

STATEMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES AND THE LEGAL AID
FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES, THE PRIMARY LEGAL SERVICES
CORPORATION GRANTEEES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AUGUST 16, 2006

Our hope is that these allegations will only be a temporary distraction, so that we, as well as the national press, can focus our time and efforts on the essential work of meeting the legal assistance needs of Los Angeles' low-income communities. The real tragedy is that the critical legal needs of millions of poor people in Los Angeles continue to go unmet everyday. Children go hungry, families sleep on the streets, and women are beaten who have no place to go for help simply because they do not have money to pay for counsel and the programs they turn to for assistance, Neighborhood Legal Services and LAFLA, are woefully under-funded. Much work remains to be done to ensure there is access to justice in America for everyone, regardless of income.