



OFFICE OF LEGAL SERVICES INNOVATION
An Office of the Utah Supreme Court

Amended Sandbox Authorization Packet

Legal Atoms

August 10, 2022

Contents

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

Document 1

In the Supreme Court of the State of Utah

---oo0oo---

In re: Application of LegalAtoms, Inc.

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 LegalAtoms, Inc. ("Legal Atoms") 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 July 8, 2021, for LegalAtoms to be authorized to practice law.

LegalAtoms, Inc. is a legal technology company based in Seattle, WA. The company offers an online platform connecting stakeholders in a civil litigation and facilitating self-represented litigants and those with representation to advance their case. The company wants to enter the Sandbox to provide its partners (lawyers, insurance providers, litigants, investors, etc.) with assurance that its platform will not be targeted for unauthorized practice of law. It also wishes to share fees with lawyers referred legal work through the site.

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

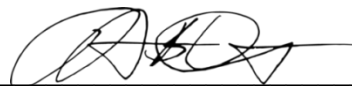
In light of the Court's responsibility to the public to effectively regulate the practice of law in Utah and in keeping with the tenets of Standing Order 15, the Court now orders as follows:

1. LegalAtoms is authorized to offer legal services through the following methods:
 - a. Nonlawyer ownership
 - b. Lawyers sharing fees with nonlawyers
 - c. Software provider with lawyer involvement - legal document completion only
2. LegalAtoms is authorized to provide legal services across the following legal service areas only:
 - a. Immigration
 - b. Marriage and Family
 - c. Domestic Violence
 - d. Housing - Rental
3. LegalAtoms shall conform to the Low innovation reporting requirements imposed by the Innovation Office.
4. LegalAtoms will prominently display the following disclosure requirements:
 - a. Innovation Office Badge
 - b. Nonlawyer service provider disclosure
 - c. Nonlawyer ownership disclosure

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

DATED this 10th 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

APP No. 0048 - LEGALATOMS, INC.

JULY 8, 2021

CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
Risk Assessment	2
Sandbox Recommendation	3

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recommendation: Authorize

Applicant: LegalAtoms, Inc.

Proposed Model/Service: LegalAtoms, Inc. is a legal technology company based in Seattle, WA. The company offers an online platform connecting stakeholders in a civil litigation and facilitating self-represented litigants and those with representation to advance their case. The company wants to enter the Sandbox to provide its partners (lawyers, insurance providers, litigants, investors, etc.) with assurance that its platform will not be targeted for unauthorized practice of law. It also wishes to share fees with lawyers referred legal work through the site.

The proposed service model is:

1. Software provider with lawyer involvement - legal document completion only
2. Nonlawyer ownership - more than 50%
3. Lawyers sharing fees with nonlawyers

The proposed consumer service area is:

- Immigration
- Marriage and Family
- Domestic Violence
- Housing - Rental

Target Consumer Market Consumers likely not accessing a lawyer’s services.

Sandbox Qualifiers: This business model/service qualifies for the Sandbox because it would feature the following characteristics:

- Software provider with lawyer involvement - legal document completion only
- Nonlawyer ownership - more than 50%
- Lawyers sharing fees with nonlawyers

Regulatory Objective Qualifier:¹ This proposal is targeted at areas of law with high percentages of self-represented litigants and aims to assist self-represented litigants and those with representation with a more efficient platform for court processes and filings.

¹ Regulatory Objective: To ensure consumers have access to a well-developed, high-quality, innovative, affordable, and competitive market for legal services. (Standing Order No. 15)

Utah Qualifier: Adapted for Utah requirements.

Implementation Qualifier: Ready for immediate implementation.

RISK ASSESSMENT

General Assessment: LOW - MODERATE RISK

- Specific Risks:
- 1. Nonlawyer provider (software)
 - 2. Lawyers sharing fees with nonlawyers
 - 3. User communications

SANDBOX RECOMMENDATION

We recommend the Court authorize LegalAtoms, Inc. to practice law in the state of Utah, subject to such requirements as the Innovation Office may impose.

