

Date: December 12, 2024

To: LSC Office of Compliance and Enforcement

From: Esteban Rodriguez, President of the NLSLA Board of Directors; Yvonne Mariajimenez,

President & CEO

CC: Members of the NLSLA Board of Directors

Re: Annual Report: December 2024 Review of Priorities

Pursuant to 45 CFR §1620.7(c), the NLSLA Board of Directors reports:

- 1. An annual report summarizing the December 2024 review of priorities will be made available to the public on or before December 23, 2024.
- 2. The NLSLA Board of Directors held the most recent appraisal at the NLSLA Board meeting on December 12, 2024.
- 3. The Board established the final meeting of the NLSLA Board of Directors for each calendar year for future appraisals of needs and evaluations of priorities.
- 4. NLSLA is currently conducting a comprehensive Legal Needs Assessment, which will be completed in 2025. To ensure that the assessment engages all stakeholders, NLSLA is utilizing focus groups, stakeholder surveys, individual interviews, data analysis and geographical Information System (GIS)-mapping. Focus groups with be conducted in multiple languages with low-income members from diverse communities, including:
 - a. Parents of school-aged children
 - b. Limited-English proficient clients/litigants
 - c. Seniors
 - d. LGBTQ
 - e. Black/African-American
 - f. Individuals with disabilities
 - g. Veterans
 - h. Survivors of domestic violence
 - i. AAPI

Stakeholder surveys will be distributed to self-represented litigants, community partners, judges and court staff. Individual interviews will be conducted within the public defender network in Los Angeles County. The assessment will also include a statistical analysis and trend analysis of the demographics and legal needs of low-income individuals, informed by both NLSLA data and LA County data.

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- 5. No changes were made to the program's five priorities: Housing, Health, Economic Security, Access to Justice and Race Equity.
- 6. On December 12, 2024, the NLSLA Board of Directors reviewed and approved the resource allocation for 2025.

Esteban Rodriguez, President of the NLSLA Board of Directors Yvonne Mariajimenez, NLSLA President & CEO December 2025 Review of Priorities December 12, 2024 3

Program Priorities

- I. Housing
- 2. Economic Security
- 3. Health
- 4. Access to Justice
- 5. Race Equity

2024 Resource Allocation

Until the legal needs assessment is completed in Spring 2025, NLSLA will maintain the current program priorities and allocations.

Housing and homelessness continue to be crises in Los Angeles County. We are seeing more applicants and clients present with housing issues than ever before. Consequently, funding for Stay Housed has increased and additional attorney and manager positions have been carved out. NLSLA's self-help programs also contribute significantly to NLSLA's housing services.

Other key NLSLA programs addressing priority substantive areas include the Clean Slate Initiatives, the Medical Legal Community Partnership, and the Consumer Debt program.

Program Priorities	Examples of Substantive Areas May Include	Resource Allocation by Percentage
Housing	Homelessness Eviction Defense	25-30%
Economic Security	Government/ Public Benefits Consumer/Bankruptcy Employment Immigration	25-30%
Health	Social Determinates of Health Medical Debt	15-20%
Access to Justice	Social Work Family Law/Domestic Violence Self-Help	10-15%
Race Equity	Education Re-entry	6-10%