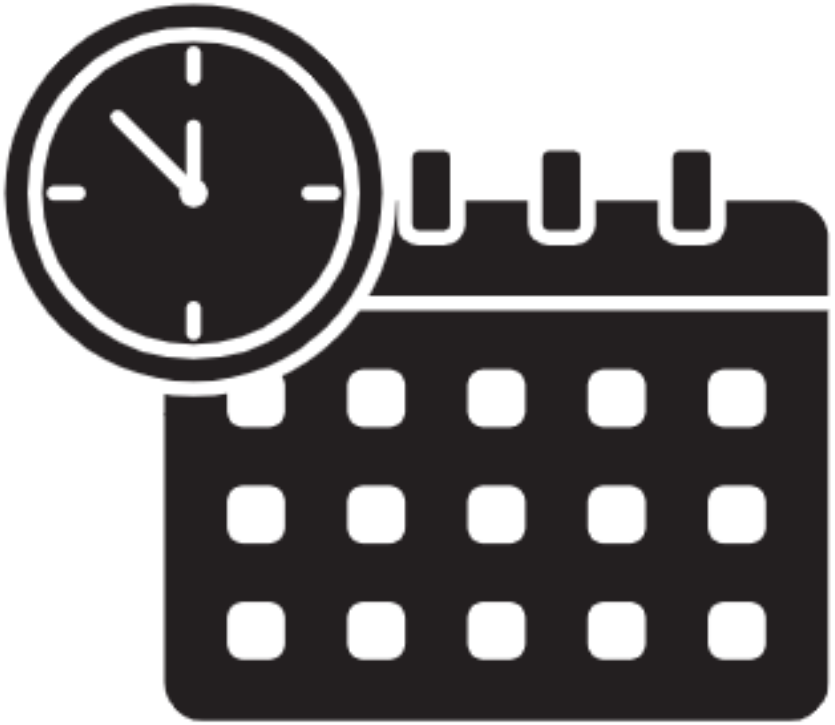
CANBERRA COMMUNITY LAW

# NEXT MEETING WITH MY DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION LAWYER

My lawyer

I am [meeting with/speaking to] Farzana on [date] at [time].

**FARZANA**



It’s okay if I can’t make my appointment.

I can contact Canberra Community Law (CCL) and they will make another one.

CANBERRA COMMUNITY LAW

**Ph:** 02 6218 7900

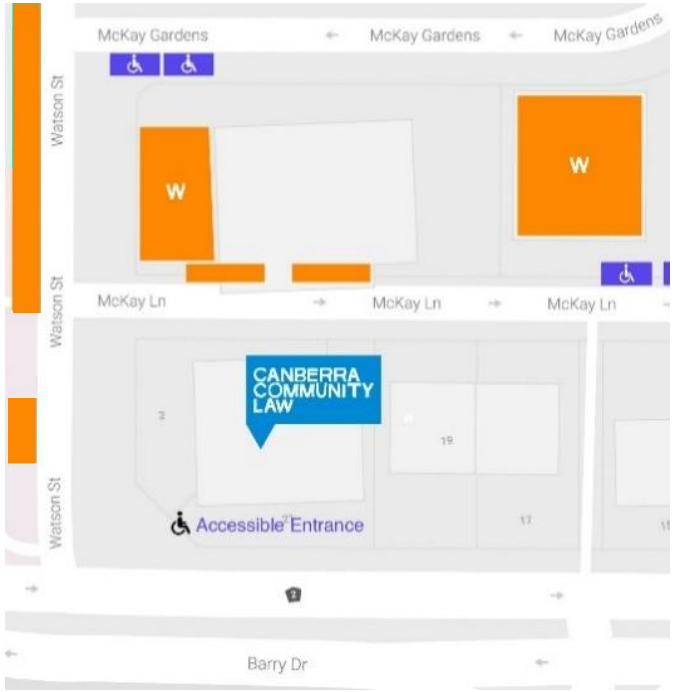
**E:** info@canberracommunitylaw.org.au

[***Meeting at CCL*** *– delete this page if not applicable*]

I am meeting at CCL.

CCL is at level 1, 21 Barry Drive Turner.

I can have a support person with me if I want to.



[***Telephone meeting*** *– delete this page if not applicable*]

CCL will call me.

It is a good idea to do this in a quiet place and to have a pen and paper to take notes.

