

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
 APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS & SUBSIDIES, CHAPTER 42F, HRS.  
**REGISTER OF PROPOSALS**

Proposals Submitted to Contracts & Purchasing: February 19, 2008

JUD APP. NO.	APPLICANT / PROVIDER	TYPE OF SERVICE	MEMO REQ. NO.	Requested FY 2008-2009	Requested FY xxxx-xxxx	JUD CONTRACT NO.
JJC						
GIA09-01	Hawaii Family Law Clinic dba Ala Kuola	FC1 - Domestic abuse - Temporary restraining orders		\$ 246,000.00		
2JC						
GIA09-02	Friends of the Maui Drug Court	Client Svcs - Funding to retain a full-time executive director to raise and disburse funds.		\$ 100,000.00		
ADMIN						
GIA09-03	Domestic Violence Clearinghouse & Legal Hotline	CIP - Office acquisition		\$ 850,000.00		
GIA09-04	Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii	LCO - To provide staff and volunteer legal services to the low-income community statewide.		\$ 890,000.00		
GIA09-05	The Children's Alliance of Hawaii, Inc.	CJC - Programs and services for sexually abused children and youth.		\$ 320,000.00		
GIA09-06	Legal Aid Society of Hawaii	LCO- Civil legal services to the poor and low-income throughout the State of Hawaii.		\$1,200,000.00		
GIA09-07	Na Lolo	LCO - Civil legal services for immigrants.		\$ 478,000.00		
GIA09-08	Kokua Legal Services, Inc.	LCO-Provide legal and housing services to the Kaliah Valley community and surrounding areas.		\$ 100,000.00		
GIA09-09	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Honolulu dba Catholic Charities Hawaii	CJC - Treatment services for child victims of intrafamilial sexual abuse and their families.		\$ 44,000.00		

# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 74-0

Department: Judiciary

Program ID: Jud 310 - First Circuit

Organization: Hawaii Family Law Clinic dba Ala Kuola

Service Activity: Domestic Violence Services

Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

If yes, what POS service activity? \_\_\_\_\_

Does request comply with qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request FY 2009	Dept. Adjustment FY 2009	Dept. Recommendations FY 2009
Operating Expenses:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Personal Services:	198,712		198,712
Current Expenses:	47,288		47,288
Equipment:			-
Motor Vehicles:			-
<b>Total Requirements:</b>	<b>246,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>246,000</b>
Less:			
<b>Net General Funds:</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>246,000</b>

Note: The difference of \$1,500 between the budget submitted (\$244,500) and amount requested (\$246,000) is prorated based on budget breakdown and added on.

## COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Hawaii Family Law Clinic dba Ala Kuola, a private non-profit agency, is requesting \$246,000 for FY 2008-2009 to assist victims of domestic violence on Oahu, in obtaining protection orders expeditiously. The Adult Client Services Branch, of the First Circuit Court assists persons wishing to file a temporary restraining order petition. However, appointments must be made by calling in advance, and appearing at the office by 8:00 a.m. on the appointment date. Ala Kuola is available to assist petitioners from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays. Persons with or without an appointment can be seen on the day of the request. Assessment, referral to domestic violence advocacy services and other services are also provided, in addition to the assistance in filing the petition. Ala Kuola staff are also available to attend the subsequent court hearing on the matter of a permanent order of protection. Staffing consists of the agency's Executive Director, Coordinator/Paralegal/Court Assistant, and a Paralegal/Court Assistant. The requested amount includes funding to continue the existing services, and to provide for an additional Paralegal/Court Assistant.

Ala Kuola was originally a project of the Volunteer Legal Services of Hawaii that employed volunteers through the AMERICORP program to assist victims of domestic violence. Upon termination of funding, the project evolved into Ala Kuola.

The services of Ala Kuola affords the public with an additional venue for assistance in petitioning the court for temporary restraining orders.

