.larepresents@gmail.com