

# Legal Sandbox Authorization Materials

# 1Law, P.C. / 1Law Legal Services

August 22, 2022

#### Contents

- 1. Utah Supreme Court Amended Order for Authorization to Practice Law
- 2. Innovation Office Recommendation to the Court

# Document 1

# In the Supreme Court of the State of Utah

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In re: 1Law, P.C. / 1Law Legal Services

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#### AMENDED ORDER FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE LAW

Based upon the Utah Supreme Court's plenary and constitutionally granted authority to regulate the practice of law in Utah, and the tenets of Standing Order 15, the Utah Supreme Court orders that 1Law P.C. / 1Law Legal Services ("1Law") is authorized to practice law within the regulatory sandbox and subject to the restrictions outlined below.

The Court has reviewed the recommendation of the Office of Legal Services Innovation ("Innovation Office") dated August 25, 2020 and revised September 7, 2021.

1Law was one of the first entities authorized through the Office of Legal Services Innovation. The company sought amendment of its original authorization to remove nonlawyer provider and add lawyer sharing profits with a non-lawyer.

The Innovation Office has assessed the risk of harm to 1Law's targeted consumers relative to the risk of harm they currently face and has determined that the risk of harm presented by 1Law's services is Moderate.

In light of the Court's responsibility to the public to effectively regulate the practice of law in Utah and in keeping with the tenets of Standing Order 15, the Court now orders as follows:

- 1. 1Law is authorized to offer legal services through the following models:
  - a. Lawyers employed or managed by a nonlawyer
  - b. Nonlawyer ownership
  - c. Lawyers sharing profits with nonlawyers

- d. Software provider<sup>1</sup> with lawyer involvement<sup>2</sup>
- 2. 1Law's consumer service area authorization covers:

Accident / Injury ix. End of Life Planning ii. Adult Care Financial Issues x. **Business** xi. Healthcare iii. iv. Criminal Expungement xii. Housing (Rental)  $\mathbf{V}$ . Discrimination xiii. **Immigration** vi. Domestic Violence xiv. Marriage and Family

vii. Education xv. Public Benefits

viii. Employment xvi. Real Estate

- 3. 1Law remains required to comply with the Moderate innovation reporting requirements imposed by the Innovation Office.
- 4. 1Law will prominently display the following disclosure requirements:
  - a. Innovation Office Badge
  - b. Nonlawyer ownership disclosure
  - c. Nonlawyer provider disclosure

If 1Law wishes to alter these conditions or requirements, it must submit any such change to the Innovation Office for further assessment. The Innovation Office will assess the proposed change and may permit the change if it deems the change does not materially increase the risks to consumers. If the Innovation Office finds a material increase in risk then it will present the issue to the Court for further consideration.

This authorization is granted for the duration of the existence of the Sandbox, or until exit and permanent licensure at the discretion of the Court. Authorization is subject to 1Law's compliance with the conditions and requirements set forth in the Innovation Office Manual and the Innovation Office Recommendation to the Court and to a verification by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Provider means legal practitioner: a provider who or which is practicing law, including offering legal advice. (See Innovation Office Manual).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Lawyer involvement" means a Utah-licensed lawyer both (1) provides guidance and oversight of the provider at the front end, i.e. through developing training materials and overseeing training of providers and developing scripts and/or algorithms, and (2) performs regular spot checks of providers services for quality and accuracy. (See Innovation Office Manual).

the Innovation Office that the company's services are not causing material harm to consumers.

DATED this 16th day of August, 2022.