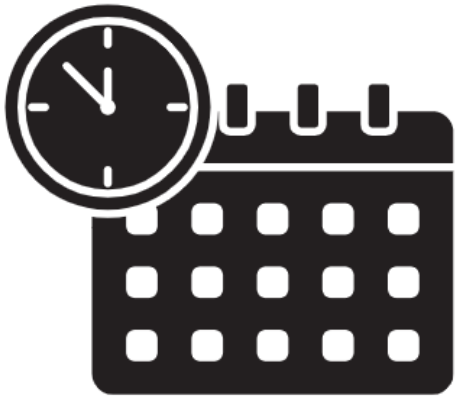
I can have a support person with me if I want to.

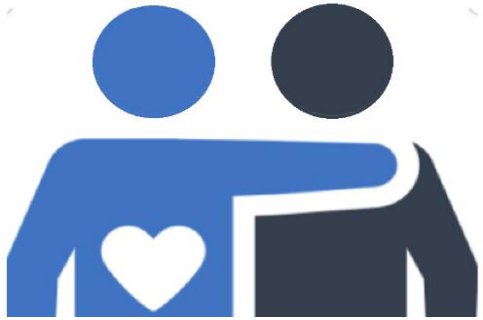
[***Video conference meeting*** *– delete this page if not applicable*]

I will receive a calendar appointment with the instructions for joining a video conference.

It is a good idea to do this in a quiet place and to have a pen and paper to take notes.

I can have a support person with me if I want to.



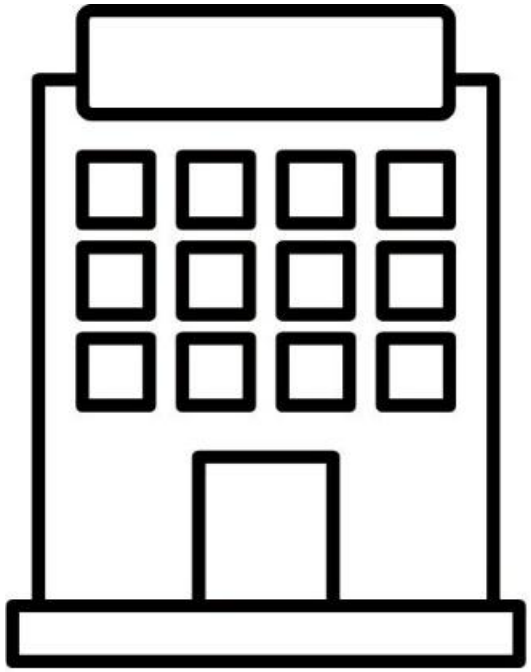


[***Out of office meeting*** *– delete this page if not applicable*]

I am meeting them at [Location name].

The address is [Address].

[*Replace building image with a photo of the front view of location. Replace pin drop icon with a map showing location*]



I should have any documents that might help with me.

These might be

- A copy of my complaint
- Tribunal documents
- Photos
- Letters

I can contact CCL if I have questions about what documents I need.

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I can tell CCL anything they can do to make the meeting more accessible for me. For example, I could ask

- For an interpreter
- For changes to our meeting space, such as moving furniture so a wheelchair can move around safely or having the door open
- If I would like breaks during the meeting
- To have a support person come with me

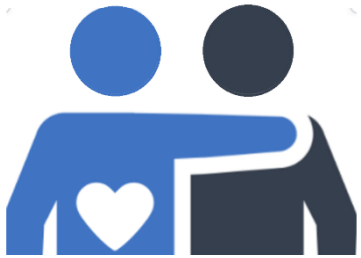
They know my access needs can change, so it is okay to tell them what I need at any time.

I can choose to bring a support person to my meeting. This could be

- A support worker
- A friend or family member
- A disability advocate, for example
  - ACT Disability, Aged and Carer Advocacy Service (ph 6242 5060)
  - Advocacy for Inclusion (ph 6257 4005)

My support person can help if I forget parts of my story, or if I become overwhelmed.

If I have a support person there, my lawyer will still ask me the questions. I will still be the one to make decisions about what to do next.



[*Delete pages 11 to 12 if meeting is **not** at CCL*]

When I arrive at CCL, the receptionist will let me into the waiting area.

They will ask me my name and who I am meeting with today.