Scope of Recommended Authorization

Term of authorization The Innovation Office recommends that the authority be granted for an initial period of 24 months from the date of service launch 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 LegalAtoms has a record of compliance with all requirements and the company’s services are not causing harm to consumers.

- Recommended legal service models**
- 1. Software provider with lawyer involvement - legal document completion only
 - 2. Nonlawyer ownership - more than 50%
 - 3. Lawyers sharing fees with nonlawyers

Legal service models not recommended N/A

- Recommended consumer service areas**
- 1. Immigration
 - 2. Marriage and Family

-
- 3. Domestic Violence
 - 4. Housing - Rental
-

Recommended waivers None

Recommended qualitative compliance requirements Standardized disclosure statements on website and in mobile applications (see Manual):

- 1. Badge
- 2. Nonlawyer provider disclosure
- 3. Nonlawyer ownership disclosure

Recommended data reporting requirements LOW - MODERATE risk data reporting requirements (see Manual)

Application: 00001-0000000030

Office of Legal Services
Innovation

Summary

ID: 00001-0000000030

Last submitted: Jun 21 2021 12:40 PM (MDT)

Labels: More than 50% nonlawyer ownership, Lawyers sharing legal fees or paying referral fees to nonlawyers, Software provider with lawyer involvement, Housing - Rental, Marriage and Family, Immigration, Domestic Violence

Personal Information

Completed - May 27 2021

Personal Information

Entity Name

LegalAtoms

Business Email Address

Business Phone Number

Business Website

legalatoms.com

Business Address

Address Line 1	
Address Line 2	
City	
State	

Mailing Address

Address Line 1	
Address Line 2	
City	
State	

Contact Name

Mir Tariq

Contact Title

Chief Executive Officer

Contact Phone Number

Contact Email

Second Contact Name

Raymond Huang

Second Contact Title

Chief Technology Officer

Second Contact Phone Number

Second Contact Email

Bar License No. and State (if applicable)

(No response)

1. Proposed Services

Completed - Jun 21 2021

1. Proposed Services

1.1. Describe your proposed legal services offering in detail.

Please include (i) who provides the legal services, (ii) how consumers will access/receive these services,

and (iii) what your service will do for your customers.

LegalAtoms started out as a “turbo-tax” for preparing simple family law and domestic violence to tackle access to justice. In the past three years it has evolved into an online platform where nearly every participant in the legal system -- Clerks of the Superior Courts, Prosecuting Attorneys, Law Schools Clinics, Non Profits, Pro bono programs -- can work and collaborate on a legal case.

Answer to (i) who provides the legal services,

The legal service is provided BY the following

Lawyer prepared Questionnaires: These have questions directly from court forms which are written in plainer language, organized by topic, with related legal information easily reference-able. Only pattern forms are used/created to keep it simple and stupid, so in effect it's like a sophisticated mail merge. No custom forms or writings of any sort (briefs, testimonies etc) are created.

Court officials - Offices of the Clerks can accept and review cases online i.e. E-filing. They can either directly or through court facilitators, victim advocacy programs can assist clients by answering their questions on common cases such as domestic violence protection order, or anti harassment protection order, etc

Lawyers -- clients can work with pro bono and non-pro bono lawyers

Non Profits -- Organizations such as YWCA can help clients fill their Domestic Violence forms. Similarly organizations such as NWIRP can assist filing for cases in the field of Violence Against Women’s Act Law Schools such as Seattle University School of Law offer “clinics” to assist victims of domestic violence by having law students do reviews under the assistance of a lawyer. Law Schools benefit by having efficiently run experiential learning programs. These receive a steady stream of real cases and simplify the effort needed to supervise. . For example, in Utah this would specifically be the community focused programs such as legal clinics and experiential learning courses at law schools at Brigham Young University (BYU) and the University of Utah (UU)

Answer to (ii) how consumers will access/receive these services,

Consumers receive these services online by using any device such as a smartphone, laptop, library computer, ipad etc.

