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Free legal assistance now available at Clerk's Self-Help Center

FORT MYERS, FLA (June 4, 2018) – Lee County Clerk of Court Linda Doggett has partnered with the Legal Aid Society to provide free attorney consultations at the Clerk's Self-Help Center beginning June 5.

Attorneys will be available to answer legal questions on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"Many of our citizens are in dire need of legal assistance, and this new service will provide them with the guidance they need to find justice," Clerk Doggett said. "We're grateful that the Legal Aid Society has stepped up to provide this pro bono service for our community."

Customers will be able to get answers for a variety of civil and family legal matters, including divorce, child support and alimony. Attorneys will also be able to assist with domestic violence injunctions, name changes, small claims, foreclosures, and evictions. Legal consultations will not be provided for criminal, juvenile, guardianship or mental health cases.

Each consultation is limited to 15 minutes. While walk-ins are available, customers are encouraged to schedule appointments by calling 239-533-5000.

The free attorney consultations will be offered for a 3-month trial period. The Legal Aid Society attorneys cannot represent the customer in court.

The Clerk's Self-Help Center is located on the first floor of the Justice Center's east entrance, 1700 Monroe Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901.

ABOUT THE SELF-HELP CENTER

The Self-Help Center assists customers with obtaining and e-filing court documents, getting certified and notarized copies of documents, and viewing child/family support payment history. Customers can also get assistance with filing small claims or eviction cases through an online system, TurboCourt. Fees apply for copies of documents. The Self-Help Center is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information about the Self-Help Center or free legal seminars provided at the Clerk's office, visit LeeClerk.org or call 239-533-5000.

ABOUT THE CLERK'S OFFICE:

The Florida Constitution established the Clerk of the Circuit Court as a public trustee, responsible for safeguarding public records and public funds. Clerk Linda Doggett is directly elected by and accountable to Lee County residents. In addition to the role of Clerk of the Circuit Court, the Clerk is the County Recorder and Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, and the Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Auditor for Lee County.