If the Legislature feels it appropriate to fund this organization under a Judiciary program, it is recommended that any additional funding provided by the Legislature in this area not replace existing allocations or affect other budget requests already submitted by the Judiciary.

# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 55-0

Department: Judiciary Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

Program ID: Jud 320 - Second Circuit If yes, what POS service activity? \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: Friends of the Maui Drug Court Does request comply with \_\_\_\_\_  
qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Service Activity: Drug Courts Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations	
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	
Operating Expenses:	100,000	-	100,000	
Personal Services:	-	-	-	
Current Expenses:	-	-	-	
Equipment:	-	-	-	
Motor Vehicles:	-	-	-	
Total Requirements:	100,000	-	100,000	
Less:	-	-	-	
Net General Funds:	-	-	-	100,000

\* see attached page  
\*\* see attached page

GIA request from Friends of Maui Drug Court  
Attachment to Worksheet

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\*The Friends of Maui Drug Court (FMDC) was established as a 501 (3) c in 1998 to provide supportive and enrichment services to the participants of the Maui Drug Court program as well as training and professional development opportunities for the drug court staff and team.

Funding for FMDC is provided by the County of Maui and multiple private donations. Until recently, the County had provided funding to assist FMDC to expand their capacity to raise funds through grants and donations however, funding ended in 2006. The intent of this request appears to replace the County funding.

\*\* Does request serve a public purpose?

Since its inception in 1998, the FMDC has provided a multitude of life enriching services to the MDC participants. Each participant has been provided a Living Free Journals and Milkman and Wanberg's CBT participants manual by FMDC; has been assisted with college tuition and books; has provided major and routine dental and medical services as well as a consistent stream of incentives, such as hats, T-shirts, polo shirts with the drug court insignia; and has been given supplemental tools, such as 12 step books at phase advancement, to encourage and reward clients for their continued sobriety. Further, graduation materials and gift certificates at graduation have all been provided by the FNDC.

Legislative appropriations for treatment are often stretched/barely sufficient to cover the cost for the substance abuse continuum of services, let alone, the necessary dental or medical treatment required by the client required due to years of neglect and substance abuse. Rewards and incentives specific to an individual client are also not possible without the support of an entity like FMDC. Providing substance abuse treatment is only one aspect of helping an individual become and feel they are a contributing part of our community. The availability of free or minimal cost dental and medical care, opportunities to enhance and/or obtain educational, vocational and meaningful job skills, access to other services to help manage family (child care in particular), employment and treatment obligations form a solid foundation from which they can grow into contributing members of our communities. Past support from FMDC has assisted MDC to provide our clients with skills to not only maintain their sobriety but to enrich their lives and the lives of their families.

Additional Comments:

MDC is grateful for the continued support of FMDC, however, the proposal as written would require some clarification in the following areas:

a. Service Summary and Outcomes:

There is no projected time line, which relates back to their stated goals and objectives. For example, an expected time line is needed for the position to be filled, obtaining

grant monies, raising funds, continued sustain ability once the requested monies are expended, etc.

b. Measures of Effectiveness:

Items cited appear to be performance effectiveness measures for the drug court program rather than the effectiveness of having a full time executive director. Perhaps obtaining additional information from the applicant such as how much they have been able to raise without this position as opposed to how much was raised when this position was filled.

Further, the budgetary request for additional treatment monies and staff is critical to our community. A wait list almost as long as program capacity underscores our need for expansion. However, if the Legislature feels it is appropriate to fund this organization under a Judiciary program, it is recommended that any additional funding provided by the Legislature in this area not replace existing allocations or affect other budget requests already submitted by the Judiciary.

# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 163-0

Department: Judiciary

Program ID: JUD 601 - Administration

Organization: Legal Aid Society of Hawaii

Service Activity: Provide civil legal services to

the poor and low-income  
Individuals throughout the  
State of Hawaii

Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

If yes, what POS service activity? \_\_\_\_\_

Does request comply with  
qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations	
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	
Operating Expenses:				
Personal Services:	894,150		894,150	
Current Expenses:	305,850		305,850	
Equipment:			-	
Motor Vehicles:			-	
Total Requirements:	1,200,000	-	1,200,000	
Less:				
Net General Funds:	-	-	-	1,200,000

# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 187-0

Department: Judiciary Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

Program ID: JUD 601 - Administration If yes, what POS service activity? \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: Na Loio - Immigrant Rights and Public Interest Center Does request comply with qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Service Activity: Civil legal services for immigrants Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>
Operating Expenses:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Personal Services:	407,750		407,750
Current Expenses:	70,250		70,250
Equipment:			-
Motor Vehicles:			-
Total Requirements:	478,000	-	478,000
Less:			
Net General Funds:	-	-	478,000



# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 234-0

Department: Judiciary

Program ID: JUD 601 - Administration

Organization: Volunteer Legal Services

Service Activity: Hawaii

To provide staff and volunteer legal services to the low-income community statewide

Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

If yes, what POS service activity? \_\_\_\_\_

Does request comply with qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>
<u>Operating Expenses:</u>			
Personal Services:	591,861		591,861
Current Expenses:	287,879		287,879
Equipment:	10,260		10,260
Motor Vehicles:			-
Total Requirements:	890,000	-	890,000
Less:			
Net General Funds:	-	-	890,000

# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 152-0

Department: Judiciary

Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

Program ID: JUD 601 - Administration

If yes, what POS service activity? \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: Kokua Legal Services, Inc.

Does request comply with qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Service Activity: Provide legal and housing services to the Kalihi Valley community and surrounding areas

Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations	
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	
Operating Expenses:				
Personal Services:	86,400		86,400	
Current Expenses:	13,600		13,600	
Equipment:			-	
Motor Vehicles:			-	
Total Requirements:	100,000	-	100,000	
Less:				
Net General Funds:	-	-	-	100,000

## **JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING GRANT-IN-AID APPLICATIONS**

### **GIA163-0 – Legal Aid Society of Hawaii**

The Legal Aid Society of Hawaii (LASH) is a community-based, nonprofit law organization that provides legal assistance, community education, and outreach services to low-income and disadvantaged people throughout the State of Hawaii. Primary clients are individuals and families with incomes up to 125% of the federal poverty level. LASH also helps the working low income or gap group families and individuals whose incomes may be as high as 250% of the federal poverty level.

The proposal seeks to continue providing civil legal services in the areas of housing, children, public benefits, health, consumer protection, employment, tax, and other areas of law as needed to those with incomes less than 125% of the federal poverty level. These services would be provided statewide through LASH's existing nine offices. Through this grant, LASH is hoping to be able to continue its mission – providing access to justice for all low-income citizens of Hawaii – and provide legal services in over 9,000 cases affecting the lives of 18,000 people.

LASH is seeking \$1,200,000 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 to continue to provide civil legal services statewide, to open a new office in Wahiawā (two attorneys and two paralegals), and to hire two additional attorneys for their Hilo and Wai'anae offices and two paralegals for their Maui and Kona offices. In addition, legal services will be provided statewide through the existing nine offices in Lihue, Wai'anae, Honolulu, Windward, Kaunakakai, Lanai City, Wailuku, Kona and Hilo to the poor and low-income people throughout the State of Hawai'i. Funding will be used to help more families and individuals, as well as to recruit and retain staff by paying living wages.

The Judiciary acknowledges that the services provided by LASH will provide greater access to the courts and the judicial process for indigent and low-income populations. We submit that the appropriate public funding mechanism for these services is a legislative grant, since the procurement of legal advocacy services by the Judiciary presents the potential for conflicts of interest and the appearance of bias. If the Legislature chooses to fund LASH through a grant-in-aid placed with the Judiciary, we request that any such funding not replace the existing allocation for Judiciary programs or adversely impact the Judiciary's budgetary request.

