# **METLIFE LEGAL PLANS®**

# INTRODUCTION

MetLife Legal Plans<sup>®</sup> was established to provide personal legal services for eligible employees and their spouses and dependent children. This summary provides general information about the plan, who is eligible to receive benefits under the plan, what those benefits are, how to obtain benefits, and what your rights under ERISA are. If you have any questions that are not answered, please contact the benefits department.

MetLife Legal Plans, Inc. has been selected to provide legal plan benefits. The services will be provided through a panel of carefully selected participating law firms. Lawyers in this network are called Plan Attorneys. These arrangements are described in detail in this summary. The actual provisions of the plan are set out in a written document maintained by your employer. All statements made in this booklet are subject to the provisions and terms of that document, which control in the event of conflict with this summary.

## HOW TO GET LEGAL SERVICES

## Website

When you are ready to use the legal plan, you can create an account using the email and password of your

## WHAT SERVICES ARE COVERED

MetLife Legal Plans<sup>®</sup> entitles you and your eligible dependents to receive certain personal legal services. The available benefits are very comprehensive, but there are limitations and other conditions which must be met. Please take time to read the description of benefits carefully. The covered services are listed in Appendix A. All listed benefits are available to you and your spouse and dependents, unless otherwise noted.

## Exclusions

Excluded services are those legal services that are not provided under the plan. No services, not even a consultation, can be provided for:

Employment-related matters, including company or statutory benefits

Matters involving your employer, MetLife or its affiliates, or plan attorneys

Matters in which there is a conflict of interest between the employee and spouse or dependents, in which case services are excluded for the spouse and dependents

Appeals and class actions

Farm, business, and investment matters and matters involving property held for investment or rental or issues when the participant is the landlord

Patent, trademark and copyright matters

Costs or fines

Frivolous or unethical matters

Matters for which an attorney-client relationship exists prior to the participant becoming eligible for plan benefits

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for legal services under The Legal Service Plan, you must have included the Plan in your benefits selection. You are eligible to enroll in the Plan for yourself and, for some cases, your eligib

## **OTHER SPECIAL RULES**

In addition to the coverages and exclusions listed, there are certain rules for special situations. Please read this section carefully.

What if other coverage is available to you? If you are entitled to receive legal representation provided by another organization such as an insurance company or a government agency or if you are entitled to legal services under any other legal plan, coverage will not be provided under this Plan. However, if you are eligible for legal aid or public defender services, you will still be eligible for benefits under this plan so long as you meet the eligibility requirements.

The Director will issue MetLife Legal Plans' final determination within 60 days of receiving your letter. This determination will include the reasons for the denial with reference to the specific plan provisions on which the denial is based, a description of any additional information that might cause MetLife Legal Plans to reconsider the decision, an expl

## Appendix A Definitions of Covered Services

## ADVICE AND CONSULTATION

#### **Office Consultation and Telephone Advice**

This service provides the opportunity to discuss with an attorney any personal legal problems that are not specifically excluded. The Plan Attorney will explain the Participant's rights, point out his or her options and recommend a course of action. The Plan Attorney will identify any further coverage available under the Plan, and will undertake representation if the Participant so requests. If representation is covered by the Plan, the Participant will not be charged for the Plan Attorney's services. If representation is recommended, but is not covered by the Plan, the Plan Attorney will provide a written fee statement in advance. The Participant may choose whether to retain the Plan Attorney at his or her own expense, seek outside counsel, or do nothing. There are no restrictions on the number of times per year a Participant may use this service; however, for a non-covered matter, this service is not intended to provide the Participant with continuing access to a Plan Attorney in order to seek advice that would allow the Participant to undertake his or her own representation.

## **CONSUMER PROTECTION**

#### **Consumer Protection Matters**

This service covers the Participant as a plaintiff, for representation, including trial, in disputes over consumer goods and services where the amount being contested exceeds the small claims court limit in that jurisdiction and is documented in writing. This service does not include disputes over real estate, construction, insurance or collection activities after a judgment.