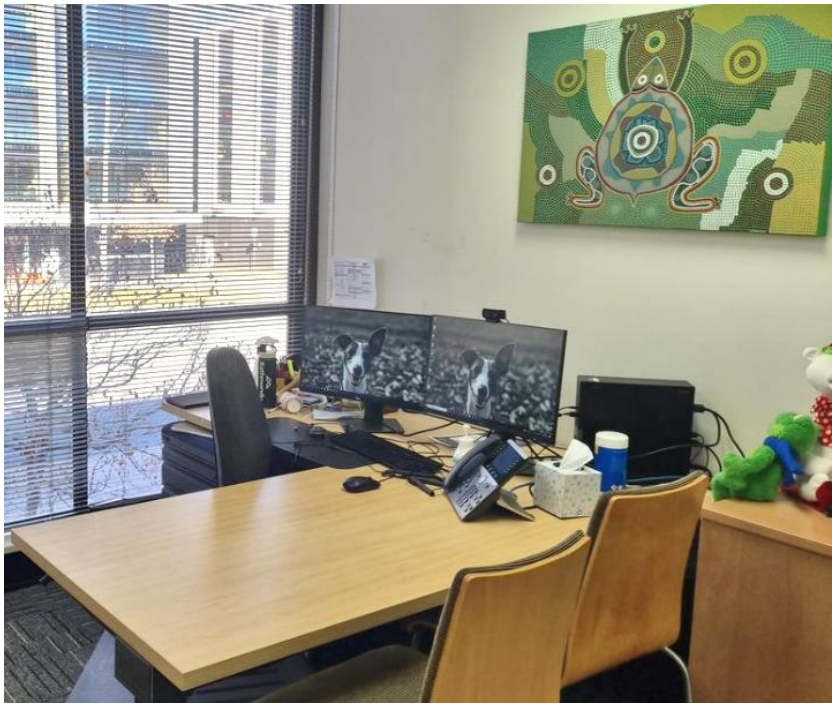
I can bring something with me to help make waiting easier if i want, for example my iPad, a book or another quiet activity I can do while I am waiting.

My lawyer will come to the waiting room and ask me to come with them.

They will take me to their office or another meeting room.

I can decide whether I would like the door open or closed.

**Farzana**



Now I am ready to start my meeting!

Everything I tell my lawyer is private. They won't tell anyone else my story unless I say it is okay.

My lawyer may talk to me about

- What the law says about the problem
- What my rights are
- How CCL can help
- Where I can go for other help

My lawyer might ask me some questions about the problem. They may be personal.

I don’t have to answer anything I don’t want to.

Remember, everything I tell CCL is private. They won’t tell anyone else my story unless I say it is okay.

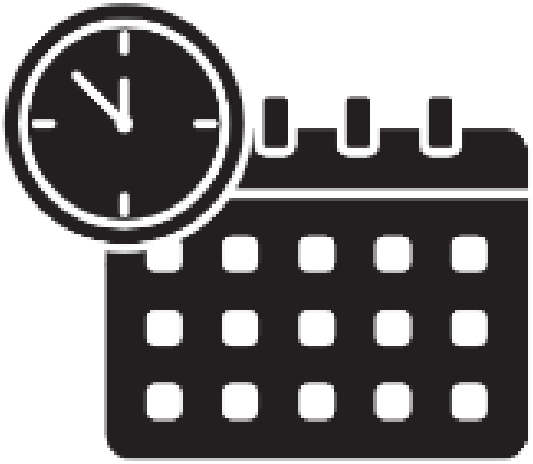
My lawyer might ask me to sign a document. This could be a permission form so CCL can talk about the problem with other people.

They might ask me to sign a Client Agreement. This says what CCL agrees to help me with. They will explain all documents to me.

My lawyer may tell me what I can do to help with the problem.

