# LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OPEN SESSION (via conference call)

Tuesday, September 8, 2009 2:07 p.m.

Legal Services Corporation 3333 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
Frank B. Strickland, Chairman
Helaine M. Barnett, President
Jonann C. Chiles
Thomas A. Fuentes
Herbert S. Garten
Michael D. McKay
Thomas R. Meites
Laurie Mikva
Sarah Singleton

# STAFF AND PUBLIC PRESENT:

John Asher, Justice Gap Advisory Committee Treefa Aziz, Government Relations and Public Affairs Office

### STAFF AND PUBLIC PRESENT: (Continued)

Steve Barge, LSC Advisory Group Stephen Barr, Media Relations Director, Government Relations and Public Affairs Office Terry Brooks, ABA, Justice Gap Advisory Committee Mattie Cohan, Senior Assistant General Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs

John Constance, Director, Government Relations and Public Affairs Office, LSC Advisory Group

David de la Tour, Program Counsel III, Office of Compliance and Enforcement

Alice Dickerson, Office of Human Resources Karen M. Dozier, Executive Assistant to the President Sean Driscoll, Special Assistant, Government Relations and Public Affairs Office

Don Echols, Justice Gap Advisory Committee

Victor M. Fortuno, Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, Office of Legal Affairs

Joel Gallay, Special Counsel to the Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General

Michael Genz, Program Counsel, Office of Program Performance,

and LSC Advisory Group

Tom Hester, Associate Counsel, Office of General Counsel

Charles Jeffress, Chief Administrative Officer, and LSC Advisory Group

#### STAFF AND PUBLIC PRESENT: (Continued)

Bernice Lemaire, General Accounting Office

Alan Levine, Esq., Krenish, Lieb, Weiner & Hellman LLP David Maddox, Assistant Inspector General for

Management and Evaluation, Office of the Inspector General

John Meyer, Director, Office of Information Management, and LSC Advisory Group

Dee Miller, Justice Gap Advisory Committee Linda Mullenbach

Karen J. Sarjeant, Vice President for Programs and Compliance, and LSC Advisory Group

Don Saunders, National Legal Aid and Defenders

Association, NLADA, Justice Gap Advisory Committee Daniel Sheahan, Program Evaluation Analyst, Office of Inspector General

Katherine Ward, Executive Assistant, Office of Legal Affairs

Anthony Young, Justice Gap Advisory Committee

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Motions: 6, 46, 52, 53, 57

- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Let me call to order the
- 3 Legal Services Corporation meeting of the Board of
- 4 Directors, pursuant to notice published in the Federal
- 5 Register to commence at 2:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight
- 6 Time, on September 8, 2009.
- 7 Mr. Reporter, do you have the names of all
- 8 those in attendance already duly recorded?
- 9 THE REPORTER: Not quite, Mr. Chairman, but we
- 10 will take care of that.
- 11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. Let me know
- 12 when you have all those recorded, please, sir.
- 13 MS. BARNETT: We can continue, Mr. Chairman.
- 14 We are gathering those names for you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay. We're still
- 16 getting a lot of noise on the call. I think we will
- 17 proceed as best we can. Maybe we should make a note at
- 18 the outset that maybe we want to move to a different
- 19 conference call provider if we have any future
- 20 conference call meetings.
- 21 The first item on the agenda is approval of
- 22 the agenda. I would entertain a motion to approve the

- 1 agenda. Is there such a motion?
- 2 MOTION
- 3 MS. CHILES: So move.
- 4 MR. GARTEN: Second.
- 5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Hearing none, all those
- 8 in favor of approving the agenda, please say aye.
- 9 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed, nay.
- 11 (No response.)
- 12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The aye's have it. The
- 13 agenda is adopted.
- 14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The next item on the
- 15 agenda is to consider and act on adoption of LSC's 2009
- 16 Justice Gap Report. I presume someone at the
- 17 conference table in Washington is going to lead that
- 18 discussion.
- 19 Would that be you, Helaine?
- MS. BARNETT: Yes, it would be, Mr. Chairman.
- 21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Please proceed.
- MS. BARNETT: Thank you. First, let me

- 1 recognize and introduce the members of the Justice Gap
- 2 Advisory Committee who are on the conference call.
- John Asher, De Miller, Anthony Young, Don
- 4 Saunders.
- 5 Is Terry Brooks or Don Echols on the call?
- 6 MR. BROOKS: Terry Brooks is on.
- 7 MS. BARNETT: Thank you, Terry. In the
- 8 conference room, we have the LSC Advisory Group, Steve
- 9 Barge, John Constance, Mike Genz, Charles Jeffress,
- 10 John Meyer, Karen Sarjeant.
- I will begin by very briefly presenting the
- 12 overall conclusions and pointing out --
- 13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Helaine, if I may
- 14 interrupt you, can you get directly in front of the
- 15 microphone? I think we're having a little trouble
- 16 hearing you.
- 17 MS. BARNETT: Unfortunately, I am directly in
- 18 front of the microphone.
- 19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay.
- MS. BARNETT: Any other suggestions, Charles?
- MR. JEFFRESS: Frank, I believe someone is on
- 22 a cell phone and there is some wind noise coming in on

- 1 that cell phone. I don't know if they are driving or
- 2 outdoors or what. If somebody could mute that cell
- 3 phone, that would help.
- 4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Would the culprit on
- 5 this call, who may be on a cell phone, please see if
- 6 you could shift to a land line, please?
- 7 MS. BARNETT: I will attempt to continue.
- 8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Go ahead, Helaine.
- 9 MS. BARNETT: Thank you.
- 10 At the outset, I'd just like to emphasize the
- 11 importance of what the LSC Board did in September of
- 12 2004, when it asked LSC staff to attempt to document
- 13 the extent to which the need for LSC services is not
- 14 currently being met.
- The importance of the report issued by the
- 16 Corporation in September 2005 was not only important to
- 17 Legal Services, it was important to Congress, it was
- 18 important to the press, it was important to our
- 19 program.
- 20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Helaine, would you stop
- 21 just for a moment?
- MS. BARNETT: Certainly.

