

## Legal Services Corporation

## § 1606.1

close cases from a previous law practice, and does so as expeditiously as possible; or

(b) The attorney is acting pursuant to an appointment made under a court rule or practice of equal applicability to all attorneys in the jurisdiction, and remits to the recipient all compensation received.

### § 1604.5 Uncompensated outside practice.

A recipient may permit an attorney to engage in uncompensated outside practice of law if §1604.3 is satisfied, and the attorney is acting:

(a) Pursuant to an appointment made under a court rule or practice of equal applicability to all attorneys in the jurisdiction; or on behalf of;

(b) A close friend or family member; or

(c) A religious, community, or charitable group.

## PART 1605—APPEALS ON BEHALF OF CLIENTS

Sec.

1605.1 Purpose.

1605.2 Definition.

1605.3 Review of Appeals.

AUTHORITY: Secs. 1007(a)(7), 1008(e), 42 U.S.C. 2996f(a)(7), 2996g(e).

SOURCE: 41 FR 18513, May 5, 1976, unless otherwise noted.

### § 1605.1 Purpose.

This part is intended to promote efficient and effective use of Corporation funds. It does not apply to any case or matter in which assistance is not being rendered with funds provided under the Act.

### § 1605.2 Definition.

*Appeal* means any appellate proceeding in a civil action as defined by law or usage in the jurisdiction in which the action is filed.

### § 1605.3 Review of Appeals.

The governing body of a recipient shall adopt a policy and procedure for review of every appeal to an appellate court taken from a decision of any court or tribunal. The policy adopted shall

(a) Discourage frivolous appeals, and

(b) Give appropriate consideration to priorities in resource allocation adopted by the governing body, or required by the Act, or Regulations of the Corporation; but

(c) Shall not interfere with the professional responsibilities of an attorney to a client.

## PART 1606—TERMINATION AND DEBARMENT PROCEDURES; RE-COMPETITION

Sec.

1606.1 Purpose.

1606.2 Definitions.

1606.3 Grounds for a termination.

1606.4 Grounds for debarment.

1606.5 Termination and debarment procedures.

1606.6 Preliminary determination.

1606.7 Informal conference.

1606.8 Hearing.

1606.9 Recommended decision.

1606.10 Final decision.

1606.11 Qualifications on hearing procedures.

1606.12 Time and waiver.

1606.13 Interim and termination funding; re-programming.

1606.14 Recompetition.

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 2996e (b)(1) and 2996f(a)(3); Pub. L. 105-119, 111 Stat. 2440, Secs. 501(b) and (c) and 504; Pub. L. 104-134, 110 Stat. 1321.

SOURCE: 63 FR 64643, Nov. 23, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

### § 1606.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this rule is to:

(a) Ensure that the Corporation is able to take timely action to deal with incidents of substantial noncompliance by recipients with a provision of the LSC Act, the Corporation's appropriations act or other law applicable to LSC funds, a Corporation rule, regulation, guideline or instruction, or the terms and conditions of the recipient's grant or contract with the Corporation;

(b) Provide timely and fair due process procedures when the Corporation has made a preliminary decision to terminate a recipient's LSC grant or contract, or to debar a recipient from receiving future LSC awards of financial assistance; and

(c) Ensure that scarce funds are provided to recipients who can provide the

## § 1606.2

most effective and economical legal assistance to eligible clients.

### § 1606.2 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part:

(a) *Debarment* means an action taken by the Corporation to exclude a recipient from receiving an additional award of financial assistance from the Corporation or from receiving additional LSC funds from another recipient of the Corporation pursuant to a subgrant, subcontract or similar agreement, for the period of time stated in the final debarment decision.

(b) *Knowing and willful* means that the recipient had actual knowledge of the fact that its action or lack thereof constituted a violation and despite such knowledge, undertook or failed to undertake the action.

(c) *Recipient* means any grantee or contractor receiving financial assistance from the Corporation under section 1006(a)(1)(A) of the LSC Act.

(d)(1) *Termination* means that a recipient's level of financial assistance under its grant or contract with the Corporation will be reduced in whole or in part prior to the expiration of the term of a recipient's current grant or contract. A partial termination will affect only the recipient's current year's funding, unless the Corporation provides otherwise in the final termination decision.

(2) A termination does not include:

(i) A reduction of funding required by law, including a reduction in or rescission of the Corporation's appropriation that is apportioned among all recipients of the same class in proportion to their current level of funding;

(ii) A reduction or deduction of LSC support for a recipient under the Corporation's fund balance regulation at 45 CFR part 1628;

(iii) A recovery of disallowed costs under the Corporation's regulation on costs standards and procedures at 45 CFR part 1630;

(iv) A withholding of funds pursuant to the Corporation's Private Attorney Involvement rule at 45 CFR Part 1614; or

(v) A reduction of funding of less than 5 percent of a recipient's current annual level of financial assistance imposed by the Corporation in accordance

## 45 CFR Ch. XVI (10-1-00 Edition)

with regulations promulgated by the Corporation. No such reduction shall be imposed except in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Corporation.

### § 1606.3 Grounds for a termination.

(a) A grant or contract may be terminated when:

(1) There has been a substantial violation by the recipient of a provision of the LSC Act, the Corporation's appropriations act or other law applicable to LSC funds, or Corporation rule, regulation, guideline or instruction, or a term or condition of the recipient's grant or contract, and the violation occurred less than 5 years prior to the date the recipient receives notice of the violation pursuant to § 1606.6(a); or

(2) There has been a substantial failure by the recipient to provide high quality, economical, and effective legal assistance, as measured by generally accepted professional standards, the provisions of the LSC Act, or a rule, regulation, including 45 CFR 1634.9(a)(2), or guidance issued by the Corporation.

(b) A determination of whether there has been a substantial violation for the purposes of paragraph (a)(1) of this section will be based on consideration of the following criteria:

(1) The number of restrictions or requirements violated;

(2) Whether the violation represents an instance of noncompliance with a substantive statutory or regulatory restriction or requirement, rather than an instance of noncompliance with a non-substantive technical or procedural requirement;

(3) The extent to which the violation is part of a pattern of noncompliance with LSC requirements or restrictions;

(4) The extent to which the recipient failed to take action to cure the violation when it became aware of the violation; and

(5) Whether the violation was knowing and willful.

### § 1606.4 Grounds for debarment.

(a) The Corporation may debar a recipient, on a showing of good cause, from receiving an additional award of financial assistance from the Corporation.