Consumers typically visit the court website and then can be redirected to LegalAtoms provided solution with Court's branding.

Or Consumers would land on LegalAtoms website and then work within the website

The options are publicly visible already and can be viewed at <https://legalatoms.com>

Answer to (iii) what your service will do for your customers.

We will do a few services

Our website creates case documents as prescribed by court clerks. Often what court forms are needed is provided in the form of packets which clients take home, fill and submit. We just allow them to do that online by answering questions phrased in plainer language and features like autosave. For example there is a set number of forms needed to file for domestic violence protection order. Our website will present the user with questions directly from the set of state pattern forms required by the court in their jurisdiction. Using the user's input e.g. name, date of birth , address etc the software will automatically populate these forms. The form versions are checked for updates weekly.

Clients can electronically file their submissions. Court officials who chose to subscribe to LegalAtoms will be able to electronically receive the case documents and electrically and securely exchange decisions and descriptive feedback with clients.

Clients can seek assistance from non profits and legal clinics. We generally allow only a few organizations recommended by court officials to ensure quality, and to ensure that people seeking legal help are offered only the safest and trusted options without any financial interest

1.2. Describe the entity business model you want authorized in the Sandbox, including the management structure which will oversee direct legal service providers.

Business Model:

We charge courts and law schools an annual subscription for using our technology platform

Court officials benefit by making it easier for their constituents to prepare and file cases, and for the court officials to more efficiently adjudicate cases

Law schools benefit from LegalAtoms by allowing their students and lawyer-supervisors to serve the community, and in the process gain experiential knowledge.

Court officials (ie. Office of the Clerk, and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office) review what is presented to the end users and provide services to clients.

Lawyers and the interns they are supervising as per existing intern laws provide legal services to clients.

1.3. Why is your proposal eligible to enter the Sandbox?

Identify the specific model, service or product innovations that are not permitted under the traditional rules governing the practice of law.

The proposal is eligible to enter Sandbox because

1) Our approach of presenting users with legal information can be construed by some as falling in the grey area of practicing law as per Rule 14-802. Authorization to practice law..

2) The bigger problem is that courts, law schools and nonprofits hesitate to partner with us because they fear liability risk.

3) We can potentially partner with lawyers without being a law firm

1.4. Describe your target consumer(s).

For example: single parents making <\$50,000 in a custody dispute, first generation college students in a landlord-tenant dispute; renters 40+ years planning for retirement; college educated entrepreneurs seeking legal advice in starting a business.

Our audience are everyday people

- * Who cannot afford a lawyer
- * Who Cannot find time in their work lives to deal with an active problem due to schedule
- * Who are non-English speakers (we have content in Spanish) who find limited resources in their language
- * Who are scared to visit the court fearing that their undocumented immigration status may cause them to be deported

We serve the following situations

- * Victims of domestic violence who cannot afford a lawyer. In Washington we serve nearly 100 victims every day!
- * Any person seeking a civil protective order https://www.utcourts.gov/abuse/protective_orders.html
- * Couples filing for divorce with no children or assets. Military couples filing for divorce
- * Tenants seeking eviction protection. Landlords seeking eviction help.
- * Unmarried couples seeking help to parent their children

Please attach any supporting materials you'd like to include with your application.

Evidence of courts using LegalAtoms Press coverage received by our organization

Filename: Courts Using LegalAtoms and Press Coverage .pdf **Size:** 3.7 MB

[f](#)

Filename: Legal Atoms Utah State Courts Mail - Utah Sandbox - follow up questions.pdf **Size:** 150.8 kB

1.5. Which service models are you seeking to use?

Select all that apply.

Responses Selected:

More than 50% nonlawyer ownership

Lawyers sharing legal fees or paying referral fees to nonlawyers

Software provider with lawyer involvement

1.6. Which legal service categories are you seeking to offer?

Select all that apply.