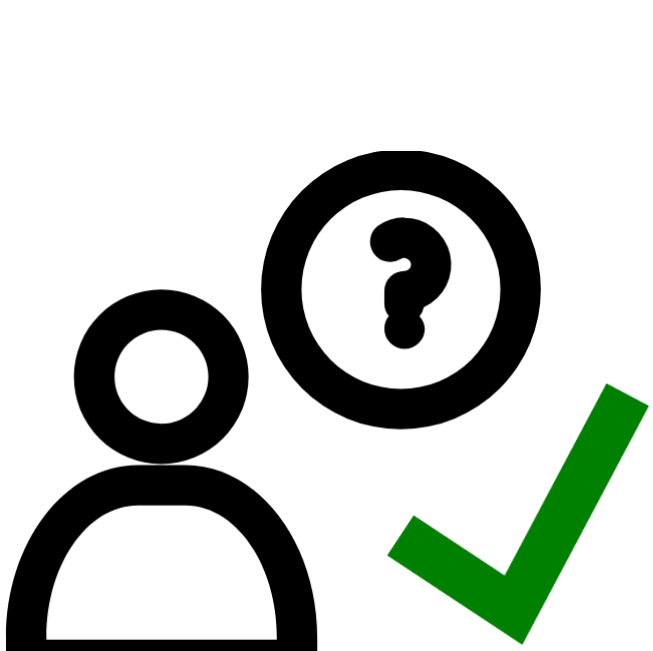
For example, I might need to

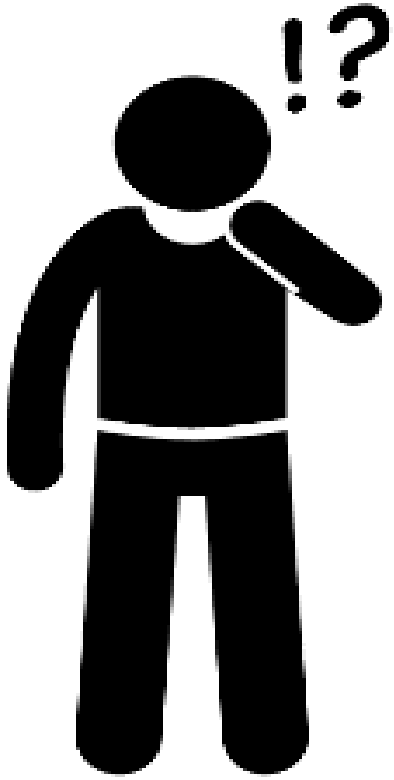
- Ask for a letter from someone who is helping me (for example, a doctor)
- Give CCL important documents
- Tell CCL how they can best communicate with me. For example, if I prefer text messages or email



I can ask CCL any questions. They will answer my questions if they can.

But they might need to think about it and give me the answer another day.





I might get bad news. But it’s okay because my lawyer is here to help.

CCL also has a Social Worker who might be able to help me.

**Bec, Social Worker**

It’s okay if I need extra time to understand and process the information.

It’s okay if I become overwhelmed.

If I am overwhelmed I can ask

- For more time to answer questions
- For a break
- To stop my meeting and make an appointment for another time

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My lawyer will tell me if I need another meeting.

They will also tell me what will happen next.

After my meeting, I might think of

- More questions I want to ask
- More information I want to share

I can contact CCL and talk to them about this.

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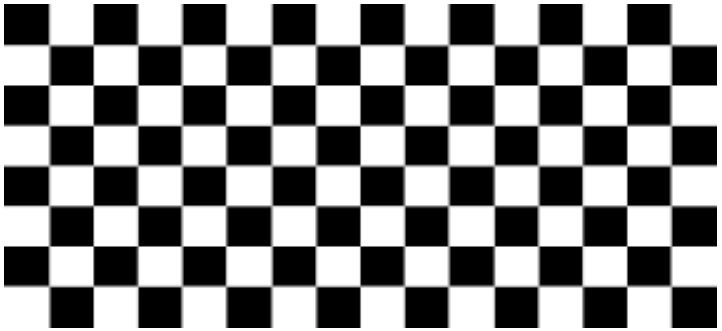
**Finished!**



**For more social scripts visit** https://www.canberracommunitylaw.org.au/social-scripts **or scan the QR Code below.**

**Phone:** (02) 6218 7900 | **Email:** info@canberracommunitylaw.org.au

**Address:** Level 1, 21 Barry Drive Turner ACT 2612
(Accessible entrance via the Environmental Defender's Office)

**Website**: www.canberracommunitylaw.org.au

Canberra Community Law acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work in the ACT and surrounding region and pay our respect to the Ngunnawal elders past, present and future for they hold the stories, traditions, and the cultures of their people. We are grateful that we share this land and express our sorrow for the costs of this sharing to Australia's First Peoples. We will continue to acknowledge the legacy of our history and strive in our goals to empower our community through social justice. We hope that our efforts will contribute to a realisation of equity, justice and partnership with Traditional Custodians of this land.

***We Acknowledge Wiradjuri artist Leanne Pope for use of her artwork 'Fresh life after rain' 2017 for our identifier, marketing and promotional materials.***

Supported by

ACT Government

This is an ACT Government funded initiative. We thank the ACT Office for Disability for their support.

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