Operations & Regulations Committee

FROM: Victor M. Fortuno

General Counsel

DATE: January 11, 2006

SUBJECT: Staff Report on 45 CFR Part 1624 (Prohibition Against Discrimination on

the Basis of Handicap) Rulemaking

Introduction

On October 29, 2005, the Board of Directors directed that the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) initiate a rulemaking to consider revisions to LSC's regulation on prohibition against discrimination on the basis of handicap. 45 CFR Part 1624 (hereinafter "part 1624"). The Board further directed that LSC convene a Rulemaking Workshop and report back to the Operations & Regulations Committee prior to the development of any Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM"). This report is provided to inform the Committee of the results of the Rulemaking Workshop and present management's recommendation for further action in the rulemaking.

Summary of the Workshop

LSC convened a Rulemaking Workshop on December 13, 2005 to discuss Part 1624. The following persons participated in the Workshop: John "Chip" Gray, South Brooklyn Legal Services; John Herrion, United Spinal Association; Linda Perle, Center for Law and Social Policy; Don Saunders, National Legal Aid and Defender Association; Helaine Barnett, LSC President (welcoming remaa President Barnettproveildednedchlerogundipon the LSC Board's interest in reviewing Part 1624. She explained that this is LSC's first rulemaking workshop, which is designed to share issues and problems but not to develop recommendations or consensus. After self-introductions by the participants and finalization of the agenda, the participants began their discussions.