### **GIA187-0 - Na Loio**

Na Loio is a non-profit agency whose mission is to provide free, statewide services to indigent immigrants and citizens, including full legal representation, advice and counsel, referral, community education, and advocacy in the public interest. Na Loio is the only agency in the state which provides full legal representation for poor immigrants in the area of deportation/removal, asylum, naturalization, adjustment of status, special immigrant juvenile petitions, trafficking and crime victim visas, self petitions under the Violence Against Women Act, I-751 waivers for battered conditional residents, and deferred action status. Na Loio offers advice and referrals on immigration law and other civil matters affecting immigrants, and provides community education / workshops on topics relevant to the immigrant population as well as to organizations, government agencies, etc. that deal with immigrants.

Na Loio is seeking \$478,000 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 to cover civil legal services for immigrants.

The services being proposed by Na Loio include legal advice, counsel, advocacy, community education, case advocacy, and full legal representation for and on behalf of immigrants in matters involving immigration, discrimination, and public benefits. Specific legal services will include, but are not limited to: outreach, screening, referral, intake, case assessment, legal advice, appearances before courts and administrative bodies, legal research and writing, and preparation and filing of required immigration documents and forms.

The Judiciary acknowledges that the services provided by Na Loio will provide greater access to the courts and the judicial process for indigent and low-income populations. We submit that the appropriate public funding mechanism for these services is a legislative grant, since the procurement of legal advocacy services by the Judiciary presents the potential for conflicts of interest and the appearance of bias. If the Legislature chooses to fund Na Loio through a grant-in-aid placed with the Judiciary, we request that any such funding not replace the existing allocation for Judiciary programs or adversely impact the Judiciary's budgetary request.

**GIA234-0 - Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii** (VLSH) is a non-profit organization created to serve the State of Hawaii's vulnerable population (low income people, children, foster children) with legal services using paid staff, pro bono lawyers, and other community and professional volunteers who provide client services. VLSH is able to accept cases referred by other legal service providers when there is a conflict of interest, restriction on caseload, income eligibility limitations, or other funding limitations.

VLSH is requesting \$890,000 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 to provide staff and volunteer legal services to low-income community statewide.

The primary goal of VLSH's proposal is to provide additional community-based general civil legal services to the low-income population in urban and non-urban areas through volunteer and staff attorneys and support staff through its programs, including but not limited to its Pro Bono Referral Program; Neighborhood Legal Clinic Program; Uncontested Divorce Clinic Program; Housing Support Legal Program; Community Tax Assistance Program; Capacity Building and Legal Support Program for Non-Profits; Na Keiki Law Center Legal Services; Young Families in Need Program; Parenting Plan Mediation Pilot Program, and Youth Outreach Program. Funding will be used to increase staffing by 1 FTE attorney, 1 FTE paralegal, 1 FTE coordinator, and 2.5 FTE regional coordinators, as well as to continue to provide civil legal services across the state.

The Judiciary acknowledges that the services provided by Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii will provide greater access to the courts and the judicial process for indigent and low-income populations. We submit that the appropriate public funding mechanism for these services is a legislative grant, since the procurement of legal advocacy services by the Judiciary presents the potential for conflicts of interest and the appearance of bias. If the Legislature chooses to fund Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i through a grant-in-aid placed with the Judiciary, we request that any such funding not replace the existing allocation for Judiciary programs or adversely impact the Judiciary's budgetary request.

**GIA152-0 – Kokua Legal Services, Inc.** (KLS) is a non-profit organization which provides legal assistance to families of low-income housing in the Kalihi Valley community. Services include providing information about tenants' rights and powers in public housing; working with State and County housing offices on new models for management in public housing; working with resident councils on empowerment and economic development programs; and working with all levels of government to renovate, restore, expand, and more fully utilize low-income housing. KLS also provides access to justice by providing legal assistance to Kalihi Valley residents on family law issues such as divorce, adoption, and guardianship, and by working with other legal service providers to provide services in the community.

KLS is requesting \$100,000 to cover operating expenses which include attorney, case management and housing project support staff, and office manager salaries; office rental; office equipment and supplies; and utilities.

