WHO WE ARE. The Bronx Defenders provides innovative, holistic, and client-centered services to indigent people of the Bronx, which include criminal defense, family defense, civil legal services, immigration representation, social work support, and advocacy. Our staff of over 300 represents 32,000 individuals each year and reaches many more through outreach programs and community legal education.

HOW WE WORK. We operate on multiple levels: as a provider of Holistic Defense working one-on-one with clients and families; as a community resource; and as a force for systemic change.

OUR STAFF. Our diverse staff includes criminal, civil, family, and immigration attorneys; social workers; benefits specialists; investigators; community organizers; team administrators; and civil legal, parent, and immigration advocates.
CIVIL ACTION

- Defend against evictions or subsidy terminations that involve alleged criminal activity in private or public housing
- Help with civil forfeiture and property retrieval
- Consultation regarding employment or income-related problems triggered by an arrest or removal of children
- Provide access to public benefits through our Benefits Advisers
- Offer reentry services:
  - Obtain criminal histories
  - Prepare certificates to demonstrate rehabilitation (Certificate of Relief from Disabilities or Certificate of Good Conduct)
  - Clear criminal record errors
  - Seal certain convictions
- Provide Know Your Rights information related to housing, employment, government misconduct, benefits, and re-entry

CRIMINAL DEFENSE

- Provide representation for Bronx County Desk Appearance Tickets (DATs)
- Arrange surrenders to NYPD
- Determine whether a person has a bench warrant/assist to vacate warrant
- Screen for Sex Offender Risk Level reduction

FAMILY DEFENSE

- Represent parents in abuse and neglect cases in Bronx Family Court
- Advocate for families during the child protection investigation before a legal case is filed
- Advise pregnant women who are at risk of child protection involvement

IMMIGRATION

- Assist immigrants with criminal histories who
  - are in deportation proceedings
  - are seeking to apply for/renew a green card (Legal Permanent Resident status)
  - are applying for citizenship, visa or work permit
  - are seeking to travel outside the US
  - have contact with US Immigration authorities (DHS, USCIS, ICE)

OTHER

- Monthly Notice of Claim Clinic
- Benefits Adviser Hotline: 718-838-7849
- 24-hour Legal Hotline: If you or a family member is arrested, wanted by the police or contacted by ACS, call our hotline at 347-778-1266.

The Bronx Defenders
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Bronx, New York 10451
718-838-7878
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Availability of services depends on capacity to serve