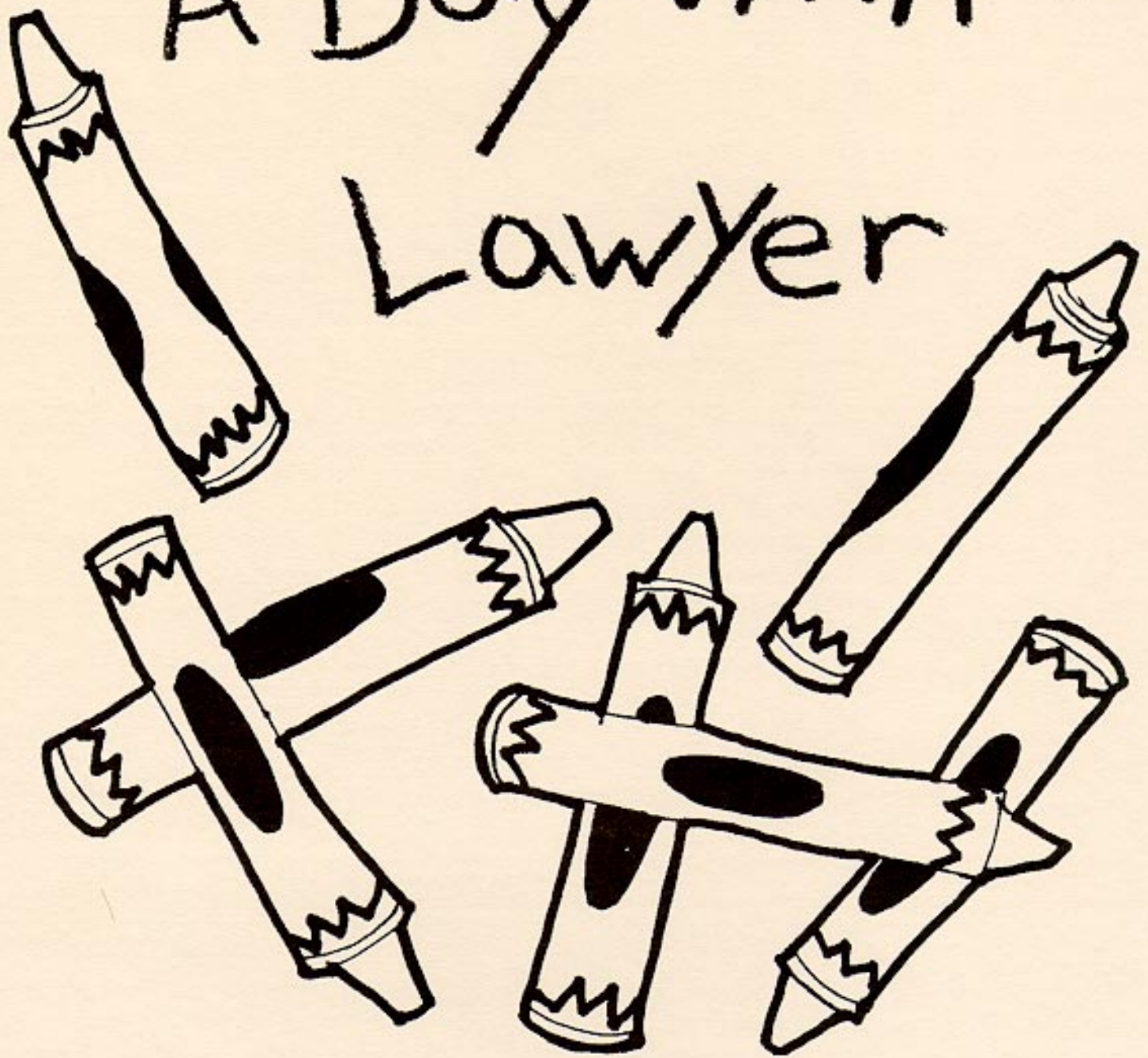
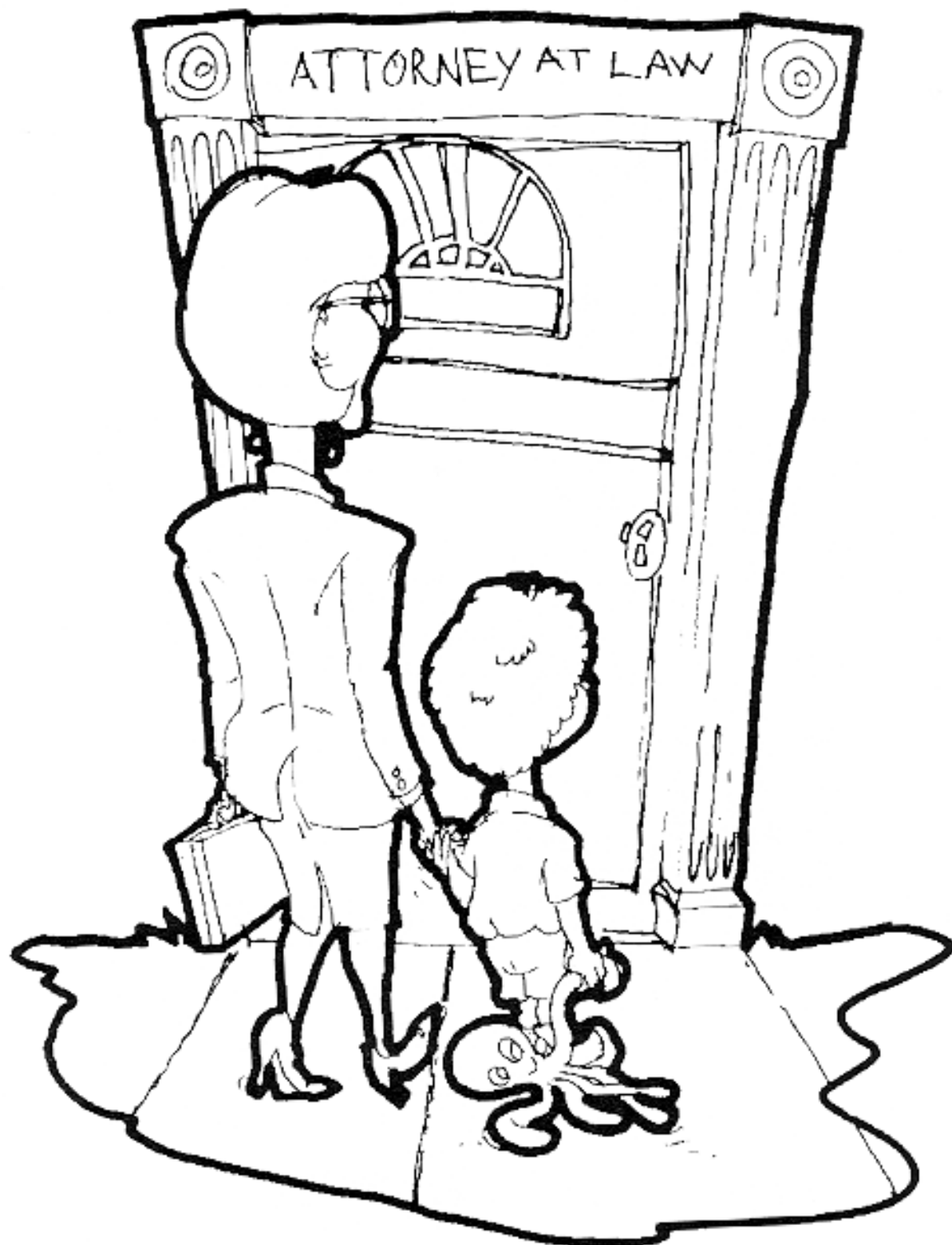


