

## Other legal advocacy resources for youth:

If you have more questions about youth advocates, your Court Clerk and Pro Se Navigator can help. We're not lawyers. We cannot tell you what you should do, but we can help you with the Code. As a Tulalip tribal member, you can always call to talk with the Pro Se Navigator **and ask if you qualify for legal help** from TOCLA attorneys.

We wish you the best of luck in your case. Let us know what you'd like to see from these guides.

**TeamChild**  
206-322-2444



**LCYC**  
(Legal Counsel for Youth and Children)  
206-494-0323



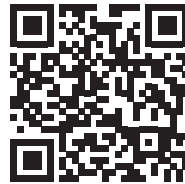
**NJP**  
(Northwest Justice Project)  
1-888-201-1014



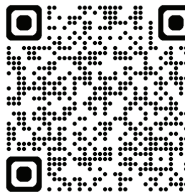
### Washington Law Help



### Tulalip Tribal Codes



### TOCLA Webpage



**Tulalip Office of Civil Legal Aid**  
6332 31st Ave NE, Suite B  
Tulalip, WA 98271

**Taylor Ward, Pro Se Navigator**  
**Phone:** 360-716-4512  
**Fax:** 360-716-0671  
**Email:** [tward@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov](mailto:tward@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov)

**[www.TulalipTribalCourt-nsn.gov](http://www.TulalipTribalCourt-nsn.gov)**



**TULALIP OFFICE OF  
CIVIL LEGAL AID**

## PRO SE NAVIGATION

TOCLA SPOTLIGHT:  
**Youth  
Attorney**



TDS 15202

**360-716-4512**

# SPOTLIGHT: WHAT IS A YOUTH ATTORNEY?

## Youth Attorney:

The Tulalip Office of Civil Legal Aid, or TOCLA, has attorneys that can help with different areas of civil matters. This brochure is about the children/youth attorney.

## What does the attorney do?

The Youth Attorney provides safe, developmentally appropriate representation and advocacy for children and youth that are in Youth in Need of Care (YINC) cases and guardianship cases that are at risk of re-entry into YINC within Tulalip Court. Eligible ages range from 0–21.

## How does eligibility work?

Representation is not determined by TOCLA's intake forms. For a child or youth to qualify, they must be appointed by the court or they must be referred (or self-referred) directly to the TOCLA youth attorney. The appointment by the court is done when a party in the case petitions for an attorney for an eligible youth, or when the youth has directly retained the attorney.

## How long can the attorney represent the youth?

The Youth Attorney will serve as an attorney for the child/youth until the case is dismissed by the child returning home or reaching permanency, when they turn 21, or through any other dismissal by court order.

## What is stated interest representation?

Stated interest, or expressed interest, is representation that advocates for the child's expressed wishes. The attorney gives the same duties to the child client as they would for an adult. This involves active client counseling regarding decisions they can make in a case, and investigation.

## What other kinds of cases does the Youth Attorney assist with?

The Youth Attorney may represent a client in other legal cases that have been determined by the Youth Attorney to be directly related to the Youth in Need of Care case. These issues may include, but are not limited to:

- protection orders
- education

- public benefits
- accessing social services
- juvenile delinquency (limited advice until counsel is appointed)
- guardianship
- adoption
- emancipation

## How can the attorney help in guardianship cases?

The Youth Attorney may represent youth in guardianship cases if the youth's guardianship originally came out of a Youth in Need of Care case, and/or if the youth is at risk of entering into a YINC case. Appointment must occur by the court, or the youth must directly hire the attorney.

## How can the attorney help in guardianship cases?

A youth or a referent may call TOCLA to make an appointment to speak with a Youth Attorney regarding their legal issue.