



TESTIMONIAL FROM SYMS | LEGAL MOMENTUM HELPLINE CALLER

Another “hotline wasn't able to help me but Legal Momentum’s helpline—a really great organization—has. Props to organizations who make a real difference. Courage and action.”

DALLAS, TX | MARCH 2020

With women the majority at the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, never has ensuring all women know their legal rights been more important.

Women from all backgrounds, from all socio-economics, across all political divides – struggle with assault, domestic violence, sex discrimination in education and employment, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment and more.

All too often they don’t know what their legal options are, don’t have access to information, have no idea on how get assistance, are unable to obtain legal referrals. The no-cost, long-standing and deeply experienced SYMS | Legal Momentum Helpline is at the ready to assist all women and those that identify as female when they experience or have had experienced discrimination in the workplace, school, home or the courts.

One of the longstanding positive effects of the Helpline is to inform the Legal Momentum legal team of widespread issues negatively impacting the legal rights of

women so that this team can take legal action to positively impact the greatest number of women with the greatest of legal efficacy.

Legal Momentum takes on very few cases per year, focusing our resources on those that stand to bring about impactful change and advance our mission and goal for gender equality. Though the SYMS | LM Helpline plays a critical role in bringing some such cases to our attention – the Helpline’s greatest power, is, in part, revealing trends in inquiries to the Helpline. These trends help us identify which cases have the potential for great impact and are the areas in which we should devote our litigation resources.

For example, our Helpline inquiries over the past couple years indicated to us that the rise in defamation suits brought against survivors of domestic and sexual violence necessitated our attention, expertise and resources. Recently, one Helpline inquiry presented such a case.

We now, along with pro bono co-counsel Holland & Knight, represent a domestic violence survivor and U.S. military member, being sued by her abuser for daring to speak out about his abuse and the military's failure to protect her. The outcome has the potential to carve out good precedent that will help countless other survivors defend themselves from this type of furthering abuse, or prevent them from ever having to even engage in such litigation.

Importantly, the SYMS | LM Helpline ongoing national awareness initiative - intent on ensuring every woman and girl in our nation knows this no cost legal resource is available to her – is making use of the existing relationships of Legal Momentum with other historic women’s rights organizations. NOW became an Inaugural Founding Champion of the SYMS | LM Helpline and Feminist Majority Foundation just joined as the second national organizational champion of the Helpline.

In conclusion, SYMS | LM Helpline’s most vital function is ensuring that justice for any and all women and girls can be obtained for sex-based discrimination and inequality sustained. As Legal Momentum refines and advances our advocacy efforts, we will continue to be informed by the contacts to the Helpline.

REACH us	LMHelpline.org
EMAIL us	help@LMHelpline.org
CALL us	(971) 3 LEGAL-1 (971) 353-4251

Questions? Please reach out to Siobhan "Sam" Bennett, Chief Strategic Officer, Legal Momentum sambennett@legalmomentum.org 484-560-2810