

March 20, 2001

President John McKay

**Board of Directors** Douglas S. Eakeley Roseland, NJ *Chairman* 

John N.

Michelle DeBord, Esq. Executive Director MidPenn Legal Services, Inc. 3540 North Progress Avenue, Suite 102 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

Dear Ms. DeBord:

## RE: Assignment of Unsolicited Attorney's Fees by Judge

Atlanta, GA

LaVeeda M. Battle Birmingham, AL

John T. Broderick, Jr. Manchester, NH

Edna Fairbanks-Williams Fairhaven, VT

F. Wm. McCalpin St. Louis, MO

Maria Luisa Mercado Galveston, TX

Nancy H. Rogers Columbus, OH

Thomas F. Smegal, Jr. San Francisco, CA

Ernestine P. Watlington Harrisburg, PA I am writing in response to your February 20, 2001 inquiry 95u JohnFebruc 20,13.9

Michelle DeBord, Esq. March 20, 2001 Page 2

After the implementation of the attorneys' fees restriction, LSC provided guidance to programs on the implementation of this regulation through a program letter. Program Letter 97-1, a copy of which is attached hereto, anticipated and addressed the precise issue you have presented in the following excerpt.

3.

Michelle DeBord, Esq. March 20, 2001 Page 3

paid to your program to be paid by the defendant directly to some other worthwhile charity. A donation to the local battered women's shelter (or another organization that promotes the elimination of domestic violence) might be an appropriate alternative in this circumstance.

I hope that this information satisfies your inquiry. If you have questions or need additional guidance, please feel free to contact me at (202)336-8871.

Sincerely,

Dawipple, H. L. 19, Hort, F. St. (1991) 15, 491. (1994) 16, 491. (1994)