## CONTACT:

Amanda Brown Disaster Legal Services Program (DLS) Director American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division amanda@lagniappelawlab.org

## Free Legal Help Available for Tennessee Tornadoes Survivors

12/25/2023 – A free legal help hotline is now available for Tennessee Tornadoes survivors.

The hotline is available to connect survivors to free legal services in qualifying counties who cannot afford an attorney. Survivors can call (844) HELP4TN or (844) 435-7486.

Hotline callers may get help with legal issues like:

- FEMA and SBA financial benefits
- Home repair contracts and property insurance claims
- Re-doing wills and other important legal documents destroyed in the disaster
- Price gouging, scams, or identity theft
- Landlord or tenant problems, or threats of foreclosure
- Disability-related access to federal, state, and local disaster programs

Survivors can call the hotline anytime, select the extension for those impacted by the tornadoes, and leave a message. A licensed attorney will call back as soon as possible.

Hotline partners cannot help in all cases. For example, we cannot take cases where a settlement could include legal fees or an award. But we can refer those cases to other legal help.

For up-to-date information on free legal services for survivors, media members can contact our partners in these languages: English, Arabic, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Chinese (Mandarin), Chinese (cantonese).

The Disaster Legal Services (DLS) program works with state and local partners to provide free legal help for low-income disaster survivors. The service is a partnership between the <u>American Bar</u> <u>Association Young Lawyers Division</u>, the <u>Federal Emergency Management Agency</u> (FEMA), Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services, and Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands.