#### **Personal Property Protection**

This service covers counseling the Participant over the phone or in the office on any personal property issue such as consumer credit reports, contracts for the purchase of personal property, consumer credit agreements or installment sales agreements. Counseling on pursuing or defending small claims actions is also included. The service also includes reviewing any personal legal documents and preparing promissory notes, affidavits and demand letters.

#### **Small Claims Assistance**

This service covers counseling the Participant on prosecuting a small claims action; helping the Participant prepare documents; advising the Participant on evidence, documentation and witnesses; and preparing the Participant for trial. The service does not include the Plan Attorney's attendance or representation at the small claims trial, collection activities after a judgment or any services relating to post-judgment actions.

## **DEBT MATTERS**

#### **Debt Collection Defense**

This service provides Participants with an attorney's services for negotiation with creditors for a repayment schedule and to limit creditor harassment, and representation in defense of any action for personal debt collection, tax agency debt collection, foreclosure, repossession or garnishment, up to and including trial if necessary. It includes a motion to vacate a default judgment. It does not include counter, cross or third party claims; bankruptcy; any action arising out of family law matters, including support and post-decree issues; or any matter where the creditor is affiliated with the Sponsor or Employer.

#### **Identity Restoration Services**

This service provides the Participant with access to Identity Restoration Services provided by IdentityForce, a TransUnion Brand. This includes identity restoration services from U.S.-based Certified Protection Specialists. Specialists assist with more than identity restoration; they help recover if wallets and information are ever lost or stolen and can save the Participant hundreds of hours by completing all the paperwork, making calls, and doing all the heavy lifting to make sure one's identity is restored.

#### **Identity Theft Defense**

This service provides the Participant with consultations with an attorney regarding potential creditor actions resulting from identity theft and attorney services as needed to contact creditors, credit bureaus and financial institutions. It also provides defense services for specific creditor actions over disputed accounts. The defense services include limiting creditor harassment and representation in defense of any action that arises out of the identity theft such as foreclosure, repossession or garnishment, up to and including trial if necessary. The service also provides the Participant with online help and information about identity theft and prevention. It does not include counter, cross or third party claims; bankruptcy; any action arising out of family law matters, including support and post-decree issues; or any matter where the creditor is affiliated with the Sponsor or Employer.

## Personal Bankruptcy or Wage Earner Plan

This service covers the Plan Member and spouse in pre-bankruptcy planning, the preparation and filing of a personal bankruptcy or Wage Earner petition, and representation at all court hearings and trials. This service is not available if a creditor is affiliated with the Sponsor or Employer, even if the Plan Member or spouse chooses to reaffirm that specific debt.

#### Tax Audits

This service covers reviewing tax returns and answering questions the IRS or a state or local taxing authority has concerning the Participant's tax return; negotiating with the agency; advising the Participant on necessary documentation; and attending an IRS or a state or local taxing authority audit. The service does not include prosecuting a claim for the return of overpaid taxes or the preparation of any tax returns.

# **DEFENSE OF CIVIL**

# **REAL ESTATE MATTERS**

# **Boundary or Title Disputes**

This service covers negotiations and litigation arising from boundary or real property title disputes involving a Participant's residence, where coverage is not available under the Participant's homeowner or title insurance policies. The service includes filing to remove a mechanic's lien.

# **Eviction and Tenant Problems (Tenant Only)**

# TRAFFIC AND CRIMINAL MATTERS

Juvenile Court Defense

# MISCELLANEOUS

# Attorney Services for Non-Covered matters- 4 hours

For non-covered matters that are not otherwise excluded, this benefit provides four hours of attorney time and services per year. The Participant is responsible to pay fees beyond the 4 hours. No more than a combined maximum total of four hours of attorney time and service are provided for the member. Appendix B Plus Parents - Definitions of Covered

## **Elder Law Matters**

This service covers counseling the Participant and Parents over the phone or in the office on any personal issues relating to the parents as they affect the Participant and parents. The service includes reviewing documents of the parents to advise the Participant or parents of the effect on the Participant and Parents. The documents include Medicare or Medicaid materials, prescription plans, leases, nursing home agreements, powers of attorney, living wills and wills. The service also includes preparing deeds involving the parents when the Participant is either the grantor or grantee; and preparing promissory notes involving the parents when the Participant is the payor or payee.

## Mortgages