Responses Selected:

Domestic Violence

Immigration

Housing - Rental

Marriage and Family

¹ Provider means legal practitioner: a provider who or which is practicing law, including offering legal advice.

² Involvement denotes a range of activities, including guidance on initial development of forms, scripts, processes, software. It could mean a lawyer does sample reviews of product/service performance. It could mean a lawyer is available to advise the nonlawyer provider as needed - including via red flag trap doors in software.

2. Risk Assessment

Completed - May 27 2021

2. Risk Assessment

The Innovation Office must assess whether new legal service models cause consumers to get inappropriate or otherwise flawed legal results, fail to exercise legal rights through ignorance or bad advice, or purchase

an unnecessary or inappropriate legal service.

2.1. Fully and candidly discuss the risks your customers might face if they use your proposed model, including each of the risks described above.

We cater for the mainstream situations and direct any use with special circumstances to talk to a lawyer. The risk is if someone continues to use the service in spite of the cautionary notes we provide.

So far after serving several thousand clients, we haven't had any such incident because we have been deliberately focused on highly formulaic cases where the steps and the forms required for each step is already spelled out by the courts.

2.2. Describe the specific ways you will identify, track, and mitigate the risks to consumers in your proposed model.

These efforts could include quality control measures, training, provider testing.

We ask questions to clarify the situation. If we sense that it is anything outside what we cover, we direct the users to not use our service.

2.3. Please describe your consumer complaint process.

Consumers can call, email, or start a chat conversation. Typically we respond on the phone, chat immediately, on email within 30min 9am-9pm

3. Benefits To Utah Consumers

Completed - May 27 2021

3. Benefits To Utah Consumers

The Innovation Office is assessing potential benefits of proposed offerings to the Utah legal market.

3.1. Describe how your model will provide higher quality, more cost effective, and more accessible legal services for your target consumers.

Our model has been proven in the State of Washington to help the most vulnerable persons by providing them a guided experience with help content from court officials.

Our model also lets consumers connect with advocates, and pro bono lawyers for help. Here's a post a law professor shared on LinkedIn

"The Domestic Violence Protection Order "Pop-Up" Clinic just completed its first year in existence. We have helped well over 350 petitioners file a DVPO. The clinic was created to support petitioners during Covid. We are now the DVPO Clinic, and we are here to stay! There are so many people to thank: SU Law students have exhibited incredible dedication, empathy, and support to petitioners; the on-call attorneys who review the petitions provide excellent mentorship and legal insights to our interns; our donors' generosity has allowed the clinic to grow and expand services; and last, none of this would have been possible without the vision of David Martin, collaborating with LegalAtoms founders Mir Tariq and Raymond Huang, creators of the software that allows for online legal help. #legalatoms.com"

3.2. Does your proposal comply with applicable Utah legal requirements?

For example: staffed by UT licensed attorneys, built to complete state legal forms.

Yes, LegalAtoms hires attorneys to review our content. So part of our operations require us to hire local licensed attorneys to create and edit content presented to end users, in order to complete the state legal forms.

3.3. Identify which of your service models are ready to immediately implement.

The Office of Innovation is only authorized to consider proposals which are ready to begin offering legal services not currently authorized in Utah at the time of authorization.

The three service models are ready to launch immediately (i.e. 5-10 days)

* Courts to offer their constituents a guided experience to prepare cases. LegalAtoms would implement the digital questionnaires to capture the content required to generate state forms

* Law schools to offer experiential learning to their students.

* Non profits to assist clients by helping them with their domestic violence petitions

4. Confirmation Of Eligibility

Completed - May 27 2021

4. Confirmation Of Eligibility

4.1. List all persons and entities who wholly or partially direct the management or policies of your proposed entity and/or the direct provision of legal services to consumers, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise (“controlling persons”).

