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For all aliens who are eligible for legal services, as described in 45 C.F.R. 1626.5, with the exception of H-2A workers, as described in 45 C.F.R. 1626.11, representation is authorized so long as the eligible alien is present [in the United States] sufficient to maintain residence or lawful immigration status. Under this interpretation, LSC grantees who have begun representation of a permanent resident alien may continue that representation should the alien be temporarily outside of the United States. Grantees may also initiate representation of aliens, with the exception of H-2A workers, who are temporarily outside of the United States, provided that they have been present sufficient to maintain and have not abandoned their residence or immigration status.

Based on the information you provided, it appears that the potential client qualifies for representation under 1626.5(a), the exception for legal permanent residents. You indicated that the potential client was a legal permanent resident before leaving for Trinidad, and to your knowledge, no efforts have been made by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (hereinafter referre

Gary Stone  
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Based on 45 C.F.R. Part 1626; the LSC policies adopted in Program Letter 2000-02; and the immigration case law cited herein, it appears that you may represent