- 1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I'm only hearing about
- 2 every third or fourth word that is being said. I don't
- 3 know whether others are having that same problem. I
- 4 don't believe we can conduct our business properly
- 5 unless everyone can hear at the same time and hear
- 6 everything that is being said.
- 7 Charles Jeffress, are you there?
- 8 MR. JEFFRESS: I am, Frank. The noise we were
- 9 hearing in the background has just disappeared. I
- 10 think maybe someone did switch telephones. Can you
- 11 hear me any better than you could hear just a few
- 12 minutes ago?
- 13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I can hear you a little
- 14 better. There is still what sounds like driving noise
- in the background. It is really tainting the quality
- of the conversation remarkably.
- 17 MR. JEFFRESS: We could try calling back in,
- 18 ask people to hang up and call back in. We could
- 19 switch our phones to make sure it's not our telephone.
- 20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I do hear what appears a
- 21 cell phone driving noise in the background. I was
- 22 having a terrible time hearing Helaine. I was assuming

- 1 everyone else was having the same difficulty.
- 2 MR. JEFFRESS: We can no longer hear that
- 3 noise. You all can still hear that noise?
- 4 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: You would think this was
- 5 not 2009, the quality is so poor. Let's try again,
- 6 Helaine, if you could begin again.
- 7 MS. BARNETT: I will certainly do that. I
- 8 just wanted to emphasize at the outset the importance
- 9 of what this LSC Board did in September of 2004, when
- 10 it asked LSC staff to attempt to document the extent to
- 11 which the need for LSC services is not currently being
- 12 met.
- 13 As you know, we issued the report in 2005.
- 14 The "justice gap" has become a commonly used phrase
- 15 that captures the essence of what we are trying to
- 16 accomplish. It is cited repeatedly in Congress, with
- 17 the press, with the equal justice community, and has
- 18 defined the problem facing the nation, and has shaped
- 19 the dialogue we have held with Congress and helped
- 20 bring about an increased level of funding.
- 21 We determined that our data was getting
- 22 somewhat old and that we felt as we were approaching

- 1 2010 we should do an updated report.
- 2 Briefly, I will just summarize the conclusions
- 3 that we reached in this draft that has been sent to you
- 4 for your review and discussion.
- 5 There continues to be a significant justice
- 6 gap between the civil legal needs of low income
- 7 Americans and the legal help they receive. For every
- 8 client served by an LSC funded office, one is turned
- 9 away due to lack of resources, and this is clearly an
- 10 under count.
- 11 New states' civil legal aid studies confirm
- 12 and add to a substantial body of social science
- 13 knowledge that we are only meeting a small fraction of
- 14 the legal needs of low income individuals and families.
- More than ten times as many private attorneys
- 16 provide personal legal services to the general
- 17 population as legal aid lawyers provide to low income
- 18 individuals and families.
- 19 In addition, new data has indicated that there
- 20 is a rising tide and significantly increased number of
- 21 unrepresented litigants, especially in the courts
- 22 dealing with issues affecting low income persons.

- 1 We propose that the result is we need a staged
- 2 approach, and the first critical goal is obviously a
- 3 partnership with state and local government and private
- 4 sources, and we must double the amount of Federal funds
- 5 in order to meet those currently seeking assistance
- 6 from legal services' funded offices.
- 7 Secondly, since the documentation shows that
- 8 one out of five of the legal needs of low income
- 9 Americans are being met, there needs ultimately to be a
- 10 five fold increase to serve those needs.
- We used the same methodologies as we did in
- 12 2005, the unable to serve study for basically the same
- 13 two month period, which of course, we believe is an
- 14 under count, but nonetheless used that, where we turn
- 15 away one for one.
- 16 Methodology two, where we looked at the recent
- 17 state legal needs studies since the 2005 report, and we
- 18 now have a substantial body of knowledge confirming
- 19 that we are only meeting a small fraction of the legal
- 20 needs of low income Americans.
- 21 Three, that there is still a significant
- 22 difference in the ratio between the number of attorneys

- 1 available to help the general population and the number
- 2 of legal aid attorneys regardless of source of funding
- 3 able to assist the poor.
- In addition, what is really new in this report
- 5 is we have new data on unrepresented litigants where we
- 6 see there are significant numbers of unrepresented
- 7 litigants, people who go to court without an attorney
- 8 because they can't afford or find an attorney, in areas
- 9 and clusters of courts that particularly deal with
- 10 problems affecting low income persons such as housing
- 11 court and family court.
- 12 That's the methodologies we used and the
- 13 similarities and the differences. We wanted the 2009
- 14 report to be a stand alone document that you would not
- 15 have to refer back to the 2005 report. That in brief
- 16 is a summary of our conclusions and the similarities
- 17 and differences between 2005 and our proposed 2009
- 18 report.
- 19 At this point, I'd like to open it up for any
- 20 additional comments by any members of the advisory
- 21 groups or to any questions any member of the Board
- 22 might have.

- 1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Are there any such
- 2 comments?
- Dee, this is Frank Strickland. Helaine just
- 4 presented her report of the work of the committee and
- 5 invited comments from any member of the committee,
- 6 advisory or otherwise.
- 7 Do you have any comments?
- 8 MS. MILLER: Having not heard the
- 9 presentation, no.
- 10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay. Any other
- 11 comments on Helaine's presentation?
- 12 MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, are you ready for
- 13 Board comments?
- 14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, sir.
- MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, this is Tom
- 16 Fuentes in California. I would like to ask for the
- 17 privilege of four minutes for extended remarks.
- 18 My Board colleagues, I have no way of
- 19 challenging statistical findings of the unmet legal
- 20 needs of America's poor in this new edition of the
- 21 LSC's Justice Gap Report.
- I do, however, have significant objections to

- 1 the conclusions which are drawn from those findings.
- 2 After nearly seven years of service with you on this
- 3 Board, I am concerned that this report offers
- 4 governmental solutions to a challenge at hand. America
- 5 can do better. America deserves better.
- 6 We meet today by telephone on the eve this
- 7 week of the commemoration of 9/11, the attack on
- 8 America in 2001. On the anniversary of that horrific
- 9 and dastardly event, it evokes sad memories for all of
- 10 us.
- 11 It also reminds us of the greatness of our
- 12 nation and its people. It reminds us how capable we
- 13 were of coming together with incredible passion, of
- 14 volunteerism, concern for our neighbors in need to
- 15 address the crisis of that hour.
- 16 The tragedy prompted a display of the
- 17 greatness of our nation and its people and their
- 18 ability to give of themselves.
- 19 The report before us today does not reflect
- 20 the trust and the greatness of the American people. We
- 21 are a compassionate and caring republic, capable of
- 22 meeting the legal needs of our poor if we ask the right

- 1 people to help.
- 2 The LSC ought to be about greater education of
- 3 the American people of the need for access to justice
- 4 for the poor, and greater encouragement and moral
- 5 leadership to do what needs to be done.
- Instead, this report before us today calls for
- 7 more expanded government and more unbridled spending
- 8 which will be the burden of our children and our
- 9 grandchildren to repay. That tax burden challenges
- 10 their freedom and ours. It will be a sad legacy of our
- 11 generation.
- 12 This is the second edition of the Justice Gap
- 13 Report. This report is more of the same, and the same
- 14 has not met the needs of the poor in our nation.
- This report is a sales pitch for more money to
- 16 grow the LSC budget and its bureaucracy, pure and
- 17 simple. It is an advocacy document with conclusions
- 18 based on a tax and spend agenda which I do not accept.
- 19 Rather than getting at the source of the
- 20 problems specifically, the failure of America's
- 21 lawyers, private and public, to meet with charity,
- 22 compassion and volunteerism the legal needs of the poor

