

# Montana Legal Services Association



*A statewide law firm providing, protecting and enhancing access to justice.*

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November 30, 2010

Stephanie Edelstein, Program Counsel  
Office of Program Performance  
Legal Services Corporation  
3333 K Street NW  
Washington DC 20007

RE: MLSA response to draft LSE report

Dear Stephanie:

Please pardon our delay in responding to the Program Quality Visit Report from your on-site visit in July, 2010. Regrettably, other office and law firm pressures interfered with our prompt response. Attached you will find our comments, in the form of "sticky notes," attached to the draft report.

Alison and I concentrated on those areas where we felt there were factual errors and sometimes perceptual errors. We all know the difficulty in capturing all the correct information about a field program in the short time you have during your on-site visits. We hope our comments are helpful.

As you are aware, Alison and I have developed a transition plan to address some issues you raised in your report, specifically, the litigation coordination and the migrant farmworker unit issues. We also proposed a leadership transition and management reorganization which includes appointing Alison as Executive Director and me the Litigation Coordinator. We introduced our proposal to the Board at our September Board Meeting, followed by individual meetings and memos to Board Members. I am confident the Board will adopt our proposal, making the transition effective in January 1, 2011.

Alison and I are firmly convinced that the transition plan we have developed is the best outcome for MLSA, its staff and its clients in the coming years. I am also convinced the change will allow both Alison and I to concentrate on our strengths and enhance MLSA's client delivery systems.

Again, we regret the delay. Should you have any questions about our comments, or the transition plan, please feel free to contact me. With the proposed transition to a new Executive Director, I suspect we will see you again in 2011.

Sincerely yours,

Klaus D. Sitte

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