A Day with a Lawyer

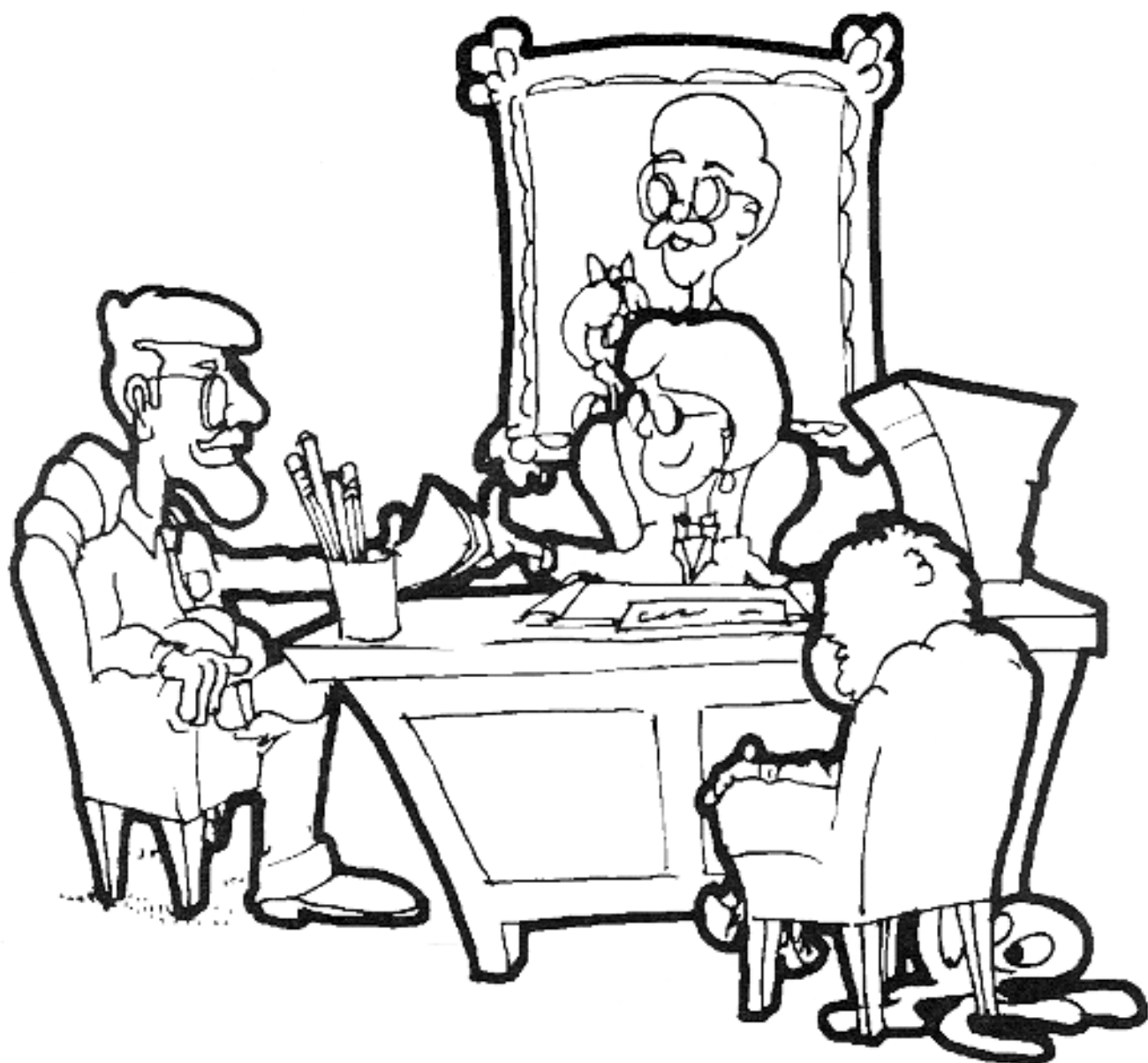


written and published by
**The Citizenship Education Committee of the
Young Lawyers Division of the
North Carolina Bar Association**

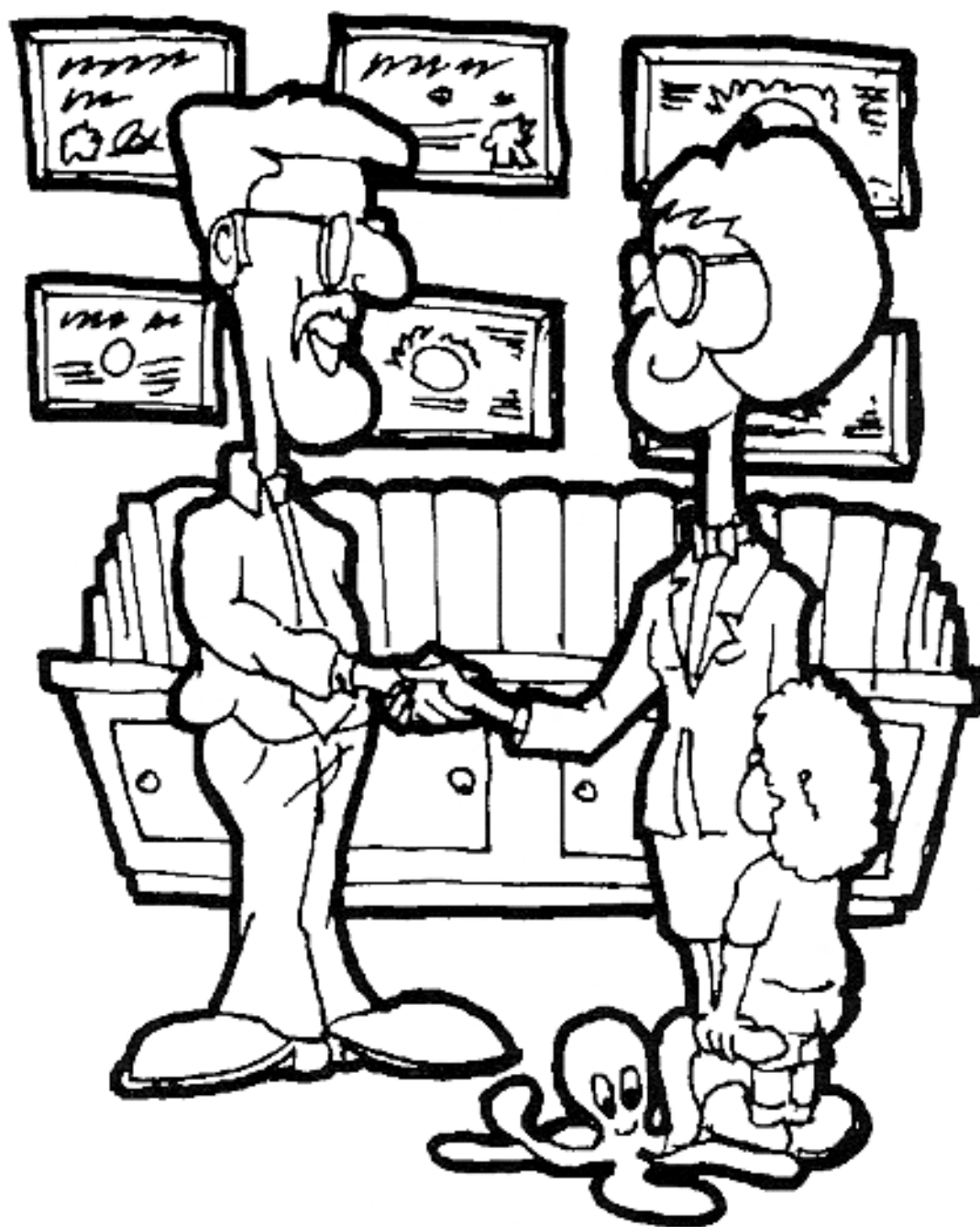
Illustrated by Tom Diamond
Educational Assistance by Robin Dotson



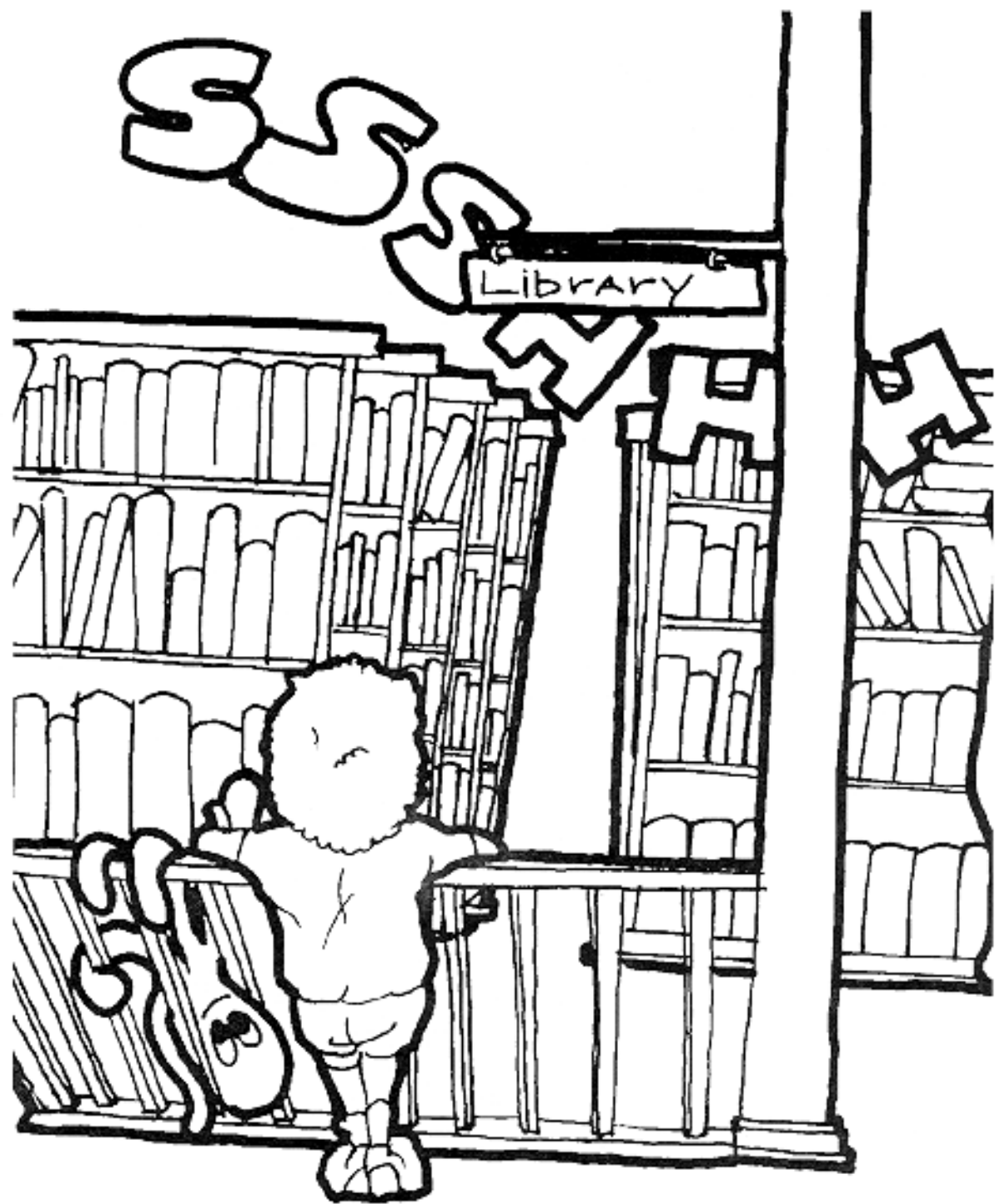
I am going with Mom to work. Mom is a lawyer.