The Judiciary acknowledges that the services provided by Kokua Legal Services, Inc. will provide greater access to the courts and the judicial process for indigent and low-income populations. We submit that the appropriate public funding

mechanism for these services is a legislative grant, since the procurement of legal advocacy services by the Judiciary presents the potential for conflicts of interest and the appearance of bias. If the Legislature chooses to fund Kokua Legal Services through a grant-in-aid placed with the Judiciary, we request that any such funding not replace the existing allocation for Judiciary programs or adversely impact the Judiciary's budgetary request.

# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 30-0

Department: Judiciary Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

Program ID: Jud 601- Administration If yes, what POS service activity? \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: The Children's Alliance of Hawaii, Inc. Does request comply with qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Service Activity: Programs and services for sexually abused children and youth Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations	
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	
Operating Expenses:				
Personal Services:	146,000		146,000	
Current Expenses:	174,000		174,000	
Equipment:			-	
Motor Vehicles:			-	
Total Requirements:	320,000	-	320,000	
Less:				
Net General Funds:	-	-	-	320,000

Legislature Grant In Aid Reviews  
Children's Alliance of Hawaii

Comments and Recommendations:

The Children's Alliance of Hawaii (CAH) provides programs and services to sexually abused children and their families.

The CAH is the non-profit partner of the Judiciary's Children's Justice Center (CJC) of Oahu. The CJC is a safe and neutral site where children are interviewed regarding reports of abuse or as witnesses to crimes. The CAH provides support to these children and their families. For example, families are provided food and clothing is given to children who are unable to return home and must enter foster care. The CAH also provides the CJC with funds for supplies, equipment, and training of professionals.

The Enhancement Program provides goods and direct services to enhance the lives of sexually abused children. This Program focuses on the children's individual needs such as music, dance and art lessons. The Program also assists families who are experiencing financial hardships with short-term rental subsidies, clothing and food vouchers, and transportation.

The Heart (Healing Emotions with Art and Recreation Together) Program is an evidence based, gender specific six-month program for children. There is art therapy, expressive movement, outdoor adventure, and therapeutic horseback riding.

The Ho'omaka Teen-Teaming is an individualized program that assists adolescents and young adults who are struggling with life direction and exhibiting symptoms of trauma from their sexual abuse. Children are linked with volunteers and professionals to collaborate and provide positive relationships and to create strategic life plans.

Funding is recommended as this Program provides valuable services to child victims of abuse and their families. This GIA may continue to be administered by the Judiciary. If the Legislature feels that it is appropriate to fund this organization under a Judiciary program, it is recommended that any additional funding provided by the Legislature in this area not replace existing allocations or affect other budget requests already submitted by the Judiciary.



# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FY 2008-2009

## OPERATING

Log No: GIA 25-0

Department: Judiciary Does request qualify as a POS? Yes  No

Program ID: Jud 601 - Administration If yes, what POS service activity? Treatment svcs for sexually abused children & their families

Organization: Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Honolulu Does request comply with qualifying standards and conditions? Yes  No

Service Activity: Treatment services for child victims of sexual abuse and their families Does request serve a public purpose? Yes  No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>
Operating Expenses:	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Personal Services:	36,766		36,766
Current Expenses:	7,234		7,234
Equipment:			-
Motor Vehicles:			-
Total Requirements:	44,000	-	44,000
Less:			
Net General Funds:	-	-	44,000

Note: Subsidy request is prorated based on budget breakdown.

Legislature Grant In Aid (GIA) Reviews  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Honolulu  
Db a Catholic Charities Hawaii

Comments and Recommendations:

Catholic Charities Hawaii (CCH), a non-profit agency, is requesting \$44,000 for their Safe and Sound Program (SAS). SAS provides crisis intervention, case management and treatment services to child victims of intra familial sexual abuse and their families who are not being served by the Department of Human Services. It also provides assessment and treatment services for sexually reactive children and for families in which there is a child exposed to sexual abuse. In 2007, the Program expanded to provide treatment and case management services to adolescents who sexually offend.

