

## **What Can an MVLS Mentor Help with and How Does the Process Work?**

MVLS encourages volunteers to take cases in areas in which they have not practiced before. In fact, the needs of many of our clients are mismatched with the practice areas of the private bar. For instance, few attorneys in private practice handle foreclosure defense, yet that is a need for many MVLS clients. For that reason, MVLS offers substantial training and mentoring resources to our volunteers.

MVLS mentors are attorneys and tax professionals who are either on staff with MVLS or volunteers themselves, who have significant experience in the area of law in which they are providing mentoring. If you would like a mentor, please let a member of the MVLS legal advocate team know when you accept your case. The legal advocate assigned to your case will find a mentor for you and make sure you and the mentor have each other's contact information.

Each mentor/mentee relationship looks a little bit different depending on the needs of the mentee. Some mentees are looking for someone to ask a question or two of if they get stuck, whereas other mentees set up regular meetings with their mentor and ask them to review pleadings, case strategy, etc. It is up to you and your mentor to touch base at the beginning of your case to determine what would work best for both of you.

MVLS is here to support you through your entire case. If any challenges arise, such as trouble getting in touch with your mentor, please let us know. Please reach out to the legal advocate who originally placed your case with you. We are here to help!

In addition to our mentors, please also be sure to check out the trainings available on the volunteer resources page of our website: <https://mvlslaw.org/volunteer/volunteer-resources/#case-type>.