



SCHOOL & COLLEGE LEGAL SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA

*A Joint Powers Authority
serving school and
college districts
throughout the state.*

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Clients
From: Carl D. Corbin, General Counsel *CDC*
Date: February 14, 2018
Re: Transitions, Retainer Agreement, and Website

Welcome to Mid-February 2018! We are over half-way through the 2017-2018 school year. I want to again thank you for allowing School and College Legal Services (SCLS) to assist you in addressing your legal needs.

The purpose of this memorandum is to discuss staff transitions, discuss a revision to our retainer services agreement, and highlight our updated SCLS website.

Mia Robertshaw Has Departed but Grant Abernathy Has Joined SCLS

As many of you know, Mia Robertshaw left our office to become the “in house” General Counsel for the College of Marin. Ms. Robertshaw will be greatly missed, but our loss is the College of Marin’s gain. We wish Ms. Robertshaw the best!

I am pleased to announce that Grant Abernathy will be joining SCLS effective March 1, 2018, as our Labor Relations Coordinator. Mr. Abernathy is not an attorney, but is an extremely talented labor negotiator, presenter, and licensed private investigator. Mr. Abernathy has a Master’s degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Criminal Justice and Administration. Mr. Abernathy has twenty-seven years professional experience in complaint resolution, mediation, and handling very complex investigations (including personnel complaints, discrimination complaints, Title IX complaints, and more). Mr. Abernathy worked fifteen years as a sworn deputy, taught for three years at a community college district, implemented the security coverage for a K-12 school district for approximately three years, and has worked for the approximate past ten years for the U.S. Veteran’s Administration Healthcare System. Mr. Abernathy will be working as part of our collective bargaining team in addition to conducting investigations and presenting workshops. On or after



March 1, 2018, Mr. Abernathy's biography will be available on our website for more information regarding his extensive experience and skills.

Retainer Agreement

Our office has previously offered the services of a non-attorney labor relations coordinator for collective bargaining purposes to include consultation services and services directly at the negotiating table. However, because our 2017-2018 legal services retainer did not mention the services of a non-attorney labor coordinator, if you would like to use Mr. Abernathy's services for labor relations purposes or to conduct a personnel investigation or to provide training or any other service, then your district will need to authorize an amendment to your retainer agreement. We will address this issue on a district-by-district basis for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year. This information will be added to all client retainer agreements for the 2018-2019 school year, which you should be receiving in April 2018 for your district's approval.

SCLS Website

In our continuing effort to improve our preventive law practice, we have updated our website to make obtaining information easier. Please provide me with feedback on the usefulness of our revised website to look up Legal Updates, register for workshops, review attorney/labor relations coordinator information and more. Please note that if you were previously issued a user name and password, you will need to request a new user name and password for access to the "members" only section of the website. Please visit <https://sclscal.org/register/> to obtain a new user name and password.

On behalf of all of the attorneys at SCLS we thank you for your continued support of our joint powers authority public law organization!