Mir Tariq

Chief Executive Officer

Mir is a software engineer whose area of expertise is in Machine Learning and finding insights in extremely large datasets. At Microsoft, he designed software used by Fortune500 companies to build complex websites. At Amazon and Expedia he led small teams for media and marketing optimizations. He holds a Bachelors from the University of Waterloo (Canada) and Masters in Computer Science from the University of Washington.

Raymond Huang

Chief Technology Officer

Raymond is a software engineer who has expertise in designing highly usable web applications. At Amazon, he built software optimizing shipping speed and cost. At a healthcare startup, he designed software technology which is easily tailored to different hospitals and insurance providers. Raymond

studied at the University of Waterloo. [/](#)

ADVISORY BOARD

Colin Crawford

Dean at the University of Louisville's Louis D. Brandeis School of Law

Colin is the Dean at University of Louisville School of Law. His work concentrates on comparative environmental and land use law and policy. He has a law degree from Harvard Law School and degrees in modern history from both Cambridge and Columbia Universities. He was admitted to practice law in the State of New York. Before Tulane, Dean Crawford was a tenured member of the faculty at Georgia State University College of Law, where he founded and co-directed the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth. Dean Crawford has lectured and published widely in the U.S. and abroad, especially in Latin America. He teaches comparative environmental law and policy courses at both the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and at the University of the Andes, in Bogotá, Colombia.

Deirdre Bowen

Professor, Seattle University School of Law

Dr. Deirdre Bowen is trained in law and psychology (PhD). She is a nationally recognized expert in three areas: affirmative action, family law, and adjudication processes. She teaches at the Seattle University School of Law in the areas of Legal Writing and Family Law. Deirdre is the co-director of the Madrid Study Abroad Program in Law & Policy where she teaches Comparative Family Law. She was the lead negotiator at Call For Action, a national consumer protection organization, where she negotiated the largest settlement for consumer fraud in the history of the organization.

Jody Cloutier

Lawyer and ex-Senior Manager, Microsoft

After a decade and a half in technology, Jody studied law and founded his own law firm. Working with domestic violence survivors he witnessed how difficult the law could be for people to navigate. He also noticed that, all too often, the client was treated more as a transaction and not with the level of care they deserved. Jody's vision was to provide people with reasonably-priced, compassionate, and competent legal representation for a wide-range of family law issues. He uses the skills he learned in the technology industry to reduce costs, lower conflict, and, hopefully, to make the most stressful time a

little less stressful. Jody is a frequent speaker on family law topics at Seattle University School of Law, and he is also a member of the Washington State Bar Association Court Rules Committee.

Dan Lear

Lawyer, LegalTech Expert

Dan Lear is a lawyer and a pioneer in legal technology. Dan was the Director of Industry Relations for Avvo which did breakthrough work in establishing an online directory of lawyers and legal services marketplace. As a practicing attorney he advised technology companies from startups to the Fortune 100. Dan has been published widely in the legal industry press and has spoken at SXSW Interactive, Ignite Seattle, Georgetown University, Stanford University, ReInvent Law, and the National Conference of Bar Presidents.

4.2. List all persons and entities who will wholly or partially (greater than 10%) finance the business of your proposed entity (“financing persons”).

Mir Tariq Chief Executive Officer

Raymond Huang Chief Technology Officer

4.3. Please note that no financing person may be a disbarred or suspended lawyer. List all controlling persons who are disbarred or suspended lawyers.

None

4.4. List all controlling persons or financing persons of your proposed entity who have a felony criminal history

None

4.5. List all persons who will be in a managerial role over the direct provision of legal services to consumers who are disbarred lawyers.

None

4.6. List all persons who will be in a managerial role over the direct provision of legal services to consumers who have a felony criminal history.