- 1 of America, this report calls for more taxpayer burden
- 2 and bigger government.
- I reject this approach. This report suggests
- 4 growing Federal spending by five fold in this time of
- 5 national fiscal crisis.
- I am appalled by the use of lofty language in
- 7 the executive summary, specifically "In order to keep
- 8 faith with our national commitment to equal access to
- 9 justice, it is essential that the nation move toward
- 10 the necessary funding levels in firm measured strides
- 11 that are designed to close the justice gap as quickly
- 12 as possible."
- 13 This is a blatant call to bigger Federal
- 14 spending, bigger bureaucracy, and bigger reliance on
- 15 government in the guise of a moral wrapping.
- 16 Frankly, this agenda is not good for America
- 17 and its people.
- 18 The conclusions of this report are a move for
- 19 growth in government in our lives. It misses the
- 20 target. It fails to call upon those individuals who
- 21 are the only ones who can render legal services to the
- 22 poor of America, specifically the lawyers of America,

- 1 to do what is truly needed to make justice available to
- 2 our poor neighbors.
- Yes, I mean far greater pro bono volunteerism
- 4 by the American Bar.
- 5 This report should be rejected in its current
- 6 form and tone and redirected. It should be revised to
- 7 be a report to all America and America's lawyers in
- 8 private firms, big and small, and America's law
- 9 schools, America's public legal agencies, to render
- 10 volunteer help to the poor of America.
- 11 Have we asked the question does every lawyer
- 12 in America give generous pro bono help to his or her
- 13 neighbor in need? Is every lawyer in every private law
- 14 firm, big and small, in America doing his or her part?
- 15 Is every lawyer employed as an in-house counsel in the
- 16 offices of America's corporations doing his or her
- 17 part? Is every lawyer employed in government doing his
- 18 or her part? Is every lawyer in the large and small
- 19 financial houses and banks on Wall Street assisting
- 20 poor neighbors?
- I ask this question of the individuals, not of
- 22 their employers.

- 1 The American taxpayers are already overwhelmed
- 2 with the cost of lawyers on the public payroll. In the
- 3 offices of the state attorney general, those teaching
- 4 in public law schools, U.S. attorneys, district
- 5 attorneys, county attorneys, city attorneys, offices of
- 6 the public defender and the courts, yes, all the court
- 7 clerks, too, does each and every one of these publicly
- 8 funded lawyers give his or her time to assist the poor
- 9 in our nation in a pro bono fashion? Many are well
- 10 paid. Some do help but do all help?
- 11 I'm talking about volunteerism on one's own
- 12 time, not on company or taxpayers' time.
- 13 In conclusion, on this Tuesday after Labor
- 14 Day, we should solicit our friends and neighbors in
- 15 labor and respectfully encourage the growing number of
- 16 government labor union member lawyers to make
- 17 charitable volunteerism part of the culture of their
- 18 public service.
- To be a lawyer and practice law in America is
- 20 a privilege and often a lucrative one. The purpose of
- 21 having a Bar in our land is to provide for access to
- 22 justice, for rich and poor alike.

- 1 We do not need a call for more Federal
- 2 spending. We need a call to every lawyer in America to
- 3 be about helping the poor with charity. The funding
- 4 levels suggested in this new edition of the Justice Gap
- 5 Report dissuades the Bar from meeting their moral
- 6 obligation. Let Uncle Sam do it for them is the
- 7 message of this report.
- 8 I will not vote to approve this report. It
- 9 needs to be rewritten and redirected. If the report is
- 10 approved as is, I respectfully ask that these remarks
- 11 be attached as a minority report from this director and
- 12 any Board colleagues who wish to join me in rejecting
- 13 the report's conclusions.
- 14 Thank you.
- 15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Tom. Do any
- 16 other members of the Board have comments on the Justice
- 17 Gap Report presentation?
- 18 MR. GARTEN: With all due respect to my true
- 19 friend and a person I admire very much, I can't allow
- 20 him to put the entire problem at the steps of the
- 21 American Bar and lawyers.
- Lawyers as a whole contribute more to

- 1 volunteerism than any other profession, and it would be
- 2 impossible to assume that every lawyer is involved in
- 3 this effort, of course not. Trying to put the blame on
- 4 lawyers as a body as presented in this last four
- 5 minutes is just plain wrong.
- 6 Lawyers are doing more again than any other
- 7 profession in this area. Here in Maryland, we have
- 8 continuously had more than 50, 60, even at one point
- 9 close to 70 percent of the lawyers contributing their
- 10 time and effort, but they have to make a living, too.
- 11 Most lawyers are not in the category of what Tom is
- 12 referring to. They are struggling to make a living.
- 13 They are struggling to send their children to college
- 14 and to pay their debts and bills and living at the same
- 15 time.
- 16 I think it is very unfair for this discussion
- 17 to put the entire burden, the entire blame on the Bar.
- 18 It's just wrong.
- 19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Anything else?
- MR. MEITES: Can you hear me okay?
- 21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, Tom. Go ahead.
- MR. MEITES: Again, I join Herb in

- 1 appreciating Tom's efforts on this Board along with the
- 2 rest of us, but I have taken away a different lesson
- 3 from my service on the Board than maybe Tom has.
- 4 My lesson is that first, the actual field
- 5 attorneys that are grantees work incredibly hard. They
- 6 work harder than I do. They work harder than the
- 7 lawyers in my office. They get paid less and in many
- 8 ways, they have far more difficult clients.
- 9 Moving up the chain, I have learned from
- 10 meeting with boards of our grantees in more than a
- 11 dozen states that the boards of our grantees, which are
- 12 largely lawyers, understand exactly the kind of issues
- 13 that Tom has raised, and work as hard as anybody could
- 14 expect to work, both to increase the efforts of
- 15 volunteer lawyers in their communities and also to
- 16 raise in their communities public awareness of the
- 17 shortfall.
- 18 I have also learned from my service on the
- 19 Board that our Board and Congress almost 40 years ago
- 20 made a decision, our predecessors and Congress then,
- 21 regardless of what volunteerism can do, there simply
- 22 are not enough hands to go around given the amount of

- 1 problems that our grantee clients face.
- 2 Although I certainly have been impressed and I
- 3 have learned, I didn't know about this, about the
- 4 efforts made at the state level, at the local level,
- 5 trying to meet the issues that the Justice Gap Report
- 6 is concerned with.
- 7 My service on the Board has reinforced my
- 8 initial view that because of the shortfall, the gap,
- 9 the distance between A and B, between what we can do as
- 10 individuals and what needs to be done, that substantial
- 11 Federal support is necessary.
- I have to tell you, Tom. I would prefer a
- 13 system where we didn't exist, where we weren't
- 14 necessary. I have found that people at the local level
- 15 making local decisions know what locally needs to be
- 16 done.
- 17 After having served on this Board along with
- 18 you for the past six or seven years, I have to conclude
- 19 that there is no way that the problem can be addressed
- 20 without substantial Federal participation.
- 21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. Do any other
- 22 directors have comments?