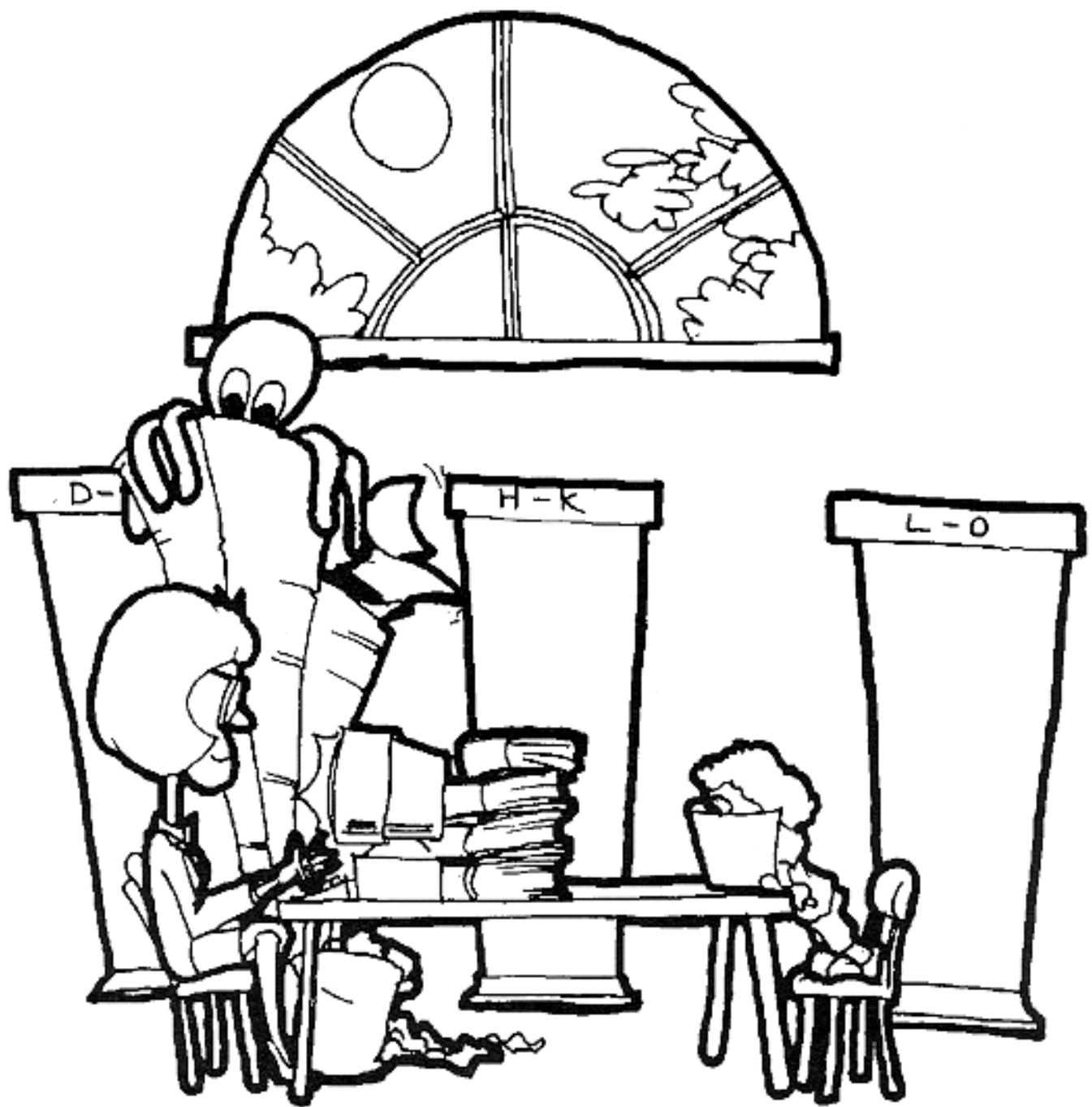
At the office Mom has a meeting with a client, Mr. Jones. Mom is helping Mr. Jones buy a house. He has to sign a lot of papers. Mom says they are contracts. We use contracts in school too. She tells him what each one means.



Mr. Jones is very happy and shakes Mom's hand before he leaves.



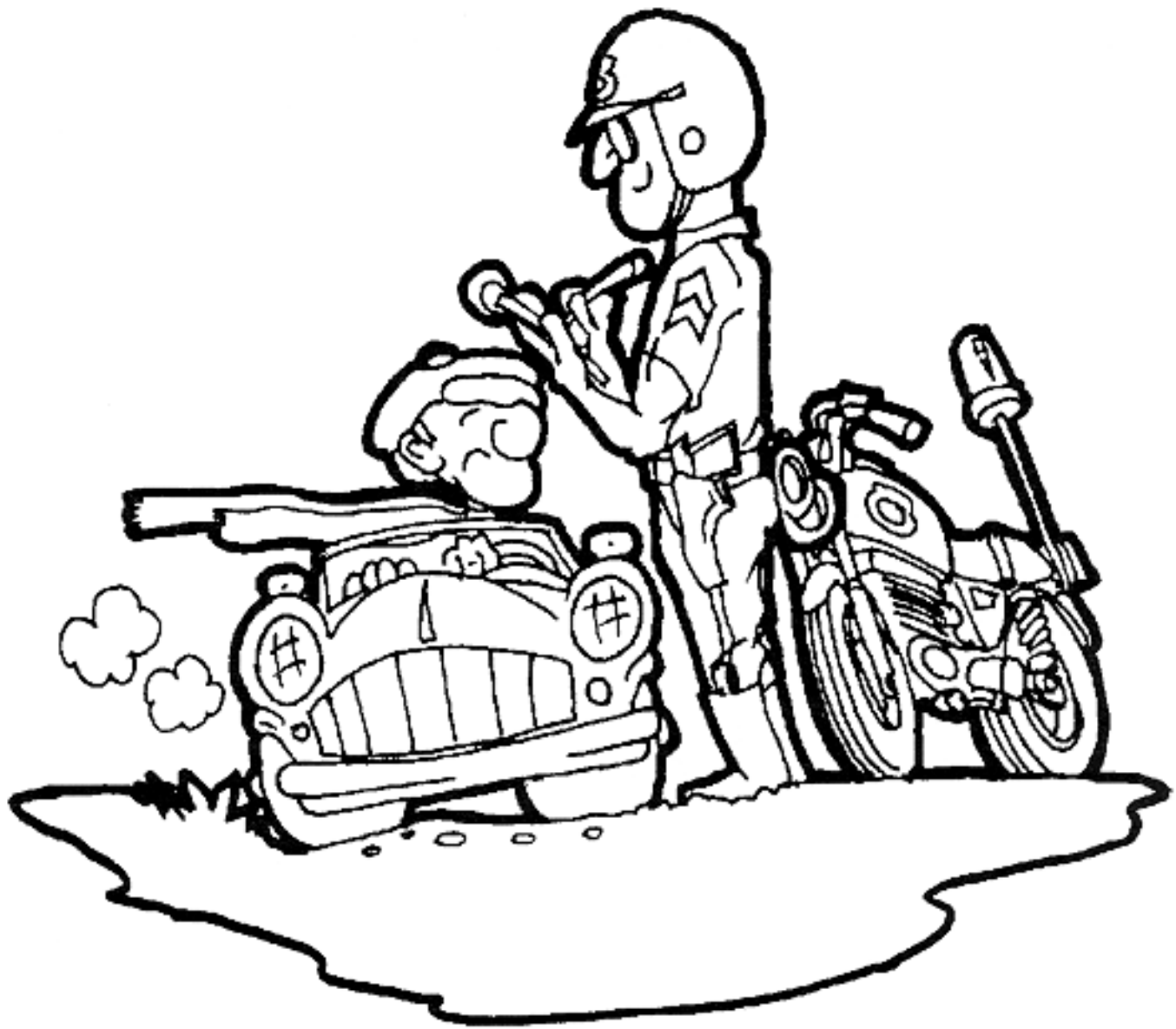
Next we go to the law library in her building. This library has many books that explain the laws. Laws are rules that are made to protect people. Mom has to read the laws to help her clients.



