



REGIONAL OFFICES:

EASTERN:
CHAMPAIGN
SATELLITE: CHARLESTON

NORTHERN:
SPRINGFIELD
SATELLITE: DECATUR

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
DOROTHY O. COOK COMMUNITY LAW CENTER
8787 STATE STREET
EAST ST. LOUIS, IL 62203

TELEPHONE: (618) 398-0574
FAX: (618) 398-0681

REGIONAL OFFICES:

SOUTHERN:
CARBONDALE
SATELLITE: MT. VERNON

WESTERN:
ALTON

CENTRAL:
EAST ST. LOUIS

March 3, 2010

Ms. Mattie Cohan
Senior Assistant General Counsel
Office of Legal Affairs
Legal Services Corporation,
3333 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007

RE: Comment on Interim Final Rule on Attorneys' Fees

Dear Ms. Cohan:

We are writing in support of the action taken by LSC with regard to the Interim Final Rule that was published in the Federal Register on February 11, 2010 (75 FR 6816). As a grantee program, we appreciate the Corporation's timely action in publishing the new Interim Final Rule, which eliminates Part 1642 and effectuates congressional intent by removing the regulatory restriction with regard to attorneys' fee claims. This change will allow our program to access an additional source of funding and will enable us to serve more low-income clients. It also restores an important litigation tool our attorneys can use in their pursuit of justice for our clients.

We strongly support LSC's action in adopting the Interim Final Rule and suspending enforcement of the current regulation, appropriately permitting grantees to seek fees after December 16, 2009 for all the work that they have done in the past or may do in the future. We also agree with LSC's decision to move to Part 1609 the provisions of Part 1642 dealing with accounting for and use of attorneys' fees and with acceptance of reimbursements for costs and expenses from clients.



We urge the Board to adopt a Final Rule incorporating without change the provisions of the Interim Final Rule.

Thank you for your work on this issue. Your work and the actions of the LSC Board will improve access to justice for our clients.

Sincerely,

Lois Wood
Executive Director

Linda Zazove
Deputy Director