- 1 MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, if I can just
- 2 respond to those two kind comments from my colleagues.
- 3 I want to make it clear that my remarks are in no way
- 4 an indictment of those generous, compassionate, caring
- 5 and volunteering lawyers who do indeed participate in
- 6 the service of our poor neighbors, but rather to be
- 7 interpreted as an invitation to those who do not.
- 8 MR. GARTEN: All right. Those comments are
- 9 very well received by me, Tom.
- 10 MR. McKAY: I agree. I guess I'm somewhere in
- 11 the middle because I began my career in this area,
- 12 focusing exclusively on trying to get attorneys in the
- 13 private sector and elsewhere to donate their time to
- 14 help low income people experiencing legal difficulties.
- 15 That has been a very difficult challenge.
- 16 There has always been that smaller cadre of
- 17 folks who donated their time, although as Herb rightly
- 18 points out, larger than any other profession by the
- 19 way. Still, there are just a lot of people who donate
- 20 no time.
- I remember when I became U.S. attorney, one of
- 22 the first things I asked the assistants to do was to

- 1 donate their time to low income people. In spite of my
- 2 prodding, however persistent it was, I was the only
- 3 attorney in the office that did it.
- 4 It's a very tough challenge. Having said all
- 5 that and how strongly I feel about attorneys donating
- 6 their time, and I continue to do it and attorneys in my
- 7 office do it, there are a lot that do not, and as a
- 8 result, as reflected in the report that's in front of
- 9 us, there are a lot of people who are left unserved.
- I guess I'm somewhere in the middle where we
- 11 have to continue to press the private sector to do
- 12 more, but in the meantime, the government needs to
- 13 help. I am troubled by the expenses associated with
- 14 it, but the government does need to play a role.
- 15 We need to be as economical as we can, to
- 16 either press the private sector to get more involved
- 17 but also make sure that at least some kind of a safety
- 18 net is in existence and we are getting as much as 50
- 19 percent of those folks right now, and some argue even
- 20 less, and we need to continue.
- I do think we need to continue in this very
- 22 important effort.

- 1 MS. SINGLETON: Mr. Chairman?
- 2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Go ahead, Sarah.
- MS. SINGLETON: I would like to suggest, while
- 4 I don't agree with Mr. Fuentes' conclusions, I do
- 5 believe that we could in the Justice Gap Report
- 6 recognize a little more strongly the need for members
- 7 of the Bar to pitch in for this effort in two ways.
- I think that on page 29 we could strengthen
- 9 the report if in addition to talking about funding
- 10 through state legislatures and we also talk about the
- 11 contribution of volunteer lawyers which I believe is
- 12 increasing but should continue or we should continue to
- 13 press for the amount of volunteer work that is done to
- 14 increase.
- I would ask that page 29 be rewritten to the
- 16 limited extent that it adds such a paragraph or such a
- 17 statement.
- I do disagree with the statement that says
- 19 government unquestionably must bear the laboring in
- 20 this effort.
- 21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Where is that? Is that
- 22 elsewhere on that page?

- 1 MS. SINGLETON: That is on page 29. It's like
- 2 the second sentence.
- 3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I see it.
- 4 MS. SINGLETON: I just don't believe that to
- 5 be the case. I believe that certainly it's not the
- 6 case if you're talking solely about the Federal
- 7 Government. I believe one of the things we learned
- 8 after 1995 is that the cause we are serving which is
- 9 trying to get low income people adequate representation
- 10 is harmed if we believe that the Federal Government
- 11 bears the laboring on this effort. I don't like that
- 12 sentence. I would like to have that sentence changed.
- 13 I think it's a multi-faceted approach that we
- 14 need and the Federal Government is only one of the
- 15 aspects of the approach that we need.
- 16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you. Anything
- 17 else on that, Sarah?
- 18 MS. SINGLETON: No, thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Jonann?
- MS. CHILES: I just want to say I agree very
- 21 strongly with what Sarah has just said. I do think
- 22 page 29 should be re-worked, specifically that some of

- 1 the conclusions should be re-worked.
- I think we do need to express LSC's continued
- 3 commitment to encourage pro bono services, pro bono
- 4 efforts on the part of the Bar.
- 5 I also think we should reflect upon some of
- 6 the lessons we have learned from the GAO reports,
- 7 specifically LSC needs to express a commitment to hold
- 8 grantees accountable, to make sure that grantees are
- 9 responsible stewards of the Federal monies that they
- 10 receive.
- 11 Accountability or holding our grantees
- 12 accountable for the monies that they get is a very
- 13 important part of maximizing our resources and making
- 14 sure that people who need legal services receive legal
- 15 services.
- 16 I'd like to say something about a grantee that
- 17 recently got in trouble for expenditure of Federal
- 18 monies in a way that I have trouble with, but in any
- 19 event, I think that we need to express a continued
- 20 commitment to encourage pro bono work. I think we need
- 21 to express a commitment to making sure that LSC and its
- 22 grantees are responsible stewards of Federal monies.

- 1 Also, just one other point. I think that
- 2 perhaps we should re-examine some of the conclusions
- 3 that are based upon speculation. I don't think those
- 4 conclusions are very strong and in fact, I think they
- 5 weaken the report.
- 6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Do you have any specific
- 7 conclusions in mind that you want to point to right
- 8 now?
- 9 MS. CHILES: There are some conclusions on the
- 10 first part of the report about why the need numbers are
- 11 not greater, speculation, for instance, about why
- 12 numbers -- unable to serve numbers are not larger in
- 13 light of the fact that the economy has gotten so much
- 14 worse.
- The first part of methodology number one seems
- 16 to include quite a bit of speculation, or whether a
- 17 conclusion based upon speculation.
- I also think that part of the report is weak
- 19 to begin with because it's based upon self reporting by
- 20 grantees who are self interested. It's to their
- 21 benefit to report higher numbers on people not served.
- I'm not saying the reporting is not truthful