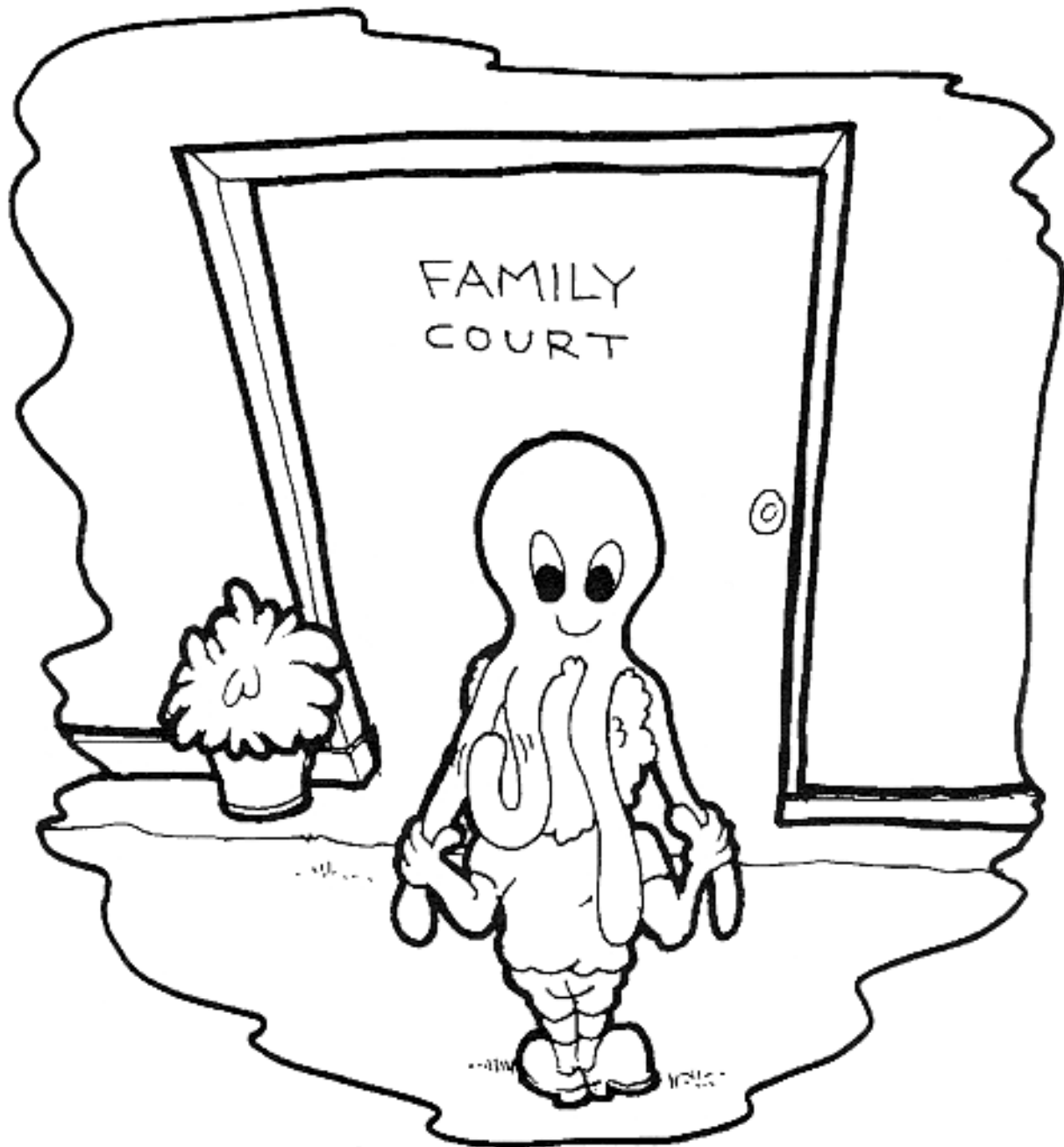
Mom has to do research to help her clients. She says she has to write many papers.



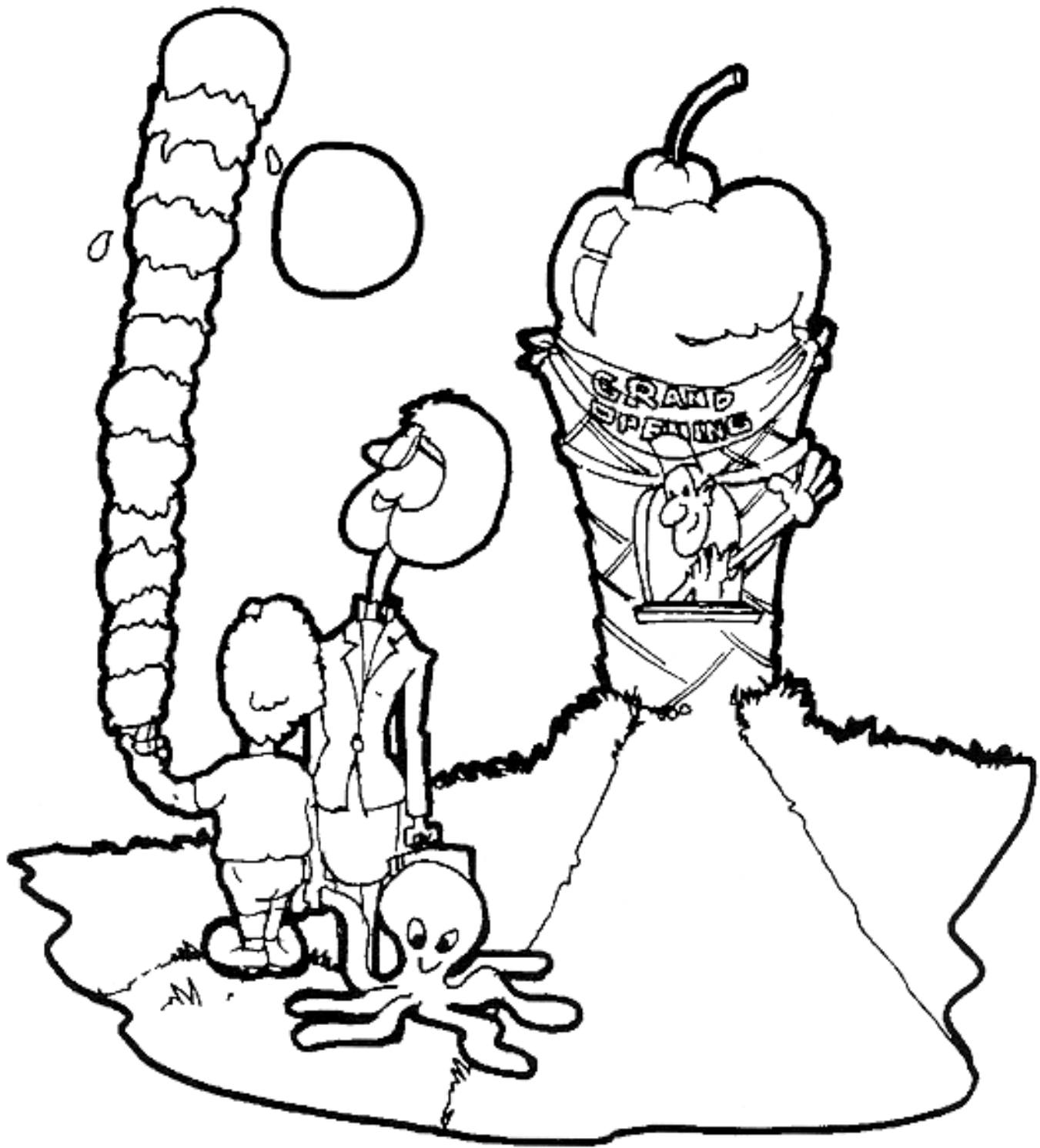
Mom tells me that lawyers also help people who get hurt at work, or are in an accident;



and people who are accused of breaking laws. She says that these people need lawyers to make sure their rights are protected.



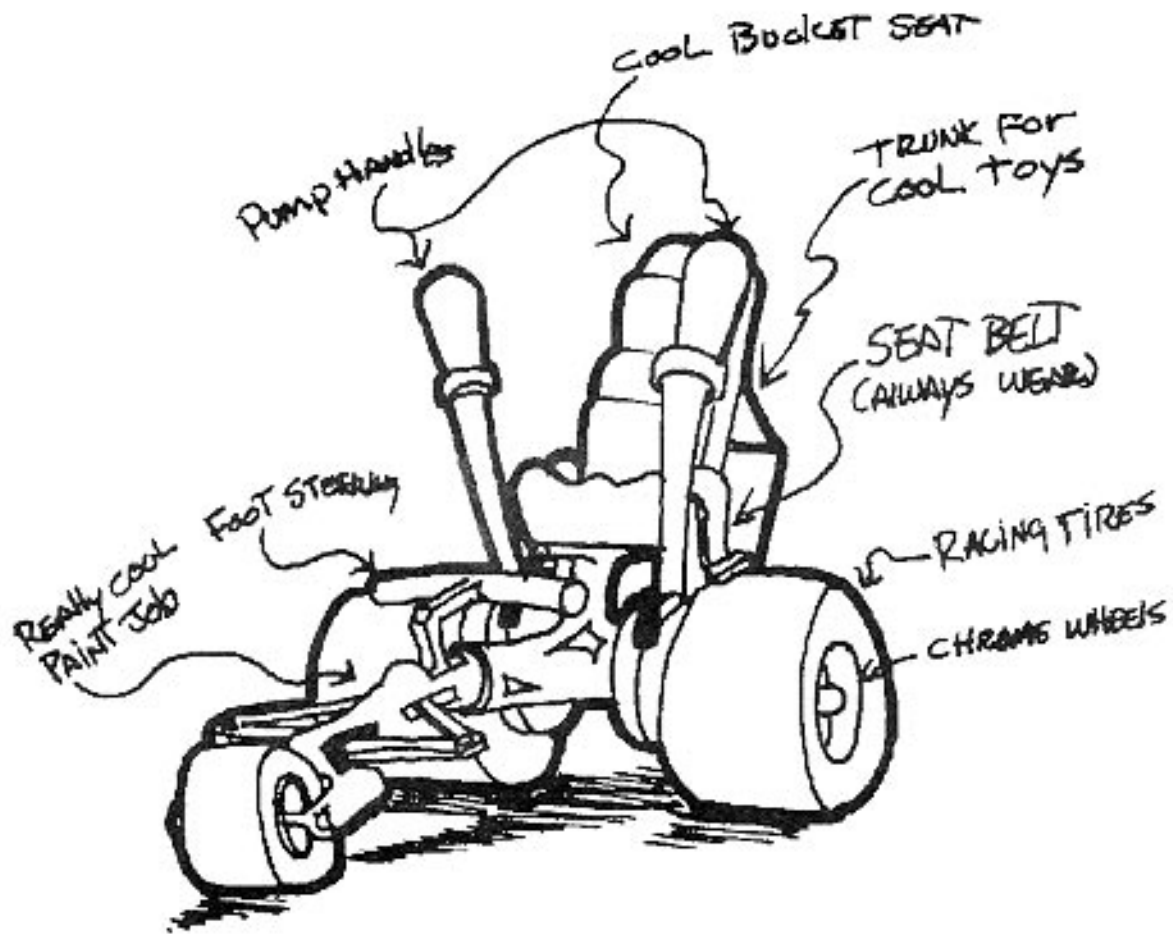
Lawyers help families who are going through a divorce;



