



UNEMPLOYMENT APPEALS SELF HELP CLINIC

2022 REPORT

In 2022 the clinic assisted 39 people. (Two people attended more than once.) The clinic continued to be held only by telephone. In 2022 cases with at least one pro se party constituted 89% of unemployment appeal case filings. There were a total of 92 unemployment cases filed in the Court of Appeals (a 33% decrease from 2021).

Clinic Details

Typically, the clinic operates twice per month. Clinic customers speak with volunteer attorneys for approximately 30 minutes. Prior to calling the customer, the attorney reviews both the customer's initial decision from the unemployment law judge and the decision in response to the request for reconsideration.

Number of Appeals Filed

12 of the clinic customers (31%) decided not to file an appeal after consulting with the clinic attorney.

Clinic Customers Who Received Full Representation

Four customers were referred to the Pro Bono Pro Bono Appellate Panel (MSBA Appellate Practice Section). In three of the cases, the attorney filed a petition for further review. All were denied by the Supreme Court.

Appeal Outcomes

Description of Outcome	# of Cases	# of Clinic Customers Represented
Appeals Dismissed No brief filed – 4 Untimely - 3 Moot – 2 Complete documents not filed - 1	10	0
ULJ Affirmed	17	4

Information Being Sought:

Q. What sort of information are you seeking? (31 answered)	
<i>Answer</i>	<i>Number of Responses</i>
Deadline to appeal	6
How to fill out forms	11
How to serve the other party	7
How long will this take?	7
Questions about the appellate brief	20
What do I do next?	18

Q. How did you hear about the clinic? (31 answered)	
<i>Answer</i>	<i>Number of Responses</i>
Minnesota State Law Library	11
Minnesota Unemployment Insurance Office	14
Clerk of Appellate Court's Office	1
Court of Appeals	6
Legal Aid	2
Web search	2

Evaluation:

Q. Overall, how satisfied were you with the services offered? (13 answered)	
<i>Answer</i>	<i>Number of Responses</i>
Very satisfied	11
Satisfied	2

Q. Did the session help answer your questions about representing yourself in your appeal (13 answered)	
<i>Answer</i>	<i>Number of Responses</i>
Yes	13
No	0

Q. What could be done to improve the services provided? (11 answered)
Nothing, service was outstanding and excellent with the assistance to questions.
We had 2 sessions. It would have been helpful to have access to the same attorney for both sessions, as I needed to bring the second attorney up to speed before they could answer my questions.
A confirmation email the day before verifying the session will take place.
It would be awesome if you had a list of volunteer/lower fee attorneys that folks doing appeals could turn to. I was grateful that the person we spoke with tried to help us find a work-around, because our appeal isn't typical. The attorney was very helpful, and we may do the appeal, but don't have our hopes up for a favorable outcome. He was honest and sincere with the wisdom he shared with us.
Nothing
Nothing it was very self-explanatory.
Nothing the man the I spoke with seemed genuinely interested in what I had to say he offered his legal knowledge and applied it to my current situation. I appreciate him more than words can express as this has been a very long emotional road and because of him I can now close that door.
For 30 minutes of pro bono advice, it was more than I hoped for. Thank you.
More concern on the lawyer's part
None
Because this is usually the only opportunity potential pro se litigants have to get answers to their questions, it would be of greater value for the attendee to be able to pose a limited number of follow-up questions after they have moved into the appeal process.

Counties of Customers:

Anoka, Chippewa, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Lake of the Woods, McLeod, Ramsey, Rice, Sherburne, St. Louis, Stearns, Washington, Winona

Attorney Volunteers in 2022:

Howard Bolter, Craig Brandt, Sarah Crippen, Marlene Garvis, Nathan Griffin, Mary Kaczorek, Corey Kobbervig, Jonathan Reppe, Brian Rochel, David Schlesinger

State Law Library Volunteers:

Elvira Embser-Herbert, Sarah Larsen, Liz Reppe

About the Clinic:

In April 2013, the Minnesota State Law Library and the Labor and Employment Section of the MSBA started a free clinic for people contemplating an appeal to the Minnesota Court of Appeals from an agency denial of unemployment benefits. The clinic is staffed by volunteer attorneys and law library staff.