- 1 but I will tell you that I talked to one Senator who
- 2 dismissed the entire report because he thought that the
- 3 self reporting on a part of the grantees was so slanted
- 4 with self interest that he wasn't going to give the
- 5 report any credibility.
- I think we just need to be careful when we
- 7 draw conclusions based upon speculation.
- 8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I'm wondering whether we
- 9 can go forward with adopting the 2009 report with these
- 10 suggestions for some fairly extensive re-writing,
- 11 particularly of the last page or so of the report, and
- 12 now Jonann has pointed out some things toward the
- 13 beginning of the report, paraphrasing her words,
- 14 conclusions appearing to be based on speculative
- 15 information.
- 16 MR. MEITES: Frank, might it make sense -- I'd
- 17 be happy if Jonann and Sarah and you would do any
- 18 changes and move it subject to the approval of the
- 19 three of you.
- MR. McKAY: Mr. Chairman, if I may, first, I
- 21 have great confidence in those individuals named by
- 22 Tom, but I think the comments made by Tom Meites, by

- 1 Herb Garten, by Tom Fuentes and now the follow up
- 2 comments with regard to changes, I think that is pretty
- 3 important particularly since we received it just three
- 4 business days ago, I would feel more comfortable --
- 5 this is a very important document.
- It has been very helpful for us in addressing
- 7 funding issues and also communicating to decision
- 8 makers how important our mission is.
- 9 I would prefer to be more personally involved
- 10 and the Board to be more involved, because there are
- 11 fairly significant changes being proposed, that maybe
- 12 those individuals work on it and we get a new draft in
- 13 a redlined format and then address it again either in a
- 14 telephone conference or maybe we could pass it on at
- 15 the end of our Finance Committee meeting on the 18th.
- 16 I do think this is important enough to warrant
- 17 that kind of attention.
- 18 MR. GARTEN: I concur in that. For example,
- 19 if we are going to get involved in the pro bono
- 20 activities, there are statistics out there compiled by
- 21 the ABA with regard to what I call "checkbook pro
- 22 bono, " where lawyers are contributing in each state

- 1 substantial amounts of monies to go into these programs
- 2 helping the poor.
- 3 That may be something that we would want to
- 4 add.
- 5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Sounds like we have a
- 6 fair amount of work to do on the report. While I
- 7 appreciate the confidence at least of a few of you in
- 8 having three of us work on revised language, speaking
- 9 for myself, I would prefer not to undertake that task.
- 10 I would rather have involvement of the full Board.
- 11 I'd rather shift the drafting that on a
- 12 redlined basis to management for resubmission to the
- 13 Board and reconvening either at the end of the Finance
- 14 Committee meeting on the 21st or at a later date.
- 15 MS. SINGLETON: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the
- 16 comments that the full Board should be involved in
- 17 approving any changes because they need to be involved
- 18 in approving of the report.
- 19 For myself I would be glad to work with
- 20 anybody on language changes that would meet at least my
- 21 comments.
- 22 MS. MIKVA: Is there a time line? Is there

- 1 some deadline by which this report needs to be done or
- 2 should be done?
- 3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I'm not aware of any
- 4 time line. Helaine, do you have a comment on that?
- 5 MS. BARNETT: I was just turning to John
- 6 Constance to see if he could help advise us in that
- 7 regard.
- 8 MR. CONSTANCE: John Constance, Director,
- 9 Government Relations and Public Affairs, for the
- 10 record.
- I would say that October 1 would be a good
- 12 deadline. It's about the working deadline we have had.
- 13 I would say if we could conclude this within that time
- 14 frame, that would be fine. I don't know that I've
- 15 heard anything here that certainly couldn't be resolved
- 16 and turned around in that kind of window.
- 17 MS. MIKVA: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: With that in mind, would
- 19 the Board accept the concept of postponing any further
- 20 consideration of this agenda item until either the
- 21 afternoon of September 21 at the end of the Finance
- 22 Committee meeting, at which time we would have other

- 1 directors call in, or a later date in September to be
- 2 determined?
- 3 MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, I think to have a
- 4 good report which my colleagues have suggested, I think
- 5 the direction for refinement and revision are all very
- 6 positive, and I'm glad to see the dialogue and exchange
- 7 which has just occurred.
- I will forward the text of my remarks to you
- 9 and to our colleagues for consideration. Of course,
- 10 based on how significant are the revisions and tone of
- 11 the document will depend on whether I choose to support
- 12 it or not or choose to issue a minority report on the
- 13 document.
- 14 I will send those for consideration and I
- 15 appreciate all the courtesy extended.
- 16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, sir.
- 17 MR. GARTEN: Mr. Chair, I would suggest that
- 18 you give consideration to doing it on the 21st because
- 19 you're going to have a good number of directors in
- 20 person with the Finance Committee meeting. It's going
- 21 to start at 8:00 a.m. I would think we could easily
- 22 fit this in in the afternoon.

- 1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Actually, I think it is
- 2 going to start at 10:00 a.m., Herb.
- 3 MR. MEITES: Since the Chair is from the West
- 4 Coast, he would never start a meeting at 8:00 a.m.
- 5 (Laughter.)
- 6 MR. FUENTES: That goes second for his member
- 7 from the West Coast.
- 8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.
- 9 MR. GARTEN: I thought you were going to be in
- 10 person at that Finance Committee meeting. I'm sorry.
- MR. MEITES: No, I will be there. I'll still
- 12 be on West Coast time.
- 13 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I'll modify my
- 14 suggestion that it be either/or and we will shoot for
- 15 the 21st. We may want to set an aspirational goal as
- 16 to what time that might be. Do we want to say 2:00?
- 17 MR. McKAY: Mr. Chairman, I think it would be
- 18 just fine for us -- I would ask my members if they
- 19 would agree, I have no problem with setting not just an
- 20 aspirational date, but we could have a set time. If we
- 21 are not finished with our Finance Committee work, we
- 22 could hold off on completing it and set aside a half

- 1 hour or 45 minutes to finish our session on the Justice
- 2 Gap report.
- I think 2:00 in the afternoon would be just
- 4 fine, unless there are objections.
- 5 MS. SINGLETON: 2:00?
- 6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Eastern time.
- 7 MS. SINGLETON: I have a 4:00 plane. I'd like
- 8 to do it earlier if we could.
- 9 MR. McKAY: How about 1:00?
- 10 MS. SINGLETON: Yes.
- 11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Is there consensus that
- 12 we will defer action on the agenda item about the
- 13 Justice Gap Report until September 21 at 1:00 p.m.
- 14 Eastern Time with those directors who are not present
- in person for the Finance Committee meeting to attend
- 16 by telephone conference call on that date and time?
- 17 Is that satisfactory to everyone?
- (Chorus of yes').
- 19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. We will
- 20 proceed on that basis. Is there anything else on the
- 21 Justice Gap Report?
- (No response.)

