

KAWARABAN

About Legal Consultation

December, 2016

In this issue of Kawaraban, we will discuss legal consultation. If you are having problems with divorce, inheritance, real estate, labor, traffic accidents, debt, children, citizenship, etc., you can consult a lawyer. Consultation information can be found below.

1. Legal Consultation by the Sendai Bar Association

The Sendai Bar Association conducts legal consultation at 6 legal consultation centers in the prefecture. Generally, there is a fee (5,400 yen/30 min.) but in the following cases, the service is free:

- Individuals who lived in or owned a business in Miyagi at the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake (March 11, 2011)
- Traffic accidents, multiple debts, labor and public assistance, children (1st time only), issues regarding statelessness (1st time only), using civil legal aid (refer to “6. About the Civil Legal Aid System” below)

Each consultation per case is 30 minutes. Capacity is limited, so appointments are recommended.

Name	Address	Hours of Operation	Contact Number
Sendai Bar Association Legal Consultation Center	2-9-18 Ichibancho, Aoba-ku, Sendai-shi	Mon.-Fri. 10:00-15:00 Mon. & Thu. 17:30-19:30 Sat. 9:30-12:00	022-223-2383
Kesenuma Legal Consultation Center	1-6-1 Tanakamae, Kesenuma-shi	Mon. & Wed. 11:00-15:00 First Sat. of the month 11:00-15:00	0226-22-8222
Ishinomaki Legal Consultation Center	Ekimae Bldg. 4F 12-18 Kokucho, Ishinomaki-shi	Mon.-Fri. 13:00-15:00 Sun. 10:00-15:00	0225-23-5451
Tome Legal Consultation Center	Sakura Terrace Kawauchi, Room 201 89-1 Sakurakoji, Teraike, Toyomamachi, Tome-shi	Wed. & Fri. 10:00-15:00	0220-52-2348
Furukawa Legal Consultation Center	Izumi Bldg. B101, 3-15 Ekiminami, Furukawa, Osaki-shi	Tue. & Sat. 10:00-15:00	0229-22-4611
Kennan Legal Consultation Center	91 Machi, Ogawara-machi	Tue. & Thu. 10:00-15:30	0224-52-5898

2. Direct Consultation with a Law Firm

You can also send an inquiry and, upon making a reservation, consult directly with a nearby law firm. Depending on the content of the case, consultation may be provided for free. There are also cases where you can consult for free by using civil legal aid.

3. Free Legal Consultation by Municipalities

Some municipalities periodically offer free legal consultation. For details, please confirm with your local municipality.

4. Sendai Bar Association's Free Phone Legal Consultation

Phone Number: 022-722-0737

Hours of Operation: Mon. 10:00-19:00

*Only in Japanese. You can consult on the same matter up to three times.



5. Japan Legal Support Center's Legal Consultation

The Japan Legal Support Center (JLSC) is an organization established with the goal of providing necessary information and services anywhere in Japan to resolve legal problems. Through this service, JLSC's specialized staff explains the legal process and introduces how to get free legal consultation with lawyers while sorting out the problem. This service is free of charge. (Any costs for calling are the responsibility of the caller.)

① Multilingual Information Service

Phone Number: 0570-078377

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00-17:00

Languages Available: English, Portuguese, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese

② Consultation in Japanese

Phone Number: 0570-078374

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00-21:00, Sat. 9:00-17:00

③ You can also consult with JLSC offices in Miyagi Prefecture.

- JLSC Miyagi 050-3383-5535
- JLSC Minami-sanriku 050-3383-0210
- JLSC Yamamoto 050-3383-0213
- JLSC Higashi Matsushima 050-3383-0009

*All offices can only use Japanese. Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00-17:00

6. About the Civil Legal Aid System

This system supports those with financial difficulties by providing free legal consultation. JLSC can pay the attorney's fee in advance on behalf of the client (the client would pay JLSC back on a later date). Eligibility varies depending on income and assets, so please contact organizations such as JLSC or the Sendai Bar Association for more details.

7. About Interpretation

If consultation in Japanese is difficult, generally the client is expected to bring their own interpreter. However, depending on the situation, JLSC or the law firm may provide one instead. If JLSC or the law firm provides an interpreter, please confirm how costs will be handled in advance. In some cases the service will be free of charge



8. Miyagi Support Center for Foreign Nationals

The Miyagi Support Center for Foreign Nationals provides consultation in multiple languages. Regarding legal matters, the support center can consult with a lawyer and provide information on free legal consultation.

☎022-275-9990

Languages Available: Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Portuguese, Nepalese, Indonesian

9. Things to Watch Out For When Consulting

Since consultation time with a lawyer is limited, please provide general information on your case when calling to make an appointment. Additionally, please confirm if you need to bring your name seal or ID on the day of the appointment. If you prefer a female lawyer, please confirm in advance.

On the day of the consultation, don't just address the case. Talk about your opinion, expectations, and ideal outcome. Don't talk one-sidedly and make sure to proceed through the consultation while answering any questions you are asked. Also, make sure to clarify anything you don't understand.

If your case cannot be resolved in one session, please confirm the cost and availability of another consultation.

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● ※“Kawaraban” was created during Japan's Edo Period as a one sheet, printed material featuring different news.