

The National Legal Resource Network (NLRN) is a division of the Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) comprised of our nation's leading health care attorneys who specialize in resolving managed care, insurance, job retention and debt crisis matters resulting from a diagnosis of chronic, debilitating and/or life-threatening disease.

Shortly after PAF was launched in 1996, the need for the National Legal Resource Network became apparent. Developed under the leadership of one of PAF's inaugural Executive Board members, Sheldon Weinhaus of Weinhaus & Potashnick, the NLRN has thrived for over 17 years including many best-in-field and prominent health care attorneys. Over the years, members of the NLRN have been directly involved in hundreds of cases where they worked to successfully resolve complex issues on behalf of patients in crisis.

The National legal Resource Network is currently led by Rich Carter of Carter & Coleman based in Alexandria, VA. Members of the network are selected based on their expertise in common healthcare matters and their desire to contribute their services to better the lives of patients facing seemingly insurmountable hurdles. Network members receive referrals directly from PAF case managers and have agreed to provide an initial case evaluation and consultation pro-bono on behalf of the patient in a timely fashion.

To be considered for membership within the National Legal Resource Network lawyers should complete the attached application and return. Applications will be reviewed within 30 days of submission.

For each case that is referred to the National Legal Resource Network, A PAF Case Manager will:

- Complete and document an initial patient intake, defining the unresolved issue, as well as contact information for all relevant parties
- Request copies of all corresponding documentation relating to the patient's issue including but not limited to, insurance plan documents, letters of appeal and denial,
- Maintain log of all communication and actions taken by Case Manager before referral
- Ensure patient signs a Release of Information form prior to referral
- Send all communication containing private and personal health information via secure encrypted electronic means
- Secure formal acceptance from the NLRN member before informing patient of specific consultation details or contact information.
- Provide In-Kind recognition within PAF's Annual Report for the National Legal Resource Network

Interested parties should complete membership application and return to PAF at:

Patient Advocate Foundation
Attn: National Legal Resource Network
421 Butler Farm Road
Hampton, VA 23666

Or Fax to 757-873-8999

All applications will be reviewed within 30 days of submission.

NLRN member receiving referral agrees to:

- Review initial materials and respond to request within two business days of patient referral from PAF case manager
- Provide initial case evaluation and consultation pro bono, that is without cost to patient
- Should additional fees be required for subsequent services as it relates to the patient case, NLRN members agrees to discuss clearly and directly these costs with the patient, identifying and estimating the patient's further financial responsibility prior to any legal representation
- Maintain regular communication with NLRN leader in regards to the NLRN, its policies, actions and member guidance