- 1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The next item is
- 2 consider and act on whether to establish a search
- 3 committee for LSC President and if such committee is
- 4 established, to authorize the Chairman of the Board to
- 5 appoint the membership of the committee and to
- 6 authorize the committee to issue a request for
- 7 proposals soliciting bids in accordance with LSC's
- 8 administrative manual for a search firm to aid in the
- 9 search for the next President of LSC.
- 10 I'm going to suggest that proposal be modified
- 11 to strike item A and B and to modify the whole thing to
- 12 read "to authorize the Chairman to issue a request for
- 13 proposals soliciting bids in accordance with LSC's
- 14 administrative manual for a search firm to aid in the
- 15 search for the next President of LSC."
- 16 We will delay the concept of formally
- 17 establishing the committee until a later date. This
- 18 would just be action to authorize the issuance of an
- 19 RFP.
- 20 MR. McKAY: I guess I'd object to that change
- 21 and have us literally discuss those first two items. I
- 22 personally don't disagree with a phone call, but I'd

- 1 like us to discuss the letter we received and talk
- 2 about the implications of deferring.
- 3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. Go ahead.
- 4 MR. McKAY: I do think we need to discuss the
- 5 pro's and con's. I strongly believe that the new Board
- 6 should be choosing the next president. I know the
- 7 Chair has that thought in mind. I do think if we are
- 8 losing our president at the end of the year, we ought
- 9 to start working to get in place the tools that are
- 10 necessary to achieve that.
- I'm not entirely sure that waiting until the
- 12 next Board meeting is the best thing to do. I would
- 13 just like to open it up for a brief discussion, make
- 14 sure that we are fulfilling our fiduciary duties. We
- 15 are the Board right now. We have a president that is
- 16 leaving at the end of the year.
- 17 We are less than six months away from her
- 18 departure.
- 19 I just want to make sure we are fulfilling our
- 20 fiduciary duty. Clearly, the new Board should be
- 21 choosing the new president. We need to make sure that
- 22 we are taking the steps that are necessary so the new

- 1 Board can hit the ground running on that.
- I know the Chairman has in mind selecting new
- 3 Board members to serve on the committee. I am just
- 4 wondering if you can share those thoughts with the full
- 5 Board, Frank.
- 6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Mike. The
- 7 original concept I had in mind was entirely based on a
- 8 smooth transition, and as you pointed out, Mike,
- 9 recognizing that Helaine Barnett, who has been an
- 10 outstanding CEO for the Corporation for more than six
- 11 years, actually, this is her sixth year, and that her
- 12 employment agreement on its face expires on December
- 13 31, and also recognizing how long it takes to get a
- 14 search up and running and brought to a conclusion in
- 15 the case of this Board in 2003, it did take a full six
- 16 months before our selected person reported in January
- 17 of 2004, so what I had in mind was not -- emphasize
- 18 that in bold letters -- not selecting a new president
- 19 but simply to get the process underway by moving ahead
- 20 with an RFP on the search firm and then perhaps
- 21 organizing the search committee, but with a view of
- 22 having that committee immediately re-populated by

- 1 moving confirmed members of the Board who in turn would
- 2 select a new CEO.
- It was to accelerate the process, not to take
- 4 it over. Any thoughts to the contrary are simply
- 5 misplaced.
- 6 That was the concept. I had hoped and I still
- 7 have hope that if we move in that direction, at least
- 8 perhaps one designated Board member could possibly
- 9 serve as an advisory member. I don't know whether that
- 10 will be possible or not. That was the concept that I
- 11 had in mind when I decided to put this item on the
- 12 agenda.
- 13 MR. MEITES: Frank, this might help explain
- 14 where you are coming from, how long did the process
- 15 took from beginning to end to select Helaine?
- 16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: We established the
- 17 search committee in June of 2003. After that, the
- 18 committee then engaged a search firm. I don't remember
- 19 precisely how long that took. We interviewed three
- 20 firms before selecting one. We began the process, that
- 21 is the committee, of soliciting applications and
- 22 interviewing applicants and narrowing the field.

- 1 We made a final selection -- we interviewed
- 2 two or three finalists at our meeting in New York which
- 3 was probably in November of 2003, as I recall. We made
- 4 the selection of Helaine at that meeting and she
- 5 reported for duty in Washington in January of 2004,
- 6 January 20, I believe.
- 7 It was a full six months.
- 8 MR. MEITES: From when we first did the search
- 9 until Helaine was selected?
- 10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: When we first
- 11 established the committee to the time she actually
- 12 reported.
- MR. MEITES: Go back to the search firm and
- 14 the first publication that there was a job opening and
- 15 asking for applicants.
- 16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I can't give you those
- 17 exact dates. I do know we established the search
- 18 committee in June, at our June meeting in 2003. The
- 19 process unfolded after that. As I said, I can't fill
- 20 in those exact dates.
- MR. MEITES: From memory, my estimate would be
- 22 at least another three or four months to select the

- 1 search firm and bring it up to speed. Does that sound
- 2 about right to you?
- 3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: It did take a while to
- 4 get a search firm selected and then of course, the
- 5 application process, the receipt of applicants, the
- 6 interviews, the preliminary interviews, the narrowing
- 7 of the field and so on.
- 8 The whole idea on this was to accelerate the
- 9 process. Again, emphasizing once more not to select
- 10 the person but just to sort of get it moving.
- MS. MIKVA: It seems to me that even if there
- 12 is not -- the nominations do not go through in time to
- 13 pick an executive director in time, then there is going
- 14 to have to be a committee to select some sort of
- 15 interim person acting in that regard.
- 16 I think the committee should be set up with
- 17 that in mind, if the Board has not turned over, then to
- 18 select an interim director until there is a new Board.
- 19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: We could certainly move
- 20 in that direction, that is establish a committee to
- 21 consider candidates for an interim person. I would not
- 22 want to see us -- we could engage a search firm but I

- 1 would think we would want to have that search firm on
- 2 the task of finding a CEO, a long term CEO.
- I wouldn't want to incur that expense twice,
- 4 if you will.
- 5 MS. MIKVA: Absolutely. I'm just saying if
- 6 the timing is such that when it's time to pick the new
- 7 Board is not in place, at that point I think the task
- 8 of the search firm might have to change. That's all.
- 9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: That's possible.
- 10 MS. MIKVA: I agree completely, set out to
- 11 pick a permanent --
- 12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: My idea at the outset
- 13 was that people who will apply for the position of CEO
- 14 of LSC are certainly sophisticated enough to know that
- 15 there is a new Board coming in and that's who they will
- 16 be working for and that's who is going to pick that
- 17 person.
- 18 There is nothing sinister here. It's just a
- 19 good faith effort toward a smooth transition.
- MS. SINGLETON: I have a question or two.
- 21 It's partially in response to Mike McKay's comments
- 22 about fiduciary duty. I assume that one aspect of

