



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 *CC*
Date: January 20, 2017
Re: SCLS Staff Update

I hope you are enjoying the new 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 inform you that SCLS is excited about the addition of an experienced attorney to our office.

Ellie R. Austin joined our office in Santa Rosa on January 1, 2017. Ms. Austin received her law degree in 2011. Ms. Austin’s practice focuses on collective bargaining negotiations and personnel matters. She assists school districts, county office of education, and community college districts in negotiating collective bargaining agreements, resolving grievances and unfair practice charges, and handling personnel matters. Prior to joining SCLS, Ms. Austin practiced special education law representing public school districts at a law firm in Southern California for over 3 ½ years, where she worked extensively on matters pending before the California Office of Administrative Hearings. She developed expertise in analyzing special education documents, including IEPs, multidisciplinary assessments, and transition plans, for legal compliance. While in law school, she interned at a human rights NGO in Thailand teaching English to refugee women and Thai schoolchildren. Her capstone project for her M.P.A. degree involved a qualitative research study which identified common barriers facing community college students in Oregon as they transferred to four-year institutions.

Also, Ginny Riegel had been providing “Of Counsel” services for our office after her initial retirement. Ms. Riegel has decided to rededicate herself to enjoying retirement. So effective January 1, 2017, Ms. Riegel will no longer be providing “Of Counsel” services to our office.

On behalf of all of the attorneys at SCLS we thank you for your continued support of our organization!