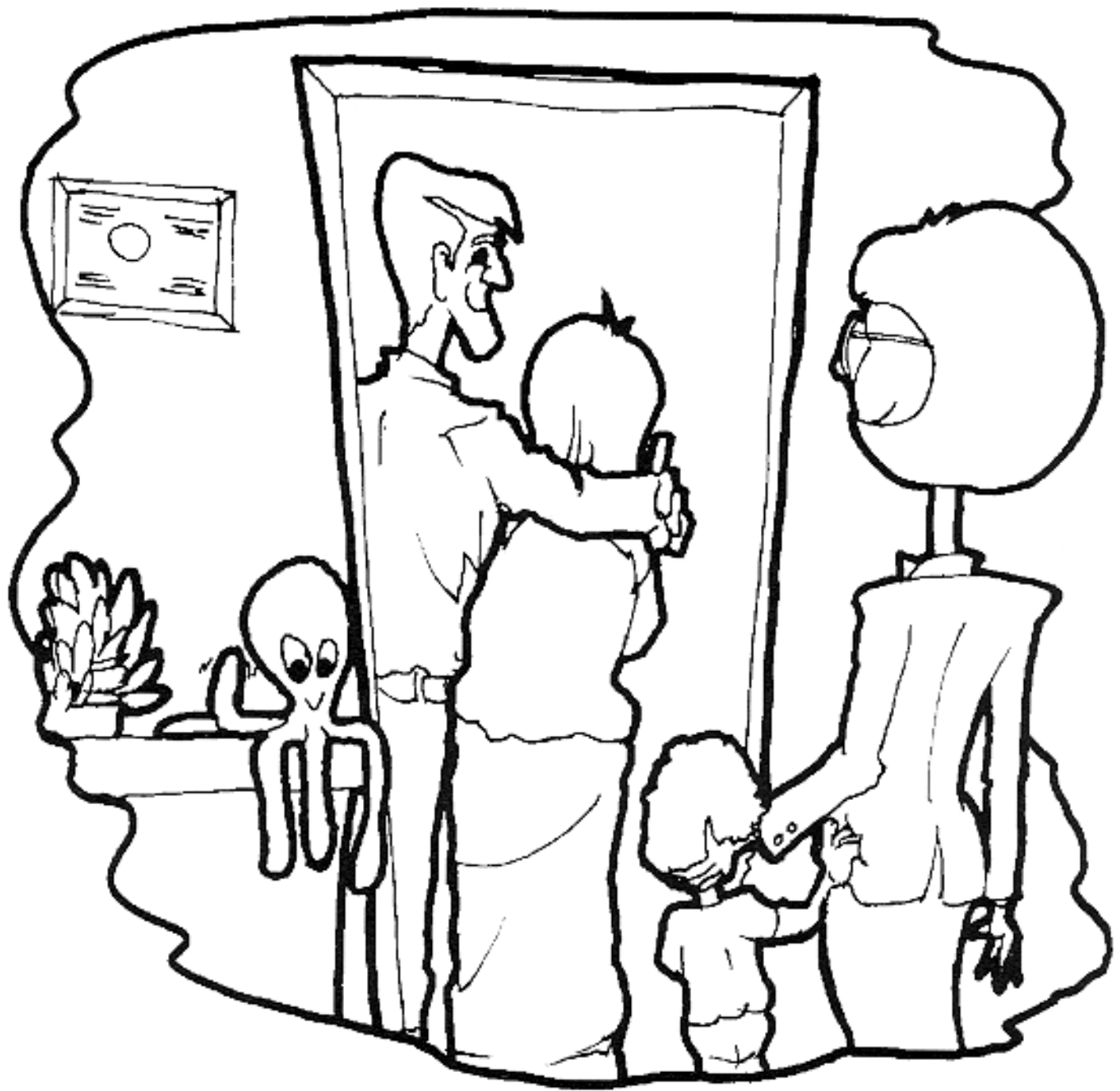
and people who are starting a new business.

PATENT NUMBER

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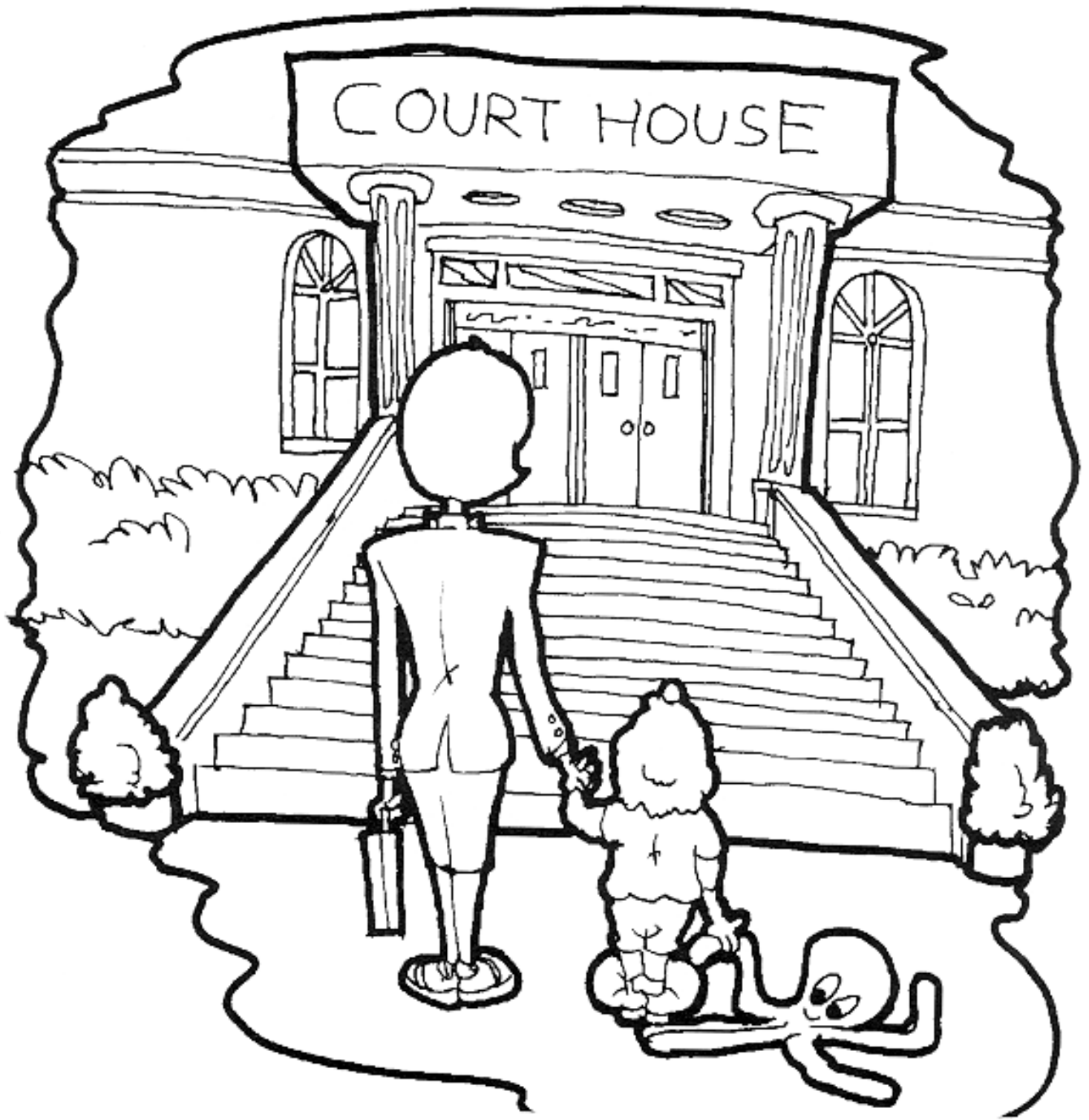
Lawyers help people protect their inventions;



