

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## RESOLUTION

Recognizing and Thanking
Covington & Burling's Litigation Team of
Thomas S. Williamson, Jr.
Georgia Kazakis
Erika King
Ernest A. Young

For Their Outstanding and Valuable Pro Bono Representation [Resolution # 99-002]

WHEREAS, Thomas S. Williamson, Jr., on behalf of Covington & Burling, agreed to provide *pro bono* representation to the Legal Services Corporation in its defense of the various restrictions on the use of funds by its grantees imposed by the Congress and the Corporation's implementing regulations against the constitutional challenges mounted by five grantees and others in Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, et al. v. LSC (LASH);

WHEREAS, Tom, together with a team of extraordinarily talented lawyers including Georgia Kazakis, Erika King, and Ernie Young, and with the able support of Alissa Kolek, in the best tradition of *pro bono* service, gave unstintingly of their time and talent in the defense of statutory restrictions which, while clearly unpopular within the legal services community, the Corporation not only had the duty to implement, but were also central to continued Congressional support for federal funding of legal assistance;

WHEREAS, Tom, Georgia, Erika, and Ernie worked seamlessly with Corporation management and the General Counsel's office, as well with the Corporation's *pro bono* counsel in a sister suit to *LASH* filed in New York, and with lawyers at the Department of Justice, in crafting and executing a creative and ultimately successful litigation strategy; and

WHEREAS, Tom's string of victories in *LASH*, beginning with summary judgment from the District Court in Hawaii, through the unanimous opinion in the Corporation's favor from the Ninth Circuit, and on up to the Supreme Court's denial of *certiorari*, effectively silenced the Corporation's critics, preventing the litigation from becoming a political weapon to undermine the Corporation's credibility, and served to preserve and strengthen the bi-partisan support for the legal services programs in the Congress;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation wishes to recognize the superb lawyering and outstanding representation provided by Tom, Georgia, Erika, and Ernie; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board expresses its profound appreciation and gratitude for the extraordinarily valuable *pro bono* litigation efforts which have benefitted not only the Corporation, but all federally-funded legal services programs across the country.

Adopted by the Board of Directors

on April 17, 1999

Douglas S. Eakeley, Chair

**Board of Directors** 

Victor M. Fortuno, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary