

Legal Services - Eligibility Issue

Directive #18A-69
Issued by:

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Edward B. McConnell
Administrative Director

The attention of the Supreme Court has recently been called to the fact that in some instances judges have been questioning Legal Services attorneys as to their right to represent clients in the case before the court. The Supreme Court is of the view that it is not the responsibility of the judge and should not be the judge's concern whether or not a person represented by a Legal Services Project attorney is in fact eligible for representation by the Legal Services Office and the judge should not question either the attorney appearing or the party being represented with respect to the matter. The question of eligibility for representation by the Legal Services attorney is fully a matter for determination by those responsible for the operation of the Legal Services Offices.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Only the second paragraph of Directive #18A-69 has been retained. The Supreme Court addressed the issue of legal services representation after it was raised at a meeting of Assignment Judges on September 26, 1969. The first paragraph had referred to this meeting and the third and final paragraph had anticipated a similar notice being sent to municipal court judges. Both paragraphs have been deleted.