

Welcome to the Clerk's Office

## WE ARE HAPPY TO HELP YOU IF WE CAN. HOWEVER, WE ARE ALLOWED TO HELP YOU ONLY IN WAYS THAT ARE FAIR TO EVERYONE.

Under Mississippi law, you have a right to represent yourself. The Clerk's office will assist you if they can. This is a list of some things the court staff can and cannot do for you.

## WE CAN:

- Explain and answer questions about how the court works.
- Provide the telephone numbers of the MS Access to Justice Commission, MS Legal Services Providers, Law Libraries and other services where you may be able to get legal information.
- Give general information about where to find court procedures, deadlines, rules and practices.
- Provide court schedules and information about how to get a case scheduled.
- Provide basic information about your own case file.
- Provide approved/authorized court forms and instructions, if available.
- Provide information about requesting the services of a foreign language or sign language interpreter.

## WE CANNOT:

- Provide legal advice.
- Tell you whether or not you should bring your case to court.
- Tell you what to say in your court papers. (However, we CAN check your papers for completeness as in signatures, proper notarization, correct county name and case number, and verify any attachments.)
- Tell you what to say in court.
- Give you an opinion about what will happen if you bring your case to court.
- Talk to the judge for you.
- Let you talk to the judge outside the courtroom.
- Change an order signed by a judge.

This information provided by the Mississippi Access to Justice Commission, <u>www.msatjc.org</u>.