

# PARENT HANDBOOK

LOCATION:Chestnut Hall, Suite 115PHONE:(940)565-2614EMAIL:Studentlegal@UNT.edu

Dear University of North Texas Parents,

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Your student is about to begin their journey at the University of North Texas! During this exciting time, it is our pleasure to inform you about Student Legal Services and the multitude of legal services offerred free of charge to your student.

## ABOUT US

Our office houses a team of Attorneys and Staff who work diligently to assist UNT students with all their legal needs. While provided by UNT, we work for the students, and are able to assist with any legal matters which do not involve the University or other UNT Students.

## AREAS OF LAW

- Contracts
- Landlord Tenant
- Labor and Employment
- Immigration
- DACA Filing and Renewal
- Name and Gender Marker Changes
- Family Law
- Power of Attorney
- Traffic Offenses
- Notary Services
- And Many More!

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## Important Documents

#### **General Power of Attorney**

A General Power of Attorney gives you access to your students financial accounts and the authority to sign documents and contracts on your student's behalf.

#### Healthcare Power of Attorney

A Healthcare Power of Attorney allows you to make medical decisions for your student if your student is unable to do so.

#### Mental Health Power of Attorney

A Mental Health Power of Attorney allows you to make decisions involving your student's mental health if your student is unable to do so.

### **HIPAA** Release

A HIPAA Release authorizes medical providers to release medical information about your student to you.

### Living Will

A living will documents the student's wishes regarding end of life choices, including life sustaining treatment and organ donation.



## How to Schedule an Appointment

Your student can schedule an appointment by calling (940) 565-2614 or via email at studentlegal@unt.edu.

# College Happens

#### **Underage Drinking**

The University of North Texas Police, The Denton Police Department, The Denton County Sheriff's Office, and The Texas Highway Patrol can all encounter UNT Students, and each officer has the ability to charge students with unlawful behavior. This includes underage drinking.

### **Traffic Tickets**

Students may receive traffic tickets on or off campus. SLS can assist your student by advising of the necessary procedures to handle the ticket.

### Expungments

Student Legal Services regularly assists with the expungement of court records. Even if a record has been sealed it may still be accessed by graduate programs and other career paths through background checks.

### Student Conduct

While SLS cannot represent students in Student Conduct hearings, but Student Conduct regularly refers students to SLS for legal assistance and advice for underlying criminal matters, such as MPIs or MPCs.



## Off-Campus Housing Lease Review Timeline

the lease with the student line by line, explain the student's rights and remedies, identify unenforcible clauses, and answer any questions.

#### Sub-Lease

SLS can advise students about subleasing, draft sublease agreements, and help students to protect their rights during the process.

#### Living Off Campus

If a student has questions, difficulties getting repairs made, needs to terminate a lease, or any other leasing issues SLS is available for assistance.



#### **Renter's Insurance**

Some landlords require that renters maintain a form of renters insurance. This may benefit the student by protecting the student's personal belongings or it may just cover the property of the landlord. It is important to thoroughly read and understand what is covered under your renter's insurance policy.

#### **Roommate Agreements**

Many leases contain "joint and several liability" clauses. Meaning that everyone shares joint responsibility for rent and any other damages. Co-signors are also liable for leases and damages. Due to this, students should complete a roommate agreement before signing any joint leases.

#### Moving Out

When moving out, make sure that the condition of the apartment is documented. In addition, make sure the landlord is provided a forwarding address in order to receive repayment of your security deposit.

## A Few Legal Areas Explained

#### Scams and Identity Theft

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

SLS works to help students decipher if a situation is a possible scam. We also advise students that believe they have already been scammed.

#### Employment

The SLS office advises students about potential employment and internship opportunities, employment contracts, wage issues, and more.

#### Insurance

Our team aids students by reviewing insurance policies, reviewing insurance claims, filing appeals for denials of coverage, explaining the student's responsibility and duties when holding an insurance policy, and more.

#### Immigration

Our office understands the need to provide legal assistance and counsel concerning immigration policies and procedures for our students. As valid community members, currently enrolled students are encouraged to set up an appointment to discuss their immigration matters.



## FAQs

#### Do Students Really Need Lawyers?

Yes! Experienced Legal Assistance can help your student to minimize the longterm consequences and helps to prevent distractions that may impact their academic career.

#### How can parents support students?

With the student's permission, parents can support their student by attending SLS meetings alongside their student. Your student must first sign a waiver to allow your attendance.

#### What is the cost?

The cost of SLS services is included in your student's student fees. Your student will only be responsible for the cost of court actions and filings.

#### Is this even a legal issue?

Your student may contact SLS for assistance in determining if they are facing a legal issue.

#### How do I schedule an appointment?

Your student can schedule an appointment by calling (940) 565-2614 or via email at studentlegal@unt.edu.

# Our Team



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