



## YOU ARE THE POWER APPLICANT INFORMATION SHEET

### WHAT IS YOU ARE THE POWER?

You Are The Power is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect individuals and families from local government abuse, using the power of social media to tell their story, demand that local officials treat them with respect, and ensure permanent change so this abuse cannot happen again. And our services are always free.

### WHAT KINDS OF CASES DOES YOU ARE THE POWER ACCEPT?

You Are The Power's Volunteer Program is divided into four service programs: the **Family Reunification Program**, which addresses family policing and child welfare issues; **Charity Defense**, which supports organizations targeted by the selective enforcement of harmful local ordinances or policies; **Civil Liberties**, which helps individuals harmed by unconstitutional laws or local ordinances; and the **Freedom Fund**, our general program that handles issues ranging from local governments not following their own policies and directives to prosecutorial misconduct.

For example:

- Families of medically fragile children who have been falsely accused of physical abuse.
- Organizations that local government officials have selectively targeted for assisting those in need.
- Individuals who are being threatened to have their property seized through eminent domain.
- Local government agencies that refuse to provide available public records in violation of internal departmental policy or state law.

We cannot accept your case if the following applies:

- It is a national political issue.
- If criminal charges are pending and you are not factually innocent or believe you should have been charged with a different crime.

**YOU ARE THE POWER PO BOX 70315, MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29572**

*Supporting Human Respect*



### **HOW DO I APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE?**

Complete the application at [www.youarethepower.net/help](http://www.youarethepower.net/help). You will receive confirmation that the request was successfully submitted, and a team member will be in touch shortly.

### **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I APPLY?**

Our goal is to promptly determine if your application meets our acceptance criteria. We have strict standards and typically handle about 70 requests each month. From the time we receive an application until approval, it can take up to 6 months, depending on the case's complexity.

- **Initial Screening:** An individual case number is assigned. The request is screened to determine whether it meets our acceptance criteria based on the information provided by the applicant. This step can take up to 2 weeks.
- **Document Collection (Limited Screening):** The applicant will be asked to provide *limited*, case-related documentation and additional information to determine if the request can be properly investigated. This step can take up to 4 weeks.
- **Investigation (Full Screening):** After completing the first two steps of the application process, the request has been determined to meet our acceptance criteria and can be properly investigated. *All* case-related documents will now be requested, interviews will be conducted, open records requests will be filed, and applicant and witness statements will be collected. This step may take up to 4 months.
- **Review for Approval:** The first three steps of the application process have been completed, and the case is being reviewed for approval. This step can take 2 weeks.
- **Approved:** All steps in the application process have been completed, and the applicant has been accepted as a client.

At each stage of the application process, the applicant will be informed about the status of their request. Also, at any point, the request can be denied, and the applicant will be notified of the decision.