In 2003, CCH was awarded a contract for \$208,000 to provide services through the SAS Program. The funding was subsequently increased to \$244,000. It was decreased for FY's 2008 and 2009 to \$200,000 each year. The current subsidy request for \$44,000 is needed for increased agency costs that include rent, salaries, and expansion of services to children and their families. The SAS Program has provided services to over 350 families (approximately 700 individuals) on Oahu. Services have also been provided to over 21 sexually reactive children and their families on the island of Hawaii.

The SAS Program provides unique and comprehensive services that would otherwise not be available. Child sexual abuse is a serious problem. Treatment services for child victims and their families are essential to successfully deal with the trauma and ensure safety for the children.

The requested GIA subsidy will continue the existing services of the SAS Program.

Funding for the SAS Program is recommended. This GIA request may be administered by the Judiciary. If the Legislature feels that it is appropriate to fund this organization under a Judiciary program, it is recommended that any additional funding provided by the Legislature in this area not replace existing allocations or affect other budget requests already submitted by the Judiciary.

# STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Log No: GIA 42-C

Department: Judiciary

Program ID: Jud 601 - Administration

Organization: Domestic Violence Action Center

Service Activity: Acquisition of real property for permanent office and client service facility -Phase Two

Does request comply with  
qualifying standards and conditions?      Yes       No

Does request serve a public purpose?      Yes       No

	Original Request	Dept. Adjustment	Dept. Recommendations *
	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2009</u>
<u>Operating Expenses:</u>			
Plans:			
Land Acquisition:	850,000		850,000
Design:			-
Construction:			-
Equipment:			-
<u>Total Requirements:</u>	850,000	-	850,000
Less:			
<u>Net General Funds:</u>	-	-	850,000

\* The recommendation for FY 2009 is being made with certain reservations; see accompanying written comments.

COMMENT / RECOMMENDATION:

The *Domestic Violence Action Center* acts as a community advocate concerning the growing problem of domestic violence throughout our state, offering services to victims of domestic abuse in a variety of divorces, temporary restraining orders, and post-decree and paternity cases. The organization operates both its administrative and client service functions out of two of the floors of the building in which it is located. The location of the building is generally kept undisclosed to the public at-large, because of the necessity of protecting clients who may be at risk of harm from their abusers and others.

The agency has been able to permanently acquire one of the two floors on a fee-simple basis, funded in part by a \$500,000 grant-in-aid contained in the capital improvement portion of Act 110/2005, the Judiciary's budget act for that year. The Legislature subsequently appropriated another \$500,000 in like manner under Act 169/2007. Both of these two amounts were appropriated by the Legislature to the organization's precursor entity, the *Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline*. Now under its new name, the *Domestic Violence Action Center*, the agency is applying to the Legislature for a third installment of grant-in-aid funds, once again within the Judiciary's Fiscal Year 2008-2009 capital improvement supplemental budget that is before the Legislature, and this time in the increased amount of \$850,000. The documents that the *Domestic Violence Action Center* has submitted this Session indicate that these additional funds, if appropriated, would go toward the fee-simple acquisition of the second of the two floors that comprise its present facility.

The Judiciary recognizes the prudent planning and strategic decision-making that are behind the efforts to permanently acquire real property for the organization's present and future operational needs. The Judiciary in principle does not oppose this latest application for more grant-in-aid funding by the *Domestic Violence Action Center*, but does note that **this would be the first time ever that a single grantee (name change notwithstanding) will have been authorized funds on three separate occasions within the Judiciary's budget.** The Judiciary's chief concern once again is that any grant-in-aid funds that the Legislature chooses to provide to the *Domestic Violence Action Center* this Session **neither replace nor diminish any of the capital improvement requests that the Judiciary already has before the Legislature in its Fiscal Year 2008-2009 proposed supplemental budget.**