

Attorneys in the Lyon Consular District

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The List of Attorneys: The following individuals and firms have informed the American Presence Post in Lyon that they are qualified to adjudicate law in the categories specified and that they are sufficiently competent in the English language to provide services to English-speaking clients. Generally, this list is revised triennially with interim addendum as needed, to ensure that local counsel are still practicing in the consular district and are willing to represent clients from the United States. Detailed information on retaining an attorney abroad may be found at: http://travel.state.gov/law/retain/retain_714.html.

Important Note: Before making an appointment to see a lawyer in France, first ask if you will be charged for the initial consultation, and if so, how much the fee will be for this service.

All corrections and modifications should be sent to the: U.S. Embassy, American Citizen Services, 4, avenue Gabriel, 75382 Paris Cedex 08, or by E-mail to: Citizeninfo@state.gov

Definitions:

Avocats: An *avocat* must be a lawyer or attorney. *Avocats* may render legal advice on all matters, draft agreements and contracts, handle commercial disputes and collection cases, and plead and defend civil and criminal cases before the French courts to which they are admitted.

Notaries: (*notaires*) A French *notaire* is a public official appointed by the Ministry of Justice, and not the equivalent of a notary public in the United States. The number of *notaires* in each jurisdiction is limited, and their fees fixed by law. Their functions include the preparation and recording of notarial acts (wills, deeds, acts of incorporation, marriage contracts, etc.) the administration and settlements of estates (excluding litigation in court) and serving as the repository of wills. They are not lawyers, but very specialized members of the legal profession. They may not plead in court.

For more information on how to retain an attorney abroad or how to deal with your foreign attorney, please consult our Embassy website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/root/pdfs/paris-attorneys.pdf>.

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No lawyers in these departments responded to our invitation to be listed:

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Puy-de-dôme (63), Yonne (89)

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