Table of Contents

## Legal aid study finds: No lawyer, no win

(AP) A study by a legal aid group found that Virginia residents forced to defend themselves in civil lawsuits are at a huge disadvantage.

John Whitfield, executive director of Blue Ridge Legal Services, presented the findings April 4 to the Virginia Supreme Court.

The Daily Press <u>reported</u> that at the general district court level, civil defendants are represented by a lawyer in only two percent of cases. Plaintiffs, meanwhile, have lawyers more than half of the time.

When plaintiffs with lawyers face defendants representing themselves they win 60 percent of the time. Many plaintiffs are landlords, loan companies and hospitals.

But when defendants have a lawyer on their side, plaintiffs win only 20 percent of their cases.

The study recommends relaxing procedural rules for pro bono defendants and encouraging lawyers to donate more legal hours. READ MORE

Last updated on April 09, 2018.

Print

Table of Contents

**NEWS** 

News & publications

The news about recent activities for needed peoples.

## More News

30 Sep 2025

Kentucky has kicked people off food benefits using data that doesn't tell the full story

This Hunger Action Month we want to share "Laura's" story. She contacted...

Continue Reading about Kentucky has kicked people off food benefits using data that doesn't tell the full story

30 Sep 2025



Honoring Pro Bono Attorney Marsha Taylor

AppalReD Legal Aid was deeply saddened to learn of Marsha's death. Marsha was...

Continue Reading about Honoring Pro Bono Attorney Marsha Taylor

PDF downloaded from https://www.ardfky.org/node/206/legal-aid-study-finds-no-lawyer-no-win