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ANDREW F. SUSKO

June 6, 2008

The Honorable Ronald D. Castille
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
1818 Market Street, Suite 3730
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Chief Justice Castille:

I enclose for your Honor's review a Final Report of the PBA's Limited Representation Working Group, which was chaired by Judge Tom Kistler from Centre County.

The report focuses on strategies to implement limited representation under our Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 6.5. This concept of limited representation has been championed for some time by fellow Justice Max Baer, who advanced this general concept at the PBA Midyear Meeting. As you may recall, this potential innovation came up when we discussed improving access to legal services at that Meeting. In the areas of child custody and landlord-tenant law, there are a substantial number of litigants who remain self-represented. The vision of Rule 6.5, effective Jan. 1, 2005, was to allow limited representation under certain defined circumstances where there is a "program sponsored by a non-profit organization or court". The enclosed report attempts to set forth a model program by which the vision of Rule 6.5 can be accomplished.

We are excited by this model program, which we believe can greatly increase legal information to self-represented litigants, along with improved access to a lawyer's expertise. I have copied Judge Norman Krumenacker, President of the State Conference of Trial Judges because of his interest in these efforts, which would ultimately be implemented at the trial court level. I commend the report to Your Honor and hope that this effort will offer a model by which we can advance the work the organized Bar is doing with regard to accessibility of legal services in Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,

By:

Andrew F. Susko

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Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Judge Norman Krumenacker (w/enclosure) ✓
The Honorable Judge Thomas Kistler (w/o enclosure) ✓
C. Dale McClain, President-elect Pennsylvania Bar Association (w/enclosure)
Sam Milkes, PLAN Executive Director (w/enclosure)

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