None

4.7. Please select the most accurate description: My proposed entity has a material corporate relationship and/or business partnership with:

Neither a disbarred / suspended lawyer nor an individual with a felony criminal history

4.8. Disclose any history of state or federal criminal (misdemeanor or felony) conviction, state or federal consent decree, or state or federal enforcement action resulting in sanctions (disgorgement, civil penalties, and/or injunction) for the entity and, if applicable, its parent and other affiliated companies.

There is no such history. Our corporation is very respected in the relatively small legal community in Washington who learn about it.

4.9. Disclose whether the entity, parent, and other affiliated companies are, to their knowledge, currently subject to a state or federal criminal investigation or state or federal enforcement action.

None.

There is no state or federal criminal investigation or state or federal enforcement action.

I confirm that no financing persons listed in this application are disbarred or suspended lawyers.

Signature

.

Printed Name

Mir Tariq

Title

CEO

Date

May 27 2021

Selling of Consumer Data Disclosure

Please indicate whether your business model includes the sharing or selling of consumer data in any form to third parties.

No

Public Application

Your application will be made publicly available. You will have the opportunity to make a claim of business confidentiality for specific information that would qualify for protection under GRAMA Section 63G-2-305. Making false or materially misleading statements in this application is a basis for loss of authorization to practice within the Sandbox. Other criminal and civil sanctions may also apply.

Responses Selected:

I understand.

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mir Tariq", is displayed on a light gray background.

Printed Name

Mir Tariq

Title

CEO

Date

May 27 2021

GRAMA

GRAMA

SANDBOX PARTICIPANT GRAMA CLAIM OF BUSINESS CONFIDENTIALITY

Pursuant to Utah Code Section 63G-2-305(1) and (2), and in accordance with Section 63G-2-309, LegalAtoms (company name) asserts a claim of business confidentiality to protect the following information submitted as part of an Application for authorization to offer legal services in the Sandbox.

Responses Selected:

non-public financial statements

specific employee name and contact information

specific customer information, client lists, or subscription lists

other (specify):

Please itemize the question responses for which you are making a claim.

Customers list

Financial Contracts

This claim is asserted because this information requires protection as it includes:

Responses Selected:


trade secrets as defined in Utah Code Section 13-24-2 ("Trade secret" means information, including a formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or process, that: (a) derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and (b) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.)

commercial information or non-individual financial information obtained from a person if: (a) disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to result in unfair competitive injury to the person submitting the information or would impair the ability of the governmental entity to obtain necessary information in the future; [and (b) the person submitting the information has a greater interest in prohibiting access than the public in obtaining access.

Following is a concise statement of reasons supporting the claim of business confidentiality:

These help us offer discounts to those partners who otherwise may not be able to afford our services, in order to meet our larger goal of tackling ATJ

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray background. The signature is stylized and appears to consist of two parts, possibly initials or a full name, written in a cursive-like style.

On behalf of (company): LegalAtoms

Date

May 27 2021

Recommendation Form

Incomplete - Hidden from applicant

Official Court Order

Incomplete - Hidden from applicant

Denial

Incomplete - Hidden from applicant

Denial of Request for Reconsideration

Incomplete

Superior Courts Using LegalAtoms

King County, Washington

← → ↻ Not secure | protectionorder.org

WASHINGTON STATE PROTECTION ORDER RESOURCES
Sponsored by the office of the King County Prosecuting Attorney

SAFETY EXIT

Feeling threatened? Help is available.

King County COVID-19 Remote Filing

- Domestic Violence Protection Order** [↗](#)
 - Filing in Seattle
File in Seattle if you are in North or East King County
 - Filing in Kent
File in Kent if you are in South King County
 - Washington Law-Help
Do-It-Yourself forms via Washington Law-Help
 - LegalAtoms**
Prepare documents online via LegalAtoms
 - About LegalAtoms
- Sexual Assault Protection Order**
 - Forms
 - Filing Assistance
The King County Protection Order Advocacy Program can help you file a Sexual Assault Protection Order in some situations
- Other Civil Orders**
 - Stalking Protection Order
 - Anti-Harassment Order

Snohomish county

Snohomish County
Washington

County Services Your Government Doing Business Our Community

Search...