- 1 fiduciary duty would be to ensure a smooth transition
- 2 from the current president to the new president, but
- 3 also I think part of fiduciary duty is to make sure
- 4 that the people who are concerned with what we do have
- 5 faith that we are acting appropriately also.
- 6 We have some indication now that certain
- 7 members of Congress think that any efforts this Board
- 8 makes ought to be limited to an interim director and
- 9 since the Federal Register Notice was published, I've
- 10 heard similar comments from people in the field.
- I guess what I'm wondering is is there
- 12 something substantive to the act of picking a search
- 13 firm, in other words, are you perhaps overlooking what
- 14 we conceivably -- as it was done by the old Board, be
- 15 overlooking some search firm that the new Board might
- 16 prefer or is there anything at all about that act that
- 17 we should not be involved in.
- 18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I don't know. What I
- 19 had in mind was soliciting proposals from three
- 20 nationally recognized search firms. I would only be
- 21 speculating if I said that those three would be
- 22 acceptable to people who are not currently serving on

- 1 the Board.
- I think we do have some fiduciary
- 3 responsibility to act in the best interest of the
- 4 Corporation. When we came a board in 2003, at least
- 5 those who came in with my group, we had an interim
- 6 president at the time who was a wonderful person but
- 7 physically, he was unable to perform the duties of
- 8 interim president, so in some ways, we had a ship
- 9 without a rudder.
- I know that some of us have discussed the fact
- 11 that was not a good thing for the Corporation. That
- 12 also influenced my thinking in trying to move the
- 13 process along by getting it started.
- 14 I can't really definitively answer your
- 15 question very well, Sarah, about search firms.
- 16 MR. McKAY: I have a comment but I'm wondering
- 17 if Sarah was finished with her comments.
- MS. SINGLETON: Yes, I'm finished.
- 19 MR. McKAY: Following up on Sarah's comments,
- 20 and that is really exactly what I have in mind. I'm
- 21 not sure exactly what our fiduciary duty is, but
- 22 reading the letter from the two Senators, from Senators

- 1 Harkin and Mikulski, and listening now to Sarah's
- 2 comments and what she is hearing from folks in the
- 3 field, no matter how good faith our intent is, that the
- 4 optics may not be right.
- 5 That is our intent would be to make sure that
- 6 the new Board makes the decision but it looks like a
- 7 Democratic appointments would be confirmed fairly soon,
- 8 but maybe not even before our October meeting, and the
- 9 Republican appointments are going to be some time after
- 10 that, and they should be part of the process as well.
- 11 MOTION
- 12 MR. McKAY; My suspicion is both to deal with
- 13 the optics and to do what is best for the Corporation,
- 14 that is addressing the concern that Frank just
- 15 addressed, perhaps we ought to simply create a
- 16 committee to search for an interim president and simply
- 17 allow the new Board to work with who we think is a good
- 18 interim president to give us a good hand on the rudder
- 19 until they get all on board and to find a good new
- 20 president.
- 21 I would make that motion.
- MR. GARTEN: Can I make a comment? Is there

- 1 any possibility we can convince Helaine to remain until
- 2 her successor is chosen?
- 3 MR. McKAY: I would ask whether or not there
- 4 is a second to my motion.
- 5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Is there a second?
- 6 MS. SINGLETON: Mike, would you mind restating
- 7 the motion?
- 8 MR. McKAY: I move that we create a committee
- 9 to search for an interim president who would serve
- 10 until the new Board finds a new permanent president,
- 11 that the Chair be given the authority to select the
- 12 members of that committee.
- 13 MS. SINGLETON: I second that motion.
- 14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Herb, did you have a
- 15 point?
- MR. GARTEN: My question was whether any
- 17 consideration could be given by Helaine to remain in
- 18 her position until her successor is chosen.
- 19 MR. McKAY: I would think that would be an
- 20 appropriate topic for the committee to address if it's
- 21 created.
- 22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Is there any further

- 1 discussion on that motion?
- 2 MR. FUENTES: Frank, I would only comment on
- 3 that. People would say no good deed goes unpunished.
- 4 While I hope that's not the case, I think the noble
- 5 intent of your initial effort here was very wholesome
- 6 and positive, and I'm sorry if there was any
- 7 misinterpretation by parties out there some place, I,
- 8 for one, know that the intent was to only facilitate
- 9 for the selection process by the new Board, and I
- 10 salute you for that effort.
- 11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you, Tom.
- 12 MS. SINGLETON: I concur with that comment.
- MS. MIKVA: I concur as well.
- 14 MR. McKAY: Let the record reflect that our
- 15 newest appointment to the Board concurs.
- 16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Duly noted. Any further
- 17 discussion on Mike's motion?
- 18 (No response.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: As I understand the
- 20 motion, Mike, it is to establish a committee, and I
- 21 guess we will call it a search committee, to find a
- 22 person to serve as interim president of LSC. This

- 1 would be after the expiration of Helaine's term of
- 2 employment. Is that correct?
- 3 MR. McKAY: Correct. The assumption is that
- 4 committee would start working now in anticipation.
- 5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes. The committee
- 6 would commence work immediately with that as the goal.
- 7 You eliminated from that, Mike, any discussion
- 8 regarding search firms to meet Sarah's concern about
- 9 not being involved even in that part of the process.
- 10 MR. McKAY: Correct.
- 11 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Does that meet your
- 12 concern, Sarah?
- MS. SINGLETON: Yes, it does.
- 14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any further discussion
- 15 on the motion?
- 16 (No response.)
- 17 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Hearing none, all those
- 18 in favor of the motion please say aye.
- (Chorus of ayes.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed?
- 21 (No response.)
- 22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The motion is unanimous.

- 1 MR. McKAY: Mr. Chairman, with this comment, I
- 2 do encourage you to send a letter to the two Senators
- 3 to reflect the message that Tom did communicate,
- 4 obviously, what our goal was, in an effort to clarify
- 5 what our goal was, that we have taken steps today.
- 6 MS. SINGLETON: I assume, Mike, you mean all
- 7 the people who wrote the letter. I thought there were
- 8 congressmen on it.
- 9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: There were four authors,
- 10 I think.
- 11 MR. McKAY: You're right.
- 12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Did you include in your
- 13 motion, Mike, for delegating to me the appointing
- 14 authority?
- 15 MR. McKAY: I did.
- 16 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Okay. I thought you
- 17 did.
- 18 MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, I just want to put
- 19 a word in that I think we should probably have a
- 20 special committee of the Board to go to New York to a
- 21 good restaurant to take Helaine's husband out to dinner
- 22 and seek his help in this matter.

