Tenants’ Rights

Prisoners’ Civil Rights

Social Security Disability Income

UPLC believes that all people deserve safe, decent, and affordable housing.

We assist clients in fighting *unwarranted evictions* and recovering security deposits. We also work with tenants whose landlord has let the building fall into disrepair.

Our work focuses primarily on helping people who live in public housing, project-based Section 8 Housing, and the Chicago Housing Authority’s voucher program.

UPLC is the only organization changing Illinois’ prison system through class action lawsuits.

We receive and respond to 100+ letters a week from prisoners.

We currently have seven class action lawsuits against the state of Illinois, including challenges to awful health care, the use of prolonged solitary confinement, and the mistreatment of Deaf and hard of hearing prisoners.

UPLC provides direct representation to adults seeking Social Security disability benefits in Chicago.

We advocate for clients during the initial application, reconsideration, and final hearing stages.

Our staff will ensure that the Social Security Administration has all of the necessary information in order to make a decision, including your complete medical records.
Who We Are:
We are lawyers and community advocates who work on behalf of tenants facing eviction, individuals seeking Social Security disability, and prisoners denied their basic human rights.

What We Do:
In addition to brief service and legal representation, Uptown People’s Law Center provides training to community members and organizations, and recruits and supervises pro bono attorneys to assist our clients. Please note that our staff does not represent individuals in criminal appeals.

Recent Victories:
Last year our staff helped over 500 individuals and families with tenants’ rights and Social Security disability income issues.

We settled a case against the state of Illinois, and now all prisons must provide care to seriously mentally ill prisoners rather than simply placing them in solitary confinement.

Illinois must now provide attorneys to eligible people who are facing parole revocation. This will lead to a significant reduction in the number of people entering Illinois’ prisons each year!