

Please see the attached article, *ILS Announces Publication of Assigned Counsel Program Standards*, which appeared in yesterday's New York Law Journal, and which also provides a link to the Standards themselves. As stated in the article, our goal in creating these Standards is "to professionalize ACPs and place them on a par with the best institutional providers." It should never be the case that the quality of a client's representation is dependent upon the happenstance of being represented by a salaried staff attorney employed by an institutional office, or by an attorney who is a member of an Assigned Counsel Program.

Under our 5 county *Hurrell-Harring* Settlement implementation and our statewide implementation of the HH reforms in criminal cases under Executive Law § 832 (4), we are working closely with many counties and New York City to dramatically upgrade the resources and capability of their assigned counsel programs. We hope, before long, to provide similar support for the Family Representation component of those programs as well.

Best regards,

Bill