

*Section Stationery  
to be used*

---

November 29, 1989

Ms. Donna Ruscavage  
Program Officer  
Metropolitan Washington Community  
Aids Partnership  
Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation  
1400 - 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Ms. Ruscavage:

I am writing on behalf of the Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section of the District of Columbia Bar<sup>1</sup> in support of the funding application submitted by the D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project, Inc.

The Criminal law and Individual Rights Section of the District of Columbia Bar is generally composed of local criminal justice and civil rights practitioners, legal educators and other bar members with extensive experiences working with incarcerated D.C. Code offenders. Prisoners with AIDS and HIV infection often receive discriminatory treatment in the correctional system. They are stigmatized, lack access to adequate medical care, subjected to breaches in confidentiality, have a poor understanding of their legal rights, and receive very little, if any, reliable educational information.

Currently there are no legal services providers engaged in a systematic effort to provide legal support services for this under-served population. The proposal submitted by the D.C. Prisoners' Legal Services Project, Inc. represents a realistic effort to fill this void. The Criminal Law and Individual Rights

---

*and Individual Rights*

<sup>1</sup> The views expressed herein represent only those of the Criminal Law Section of the District of Columbia Bar and not those of the D.C. Bar or its Board of Governors.

*of*

Ms. Donna Ruscavage  
November 29, 1989  
Page two

Section fully supports this proposal and urges the Metropolitan Washington Community Aids Partnership to fund this important project.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Very truly yours,

John M. Copacino  
Section Co-Chair