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03 September 2007

Ms Mattie Cohen
Legal Services Corporation
3333 K St, NW
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Ms Cohen -

I am aware that the Board of the Legal Services Corporation is in the process of taking action on a proposed regulation to reinstate its services to the citizens of the Freely Associated States residing in the US, and I would like to seize the opportunity to express my support for this move. There is no doubt in my mind that this is an important undertaking.

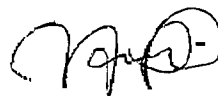
I am an FSM citizen, and my support for the proposed restoration of LSC service is based on my personal experience as a long-time resident of Guam and Hawaii, where there is a large concentration of FSM citizens residing. I first resided on Guam where I completed my undergraduate studies at the University of Guam and I am now pursuing studies as a fellow at the East-West Center in Hawaii. In both places, I was active in interacting with the Micronesian communities.

It is only natural that the overwhelming majority of FSM citizens going overseas would come to the US - to seek education and employment - because that's what our two governments agreed to do in the Compact of Free Association. Unfortunately, some of my fellow citizens get into trouble with the law and they have no where else to turn. Fortunately, there is the Legal Service Corporation that can turn an attentive ear to those who may not otherwise be able to find legal representation.

I've sought to learn about the LSC and I believe your organization, in restoring its services to the FAS citizens residing in the US, will maintain its tradition of helping those who would not otherwise help themselves. Just as important, it will contribute positively to the unique relationship between the American and Micronesian people.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Paulina Yongoiluk Yourupi
East-West Center Fellow
Honolulu, Hawaii