Home > Your Government > Judicial Services > Superior Court Clerk > Protection Orders [View archive](#)


In-Person Protection Order Assistance - Limited Hours
 Effective Monday, January 25, 2021 | Superior Court Clerk's Protection Order Office will be open for limited hours as follows:
 Monday - Friday from 9:00am - 10:30am and 1:00pm - 2:30pm.
 The Clerk's Office continues to provide online, phone and mail-in filing services Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:45 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. excluding holidays. Clerk modified services are detailed [here](#).

**Due to COVID-19 and emergency orders currently in place
 ALL PROTECTION ORDER PETITIONS SHALL BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY.**

PREPARE AND SUBMIT YOUR PROTECTION ORDER PETITION ONLINE!!!

You can now prepare and submit your **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** and **ANTI-HARASSMENT** protection order petitions online.

Go to legalatoms.com or click on their logo below and click on Domestic Violence or Anti-Harassment. You will then be guided through a series of questions about your situation.



Please be sure to read the instruction page available within the forms packets below and the requirements for email or fax submission. Documents will not be accepted for filing that do not follow the requirements listed within the instructions. Petitions received after 10:30 AM will be reviewed, processed and submitted to the judicial officer the following court day.

If it is impossible for you to submit a petition electronically, you may call our office for assistance. However, due to limited staffing you may experience long wait times.

- Access Court Records
- E-Filing
- Filing Information
- Jury Duty
- Protection Orders
- Courthouse Facilitator
- Forms
- Pay Fines and Fees
- Filing Fees & Waivers
- Resources
- About Us

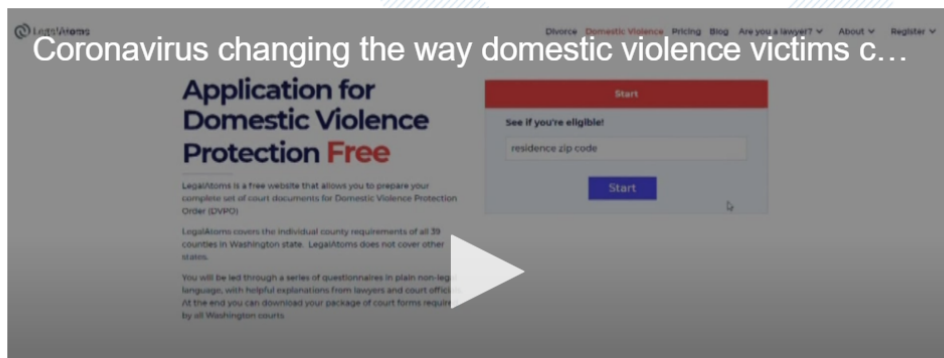
Press Coverage



LOCAL NEWS

King County allowing online protection orders for domestic abuse amid coronavirus crisis

The governor's Stay Home, Stay Healthy order may not be safe for survivors of abuse. King County has launched a new online tool to request protection orders.



Police, prosecutors and victim advocates worry coronavirus stay-at-home order will cause spike in domestic violence

March 30, 2020 at 6:00 am | Updated April 7, 2020 at 12:25 pm



By Sara Jean Green 
Seattle Times staff reporter

Phone calls made during business hours to [New Beginnings' help line](#) for victims and survivors of domestic violence have fallen off somewhat since the local outbreak of the coronavirus began a month ago.

The head of the Seattle non-profit doesn't see that as good news. She's worried it's an indication that people holed up at home with their abusers are more isolated and less able to reach out for help — and likely in even greater danger as the crisis unfolds.

“We have every reason to believe abuse is escalating at this time,” said Susan Segall, New Beginnings' executive director. “For any of us that see our homes as a sanctuary, it's profoundly distressing to think of being home-bound when you're being abused.”