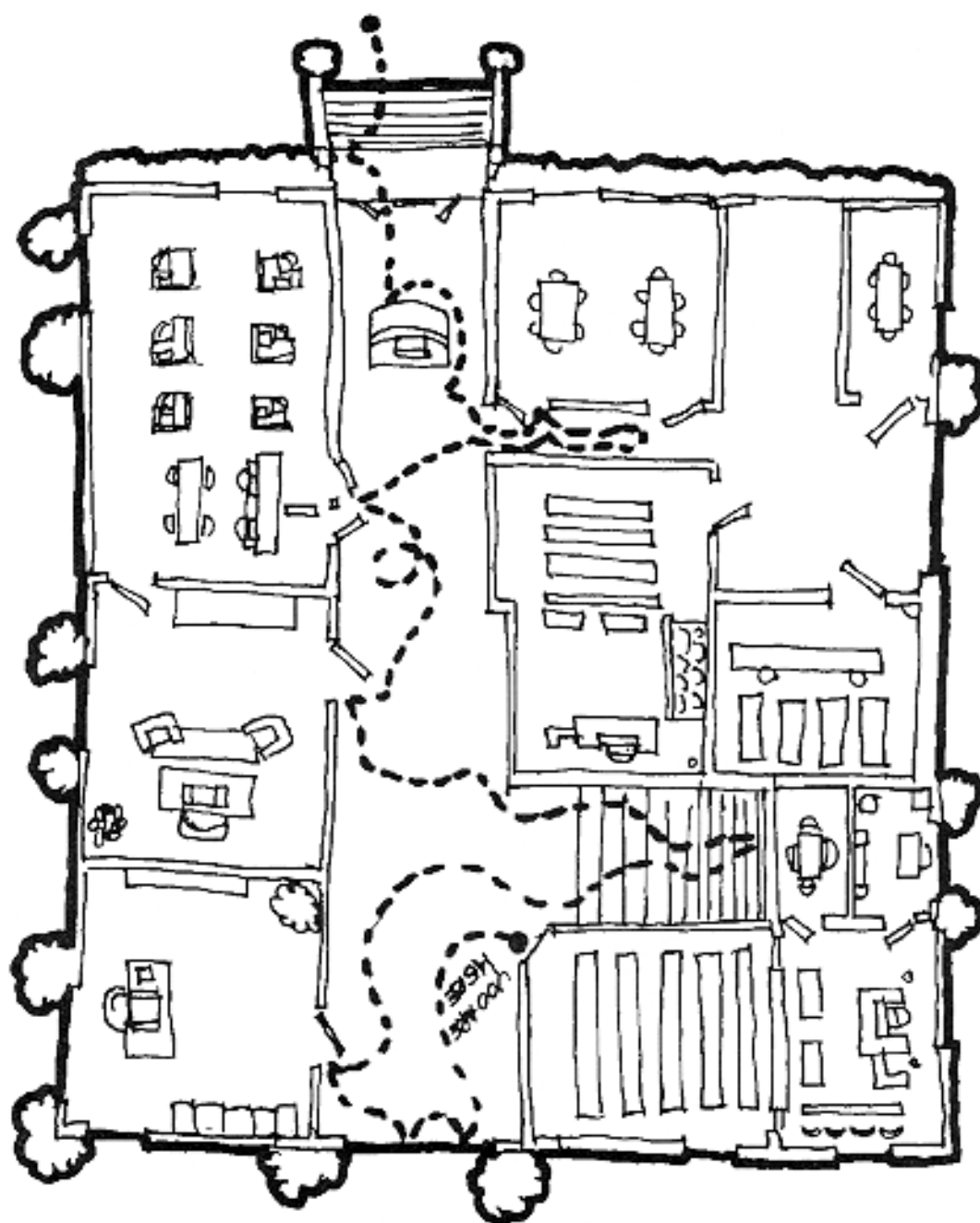
and write their wills.



Mom talks with other lawyers to help settle disagreements between their clients.



Mom sometimes goes to court, and today I get to go with her!



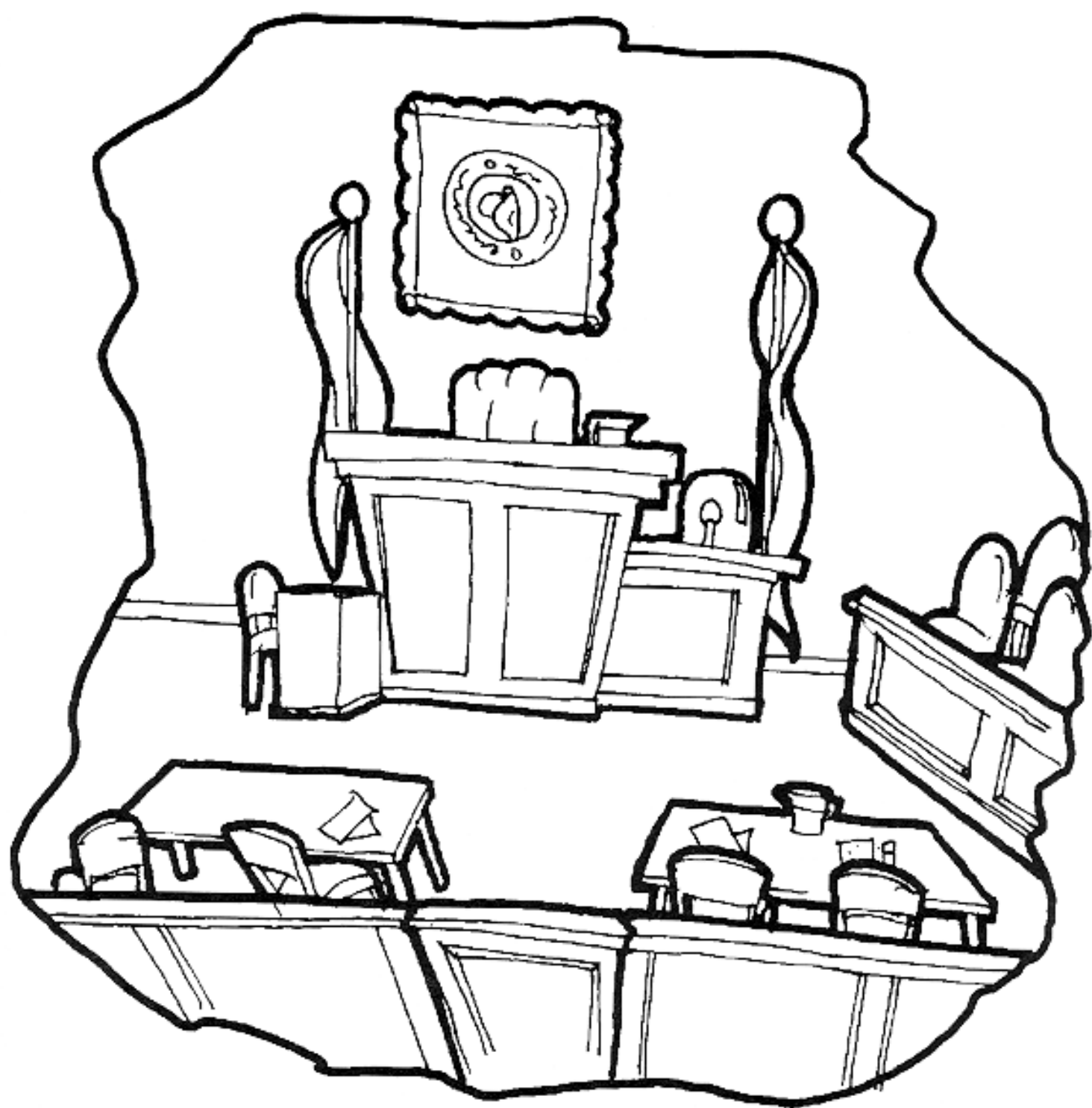
In the courthouse we see many doors. Mom explains that there are many offices here besides the courtroom.



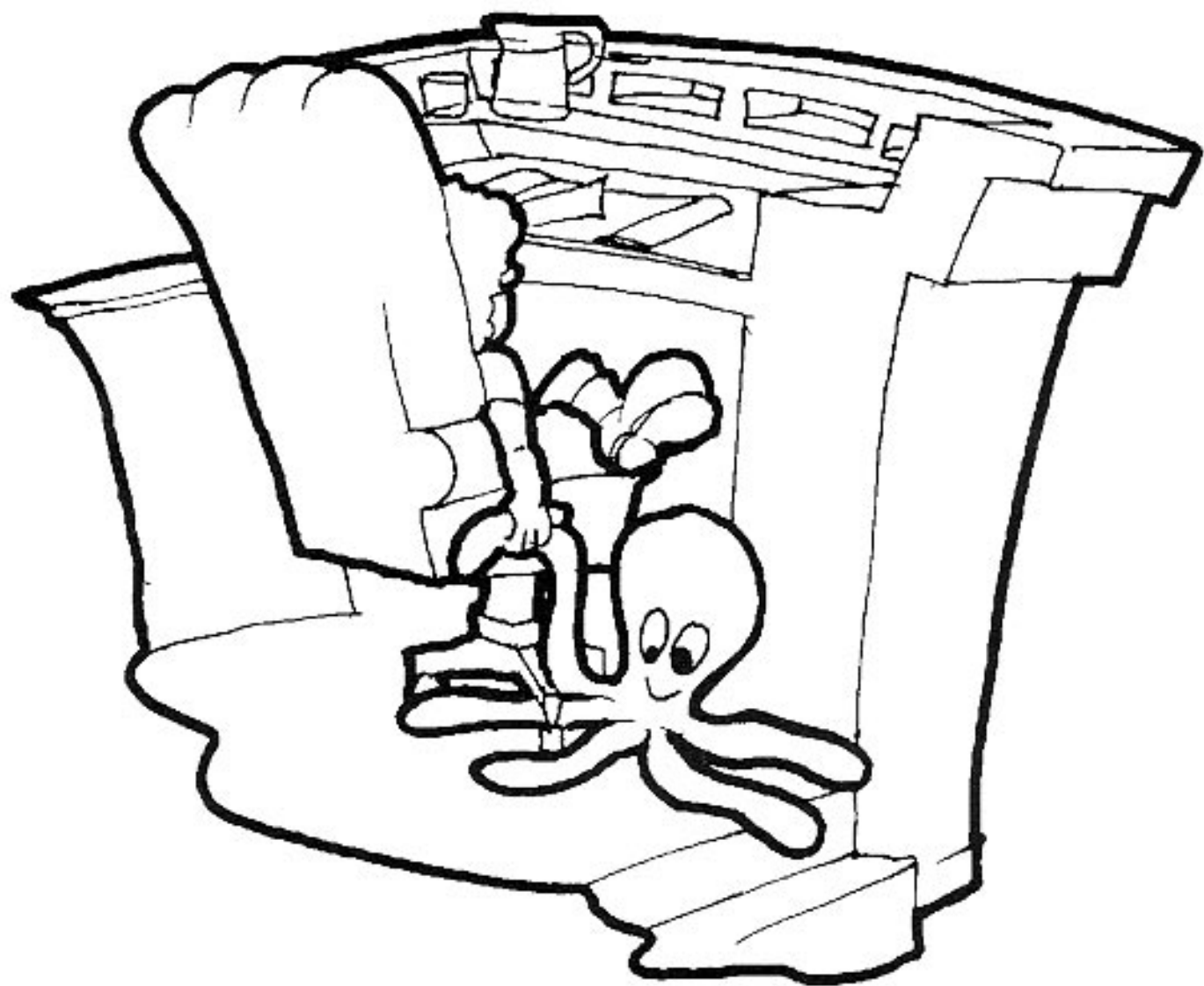
In one office we meet the District Attorney. His job is to prosecute people accused of breaking laws.



