



Top 10 Common Casey's Law Myths



Myth 1

You have to be biologically related to file a Casey's Law petition on an individual.



False

Any adult with firsthand knowledge of the individual's substance use—such as a friend, stepfamily member, or concerned community member—can file.

Myth 2

Filing a petition means the person will automatically be forced into treatment.



False

The court only orders treatment if two qualified professionals (medical and mental health) confirm that the legal criteria to file are met.

Myth 3

A Casey's Law petitions can be file for a minor.



False

Casey's Law only applies to individuals age 18 and older.

Myth 4

You can file a Casey's Law petition in any county or where the person is located.



False

The petition must be filed in the county of the individual's legal residence (their official address), even if they are staying somewhere else.

Myth 5

If someone moves away to another county, you can no longer file a Casey's Law petition.



False

You can still file in county of residence, where the court has jurisdiction.

Myth 6

There is a huge financial burden for the Casey's Law petitioner.



False

While the petitioner is listed as responsible, there are many financial supports available. Insurance, Medicaid/Medicare, VA benefits, state programs, and financial assistance can help cover or reduce costs. You are not alone in this process.

Myth 7

If a person is ordered to treatment by a judge, the individual loses all of their rights.



False

The individual still has irrevocable rights, including the right to an attorney, the right to attend the hearing, and the right to appeal.

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Myth 8

You can only file once as Casey's Law petition on an individual one time.



False

If relapse occurs or treatment doesn't succeed the first time, families can file again. Casey's Law is meant to give multiple chances for recovery.

Myth 9

Casey's Law doesn't really work—it can't guarantee recovery.



False

While no law can "guarantee" recovery, Casey's Law provides a lifeline by creating access to treatment that might otherwise not happen. Many families credit Casey's Law with saving their loved one's life. There is hope.

Myth 10

The petitioner is required to file independently with limited guidance and help.



False

Local recovery organizations provide step-by-step guidance. Additional resources include:

- KY HELP Statewide Call Center: 1-877-318-1871
- Northern Kentucky Helpline: 859-415-9280
- Caseyslaw.org (information, forms, and resources)
- Spark Ministries (Eastern KY support): 606-612-5125

You are not alone!



Reach Out to your Local Casey's Law Advocate

Connect with a local advocate in your area who specializes in Casey's Law navigation to assist throughout the process. Designated Casey's Law advocates often have firsthand experience and can provide invaluable support.

Below are some trusted resources to assist with the Casey's Law Process:

- Ask your County Attorney's Office or Circuit Clerk's Office — they may have an office advocate or be able to direct you to someone who can help.
- Casey's Law Website
- Visit: CaseysLaw.org
- Visit: Spark Ministries <http://www.kyspark.org>
- Call: 606-612-5125
- Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline (NKYODCP)
- Visit: nkyodcp.org
- Call: 859-415-9280
- KY HELP Statewide Call Center
- Call: 1-877-318-1871 to speak with a screening and referral specialist