Gov. Jay Inslee announced Thursday that the two-week stay-at-home order he issued March 22 may be extended beyond this week. The closure of schools

The coronavirus outbreak has resulted in the [suspension of jury trials](#) and seen [courthouses across the state closed to the public](#). But domestic-violence victims in King County can now remotely petition for protection orders, which prosecutors say is key to ensuring access to justice.

King County prosecutors and victim advocates have been working with Superior Court Judge Janet Helson and [LegalAtoms.com](#), a local tech startup, to allow victims to file civil petitions for domestic-violence protection orders online, said Senior Deputy Prosecutor David Martin, who chairs his office's domestic-violence unit. The new option, which is only available for domestic-violence protection orders, was rolled out Wednesday, even as victims have been told not to show up to court and instead [to call and email advocates for help filling out court forms and to appear for court hearings by phone](#).

“This past weekend was ugly,” Martin said of the March 21-22 weekend. “We had a lot of felony domestic-violence (suspects) that were booked and we're seeing a rise on our (court) calendars.”



Lucy Ricca <lucyr@utcourts.gov>

Utah Sandbox - follow up questions

Mir Tariq <mir@legalatoms.com>
To: Lucy Ricca <lucyr@utcourts.gov>

Tue, Jun 15, 2021 at 7:33 PM

Hello Lucy

Nice to hear from you. I think we interacted recently in relation to WSBA, and the efforts in Washington state to launch a sandbox.

Answers to your questions:

1. In summary, there are two problems. First, as per **Rule 14-802. Authorization to practice law** LegalAtoms does engage in certain activities which CAN be interpreted as practicing law. Specifically the activities are:

(B) interviewing the client to understand the client's objectives and obtaining facts relevant to achieving that objective;

(C) completing forms approved by the Judicial Council;

This issue is not unique. The UPL definitions established by bar associations across different states had mostly notario-like personas in mind, and therefore the definitions fall short when it comes to websites like ours.

We face a similar problem in Washington where we are collaborating with WSBA to establish a sandbox so we can move forward.

Second, is the perception problem. Lawyers, professional insurance providers and an entire ecosystem hesitate to partner with us due to the lack of clarity on whether we are engaging in UPL. So even if LegalAtoms does not engage in UPL (as a subject matter expert may believe), the perception is that we may fall in a grey area, and in effect we are treated like we are engaging in UPL. And that is potentially a very serious problem for our platform to the point of making it economically not viable.

In Washington state e.g. we wanted to encourage lawyers to use our platform by working with insurance companies to offer malpractice insurance products. Insurance reps talked to us frankly, admired our vision for justice, but confided that they cannot partner for the risk of UPL liability. So this is a concrete example of where a sandbox like system would make partnerships easier.

Similarly until we partnered with the court many lawyers and legal technicians declined to be listed on our website.

To this day we face this ULP related cloud hanging over us which is preventing lawyers from participating on our website

2. Fee sharing works in two ways. First model is subscription where we charge a fixed monthly fee and forward a certain number of clients. This is to work around the fee sharing rules in Washington state. Second model which we plan to launch in future is where LegalAtoms will charge a flat rate or fixed percentage per transaction. We have not decided a figure but will be anywhere in the 1-30% range depending on competitiveness and services we offer e.g use of our automated document assembly or notifications or legal roadmap visualizations.

>>Finally, I just want to make sure you understand that authorization in the Sandbox, should the Court vote to authorize your entity, does not have anything to do with whether the state court system would or would not choose to partner with your company

Yes, we of course understand that these are two completely different things.

We do view partnering with courts as vital to our goals of access to justice, and for bringing knowledge from courts and court officials directly onto our platform, specifically with our experience in Washington state.

6/21/2021

Utah State Courts Mail - Utah Sandbox - follow up questions

Kind regards
-Mir

[Quoted text hidden]

--

[CEO LegalAtoms.com](#) | [cell: 425.502.0111](#) | [2500 Western Ave, Suite 722 Seattle WA 98121](#)
| [LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)