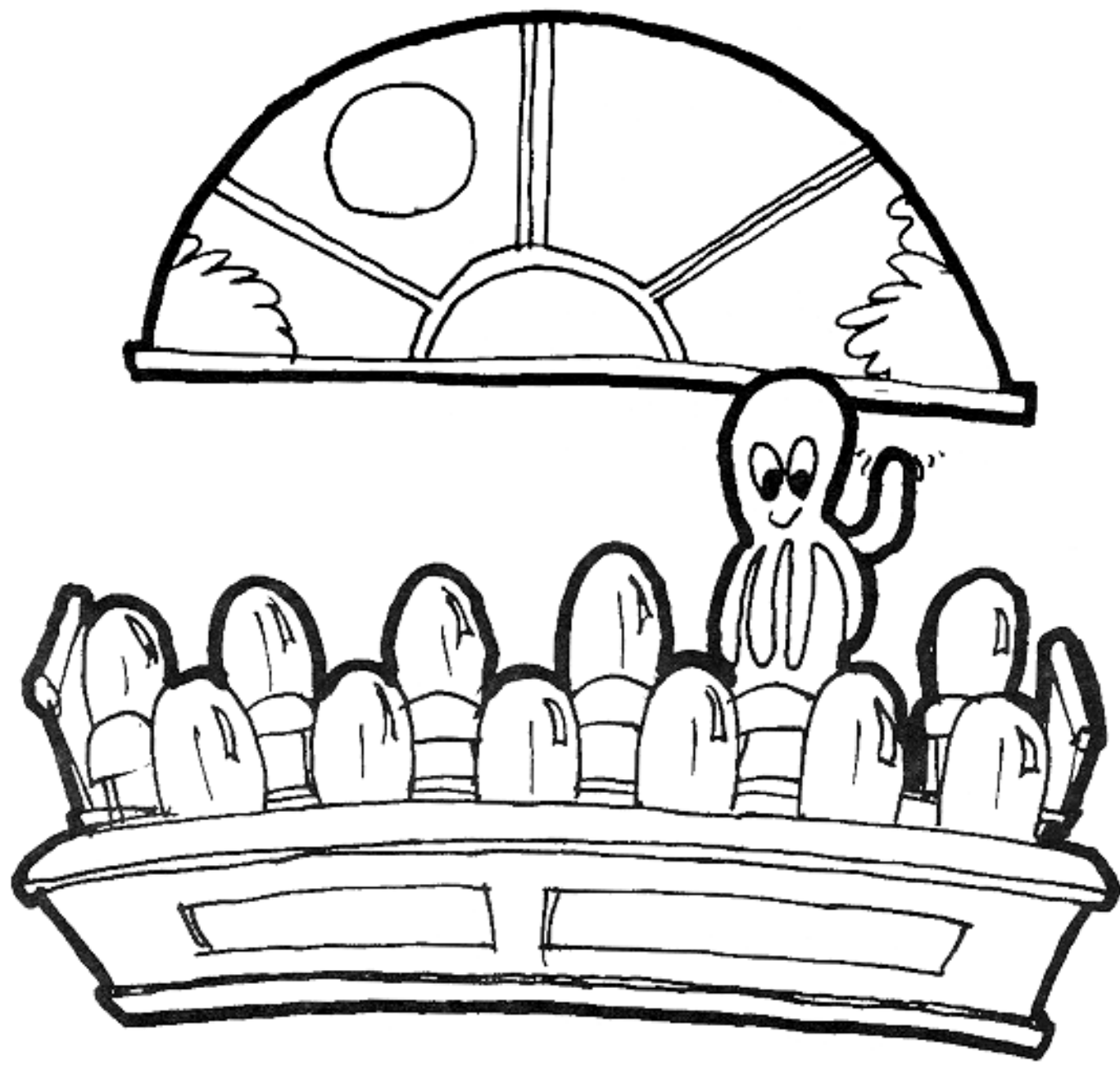
Down the hall is the Register of Deeds' office where records on house sales, weddings, births, and deaths are kept.



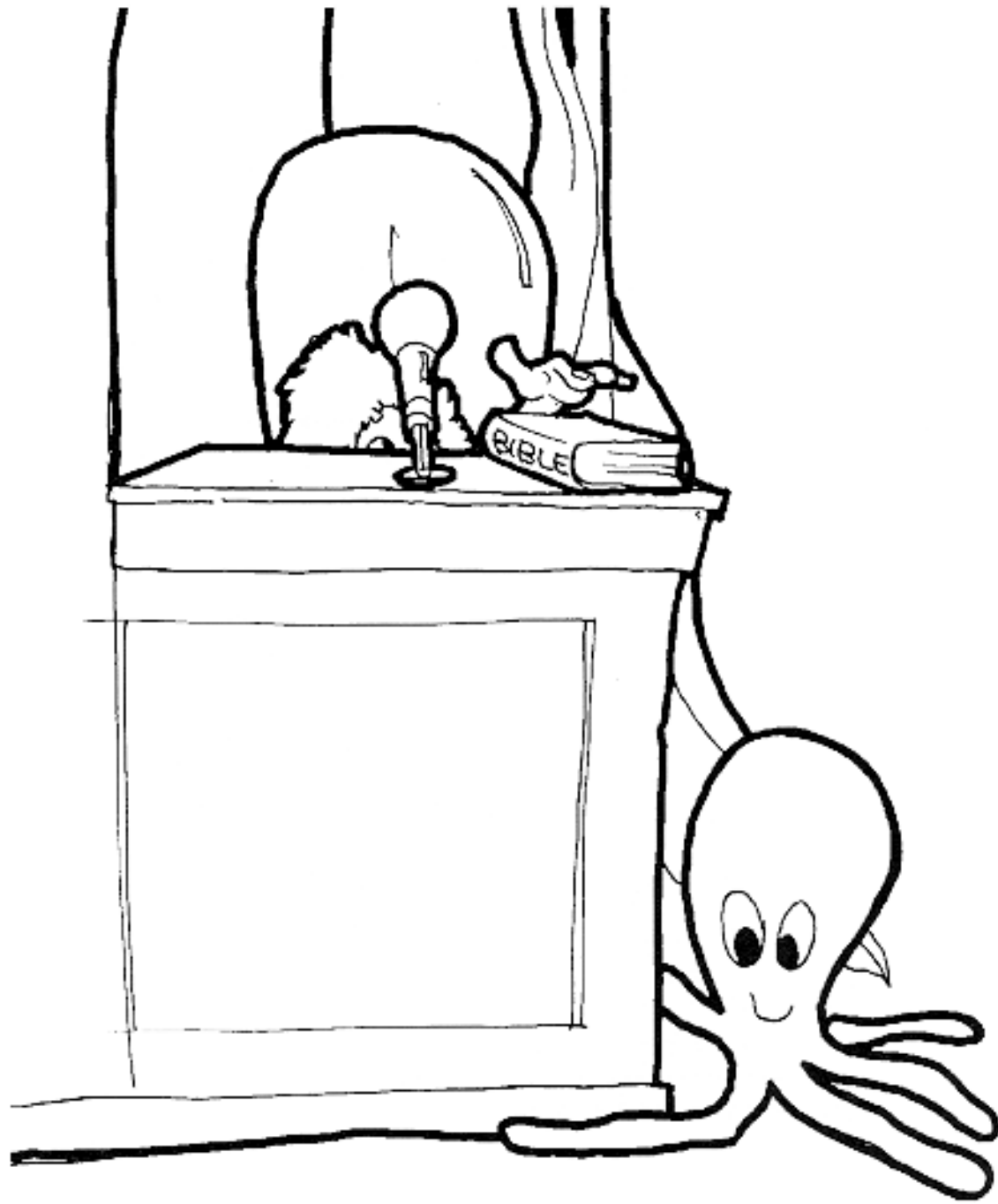
Now we are in the courtroom.