Matthew B. Durrant

Chief Justice

# Document 2



# OFFICE OF LEGAL SERVICES INNOVATION

An Office of the Utah Supreme Court

# RECOMMENDATION TO THE COURT ON REVISED SCOPE OF AUTHORIZATION APP 0002 - 1LAW

**SEPTEMBER** 7, 2021

# **C**ONTENTS

| Executive Summary      | 1 |
|------------------------|---|
| Sandbox Recommendation | 2 |
| Proposed Services      | 2 |
| Risk Assessment        | 3 |

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Recommendation: Revise scope of authorization to remove moderate risk

service models and limit authorization to nonlawyer

ownership (more than 50%)

Applicant: 1Law, P.C. / 1Law Legal Services

Initial Scope of Authorization: Lawyers employed or managed by a nonlawyer

50% or more nonlawyer ownership

Nonlawyer provider with lawyer involvement

Software provider with lawyer involvement

Authorization:

Proposed Revised Scope of Lawyers employed or managed by a nonlawyer

50% or more nonlawyer ownership

Sandbox Qualifiers: Partial nonlawyer ownership - over 50%

Utah Qualifier: Adapted for Utah requirements

Implementation Qualifier: Basic services ready for market now

Regulatory Objective Qualifier: Some services will be offered free or at low cost,

compared to full-service lawyers

Many services available remotely or virtually

Qualitative Requirements: Standardized disclosure statements on website and in

mobile applications:

Badge

Nonlawyer Ownership Disclosure Statement

under revised authorization:

Data Reporting Requirements Low risk data reporting requirements

# SANDBOX RECOMMENDATION

We recommend the Court authorize 1Law, P.C. / 1Law Legal Services ("1Law") to practice law in the state of Utah, subject to such requirements as the Innovation Office may impose.

We recommend the following scope of authorization:

- 1. The Innovation Office recommends that the authority be granted for an initial period of 24 months with the possibility of extension or permanent authorization. Any such extension or permanent authorization would be subject to the applicant complying with the conditions and requirements set forth below and also to a verification by the Innovation Office that 1Law has a record of compliance with all requirements and the company's services are not causing harm to consumers.
- 2. The Innovation Office recommends authorizing 1Law to practice law only across the following categories of legal service:
  - a. Service Models:
    - i. Lawyers employed or managed by a nonlawyer
    - ii. 50% or more nonlawyer ownership
    - iii. Nonlawyer provider with lawyer involvement
    - iv. Software provider with lawyer involvement
  - b. Areas of Service:

| i.    | Accident / Injury    | ix.   | End of Life Planning |
|-------|----------------------|-------|----------------------|
| ii.   | Adult Care           | х.    | Financial Issues     |
| iii.  | Business             | xi.   | Healthcare           |
| iv.   | Criminal Expungement | xii.  | Housing (Rental)     |
| V.    | Discrimination       | xiii. | Immigration          |
| vi.   | Domestic Violence    | xiv.  | Marriage and Family  |
| vii.  | Education            | XV.   | Public Benefits      |
| viii. | Employment           | xvi.  | Real Estate          |

- 3. Relevant requirements:
  - a. Relevant disclosure requirements as outlined in <u>Innovation Office Manual</u>.
  - b. Moderate risk data reporting requirements as outlined in Innovation Office Manual.
  - a. Compliance with all relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.

# Proposed Services

1Law, founded by a Utah lawyer in good standing, is a legal technology company with more than 50% nonlawyer ownership and management. 1LAW seeks permission to provide no-cost and low-cost legal services to assist clients in completing court documents and offering related legal advice using chatbots, instant messaging, automated interviews, nonlawyer staff, and technology assisted lawyers. 1LAW's services will include services for employment and housing and eviction cases, which are areas of

increasing and immediate need. Many of 1LAW's services will be available remotely and virtually. 1LAW's services include legal advice offered by persons who are not licensed Utah lawyers.

1LAW proposes to launch its services via its existing law firm (1LAW, P.C.) and then will transition a portion of its services to 1LAW Legal Services, a Benefit (B) corporation. The entity will have more than 50% ownership by persons who are not lawyers; partial ownership will be held by a lawyer holding an active license to practice law in Utah. All lawyers practicing law for or on behalf of 1LAW will maintain active licenses and will remain subject to the Rules of Professional Responsibility.

# RISK ASSESSMENT

Target Market: Consumers not currently accessing legal services / DIY

General Assessment: Moderate risk

Specific Risks: 1. Nonlawyer investment ownership - more than 50%

2. Legal practice through technology and nonlawyer providers

3. User communications