



Easy English

**YOUR  
STORY**

DISABILITY LEGAL SUPPORT

Free, independent legal support to share  
your story with the Disability Royal Commission

# Have you been called as a witness?



# How to use this guide



This information is written in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.

This Easy English document is a summary of another document.



This document is about what you should do if you have been called as a witness.

You can find this document on our website at [www.yourstorydisabilitylegal.org.au](http://www.yourstorydisabilitylegal.org.au)



You can ask for help to read this document. A friend or family member or support person may be able to help you.

# Have you been called as a witness?



## What is a Public Hearing?

Public Hearings are formal proceedings to share your story.

If you are going to be a witness, you can have your own lawyer



## Call Your Story

You can call Your Story Disability Legal Support and we can help you find a lawyer. This is free for people with a disability.



## What should I do?

If you are going to be a witness, you should get independent legal advice before you prepare your statement.



## Your lawyer

Your lawyer can tell you about your rights as a witness.

The Office of Solicitor Assisting and Counsel Assisting are not your lawyer.



## Preparing your statement

Your lawyer can support you to work out what you want to say, write the statement with you and talk to the Royal Commission for you.



## At the hearing

You may be asked questions about your story during the hearing. Your lawyer can support you and make sure you are ready to answer questions.



## I need support

You can have a support person with you at all times. You can ask for counselling to be available to you before and after being witness.

**YOUR  
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 **blue knot  
foundation**  
National Centre of Excellence  
for Complex Trauma

## I have more questions

For free legal advice call Your Story Disability Legal Support on 1800 77 1800

For counselling and referrals call Blue Knot on 1800 421 468.