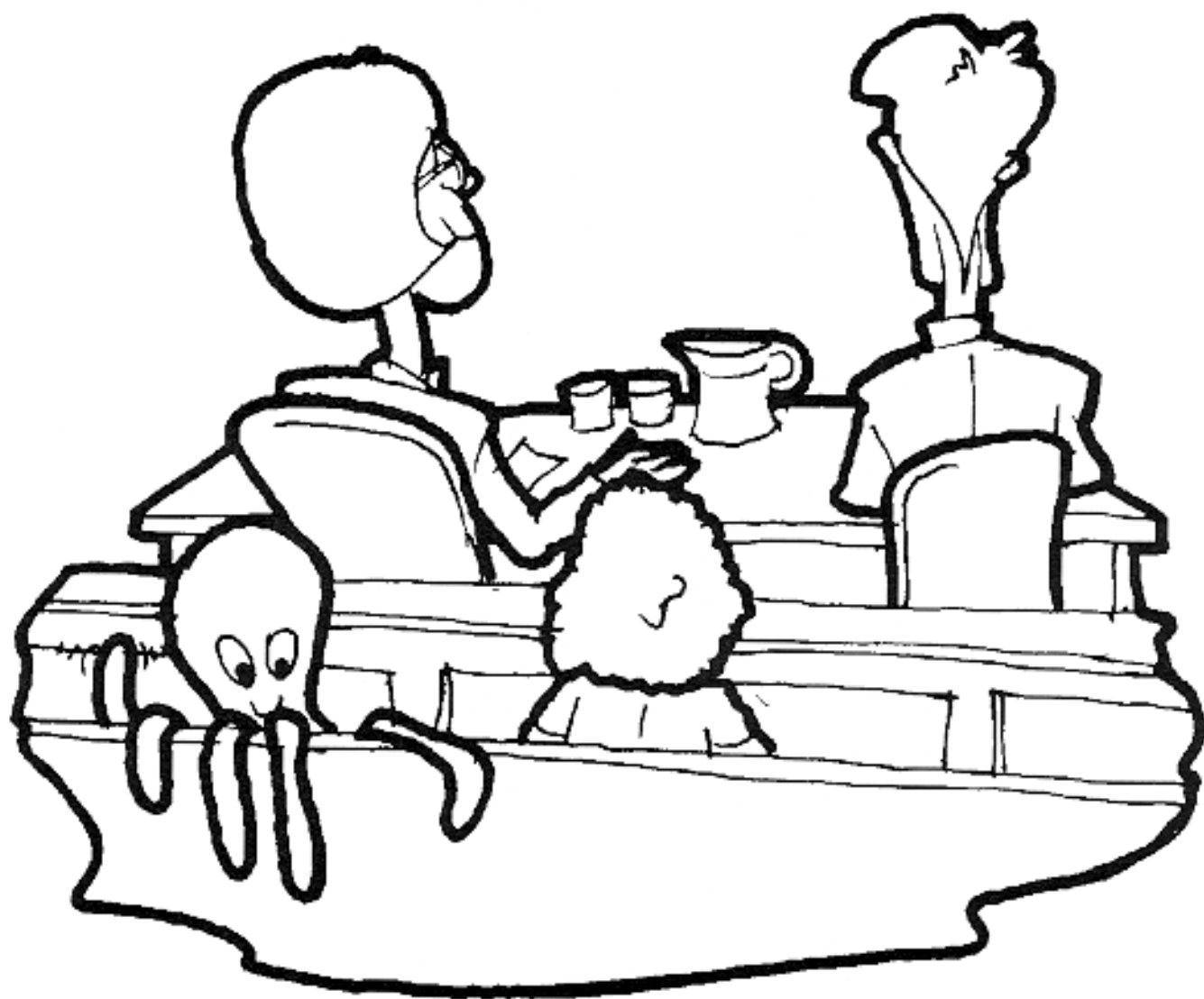
Mom shows me where the judge sits. The judge runs the trial and explains the law to the jury. His chair is higher than all the others. It is called the bench. Mom lets me sit in his chair (but only for a minute).



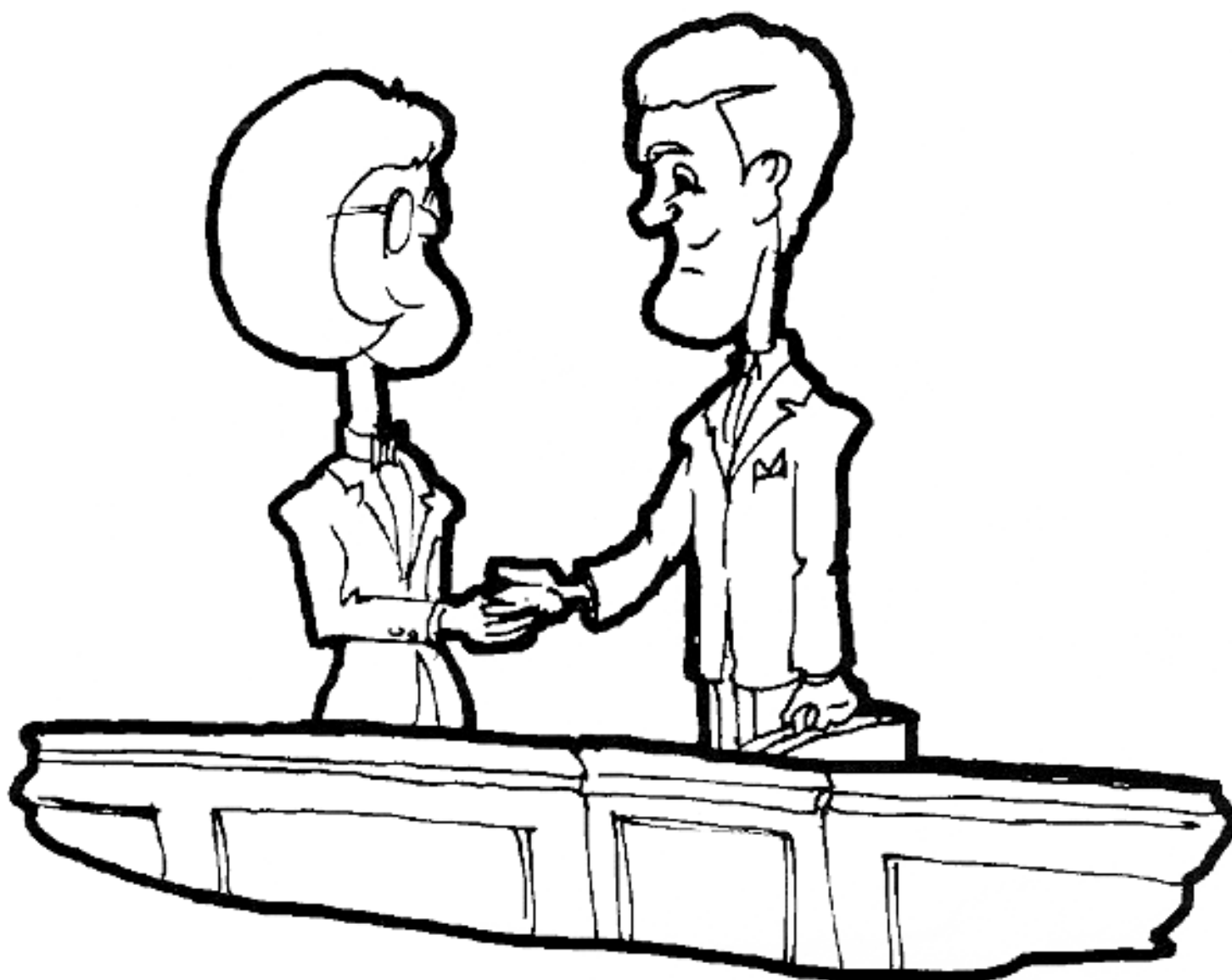
On one side of the room are 12 chairs behind a railing. Mom says this is called the jury box. Yesterday she had to pick 12 people who will be fair listeners. These people are called the jury. They will decide who is right and who is wrong. Their decision is called the verdict.



Mom shows me the witness stand where people sit to testify. They tell the judge and jury what they saw or heard. These people are called witnesses. She says they have to take an oath. I know that is a promise to tell the truth.



Mom says it is almost time to start. Her client comes in and they sit at a big table called the counsel table.



Another lawyer and his client come in and sit at the other counsel table. Both my mom and this lawyer will get to ask the witnesses questions and talk to the judge and jury.



A man comes in carrying a small typewriter. He is the court reporter. His job is to write down everything everybody says during the trial.



A police officer comes into the courtroom. She is called the bailiff. She is here to keep order in the courtroom.



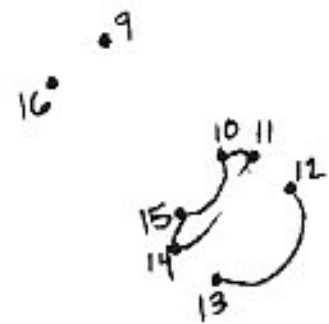
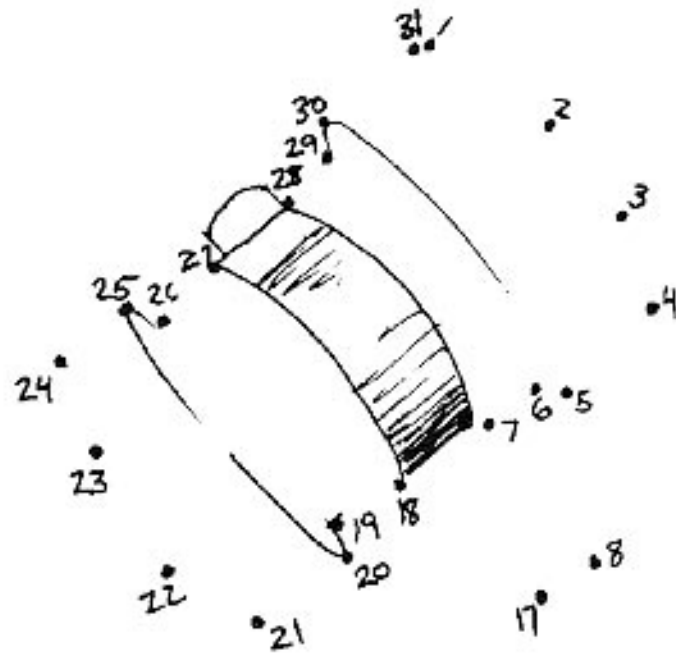
The bailiff says, "All rise!" Mom says we have to stand up because the judge is coming. He will come in from his office, called his chambers.



Mom says it is time to be quiet, the trial is starting.



After the trial is over, we go back to Mom's office. It's been a great day!



GAVEL