

Judicial Bypass: Scheduling Your Appointment & Avoiding Unnecessary Delay

In Pennsylvania, people under 18 years old can legally have an abortion without parental consent if they go to court and meet with a judge. The judge can give them permission to get an abortion.

This confidential hearing is called a “judicial bypass.”

We know you may feel overwhelmed. Women’s Law Project attorneys are here to help you & we do not charge any fees. Call us at 412-281-2892 and we will get back to you as soon as possible.



You must receive state-mandated counseling from an abortion provider before your court hearing & the abortion.

Pennsylvania law requires that you receive counseling about your options and the risks of abortion and childbirth from an abortion provider. You must receive this counseling before your judicial bypass hearing and at least 24 hours before you receive your abortion care. You don’t need parental consent or a judge’s permission to schedule this counseling session with your abortion provider. You should make this appointment right away.



Use a trusted search tool to find an abortion provider.

Google and similar search engines may bring you to an anti-abortion crisis pregnancy center (CPC) website instead of an abortion provider. CPCs don’t provide abortion, don’t refer for abortion, and are NOT qualified to give you the pre-abortion counseling required by law. Sometimes called “pregnancy resource centers,” CPCs want you to go to their facility before your abortion, but that’s unnecessary and could delay your care. But don’t worry! It’s easy to find a real abortion provider: Just use www.inneedana.com or www.abortionfinder.org instead of a regular search engine.



Use inneedana.com or abortionfinder.org to find an abortion provider!



Schedule the counseling appt.

If you have not completed the counseling before your court hearing, you will not be able to proceed with the judicial bypass process.

 **Women’s Law Project**

info@womenslawproject.org // 412-281-2892
www.womenslawproject.org



It might be a CPC website if:

...it encourages you to wait and see if you have a miscarriage.

...it refers to “abortion pill reversal,” an anti-abortion practice not based on science. No legitimate medical provider would promote this program.

... it uses the phrase “chemical abortion” to refer to medication abortion. This is not a real medical term.