- 1 (Laughter.)
- 2 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The newly established
- 3 committee, Tom, will take that under advisement.
- 4 (Laughter.)
- 5 MS. CHILES: Frank, one more point. I think
- 6 it should probably be explained to some of the authors
- 7 of that letter that this Board, although it is a hold
- 8 over Board, still has fiduciary duties to the
- 9 Corporation, and one of those important fiduciary
- 10 duties right now is to make sure that there is a smooth
- 11 transition in leadership, because if we fail to put in
- 12 at least the basic processes towards helping that
- 13 transition when it occurs, we would be breaching, I
- 14 think, our fiduciary duties to the Corporation.
- I guess what I am trying to say is I have no
- 16 great desire to make lasting decisions that will impact
- 17 the incoming Board, but I do think we have an
- 18 obligation right now to do what we have voted to do. I
- 19 think it is important that we do it. I don't think we
- 20 have a choice. I think we have to do it.
- I think this motion which we all voted for
- 22 unanimously is definitely the right way to proceed. We

- 1 are proceeding with restraint, yet we are still
- 2 satisfying our fiduciary duties.
- 3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you.
- We do have one other item. Any other
- 5 discussion on that particular agenda item?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: We have one other item
- 8 on the formal agenda, and that is to consider and act
- 9 on whether to authorize closing a portion of the
- 10 Board's Finance Committee meeting of September 21, 2009
- 11 for a briefing by legal counsel and possible
- 12 deliberation and action by the Committee on an internal
- 13 budgeting issue.
- 14 I'd entertain a motion.
- MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, before we go to
- 16 that, I don't have a copy of the agenda in front of me,
- is there not an item of "Other business?"
- 18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Yes, that's next after
- 19 this item.
- MR. FUENTES: Thank you, sir.
- 21 MOTION
- 22 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I would entertain a

- 1 motion to approve that agenda item.
- 2 MR. FUENTES: So moved.
- 3 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Is there a second?
- 4 MR. GARTEN: Second.
- 5 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any discussion on the
- 6 item?
- 7 (No response.)
- 8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Hearing none, let's
- 9 proceed to a vote. All those in favor of that motion,
- 10 please signify by saying aye.
- (Chorus of ayes.)
- 12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed, nay.
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The ayes have it. That
- 15 item is adopted.
- The next item is consider and act on other
- 17 business. Is there any other business?
- 18 MOTION
- 19 MR. GARTEN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to
- 20 suggest to the Board that it approve a formal
- 21 resolution along the following lines, and that is one
- of expressing the appreciation of the Board to the

- 1 services rendered by Lillian R. BeVier as a member of
- 2 the Board and Vice Chairman during her tenure on the
- 3 LSC Board.
- 4 I believe it should express her tireless
- 5 efforts to meet the legal needs of the disadvantaged
- 6 throughout the United States and the Commonwealth of
- 7 Puerto Rico and the Territories.
- 8 I suggest that the formal language of the
- 9 resolution be delegated to the Chair with the intent
- 10 that I have tried to convey with my previous remarks.
- 11 MR. FUENTES: Second the motion.
- 12 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: That's a wonderful idea
- 13 and I will accept the task and ask for the good
- 14 assistance of our general counsel, Vic Fortuno, if he
- 15 would take a stab at a first draft of that resolution.
- 16 Would you undertake that, Vic?
- 17 MR. FORTUNO: I'd be delighted to, Mr.
- 18 Chairman.
- 19 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. Any further
- 20 discussion on Herb's motion?
- 21 (No response.)
- MR. GARTEN: You need a second.

- 1 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I believe there was a
- 2 second by Tom Fuentes. Let's proceed to a vote on the
- 3 motion. All those in favor of the motion of adopting
- 4 the resolution commending Lillian BeVier, please say
- 5 aye.
- 6 (Chorus of ayes.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Opposed, nay.
- 8 (No response.)
- 9 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: The ayes have it and the
- 10 resolution is adopted.
- 11 Is there any other business?
- 12 MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, Herb beat me to
- 13 the punch there. That was exactly the topic that I
- 14 wanted to take up. I also had a second thought and
- 15 that was that we are now functioning without a Vice
- 16 Chairman, and in light of that, I think we should have
- 17 one. I know you are going to be safe but we never know
- 18 what can happen.
- 19 I think we should have a Vice Chairman. I
- 20 would like to move the nomination of Mike McKay as
- 21 replacement Vice President for Lillian BeVier who has
- 22 retired from the Board.

- 1 MR. GARTEN: I'll second the motion.
- 2 MS. SINGLETON: I don't object to the merits
- 3 of the motion but I'm wondering if we need to notice
- 4 that we are going to have an election of officers.
- 5 This is all coming up under "Other Business" where we
- 6 did not put out any notice that we were going to be
- 7 doing this.
- 8 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Let's ask the general
- 9 counsel if we are able to take this up under "Other
- 10 Business," or whether we should notice it.
- 11 MR. FORTUNO: I think it should be noticed for
- 12 action by the Board. Since we have a Board
- 13 teleconference meeting on the 21st, certainly that may
- 14 be an opportune time, unless there is interest in doing
- 15 so sooner, which can be done as well. I think it
- 16 should not be done without first publishing proper
- 17 notice in the Federal Register.
- 18 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All right. Tom, would
- 19 you hold your motion until the 21st?
- MR. FUENTES: By all means.
- 21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Any other business?
- MR. McKAY: This will allow those persons to

- 1 organize their efforts to prevent this effort.
- 2 (Laughter.)
- MR. FUENTES: Mr. Chairman, don't take any
- 4 chances crossing streets.
- 5 (Laughter.)
- 6 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I'll be careful.
- 7 MS. SINGLETON: He will automatically go to
- 8 the head of the Audit Committee if anything happens.
- 9 (Laughter.)
- 10 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: I don't see an item on
- 11 the agenda. We normally have an item called "Public
- 12 Comment." I'll just bring that up myself.
- 13 Is there any public comments?
- 14 (No response.)
- 15 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Hearing none, I think we
- 16 can move to consider an act on adjournment of the
- 17 meeting.
- 18 Is there a motion to adjourn?
- 19 M O T I O N
- MR. GARTEN: So move.
- 21 CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Second?
- MR. FUENTES: Second.

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CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: All those in favor, say
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2
    aye.
3
              (Chorus of ayes.)
             CHAIRMAN STRICKLAND: Thank you very much,
4
    everybody. We are adjourned.
5
              (Whereupon, at 3:15 p.m., the meeting was
6
    adjourned.)
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