

**CAB & CDD Officers: Please distribute to each delegate/alternate**

## **Executive Committee Bulletin #5**

**May 15, 1992**

**The Association of Legal Aid Attorneys (District 65 • UAW • AFL-CIO)  
13 Astor Place, New York, NY 10003-6980 • (212) 674-4188 • FAX: (212) 475-6091**

### **Proposed EC Agenda for Wednesday, May 20, 1992, 6:30 p.m.**

#### **Adoption of April 29, 1992 Minutes**

#### **Bargaining**

##### **1. ALAA Response to Possible 1199 Job Action (30 minutes)**

Since the EC must vote on this issue (as outlined in May 8th's Bargaining Report #5), please be sure that all offices are specifically polled on this issue, up to and including the possibility of joining Local 1199 support staff in a one-day strike (should they decide to hold one), for our part to protest the lack of progress in the wage reopener. Members may have a particular interest in attending this meeting to make their views known directly.

##### **2. Other Action (30 minutes)**

A. **Limited Strikes:** Independent of how ALAA should respond to a possible 1199 limited strike, some members have proposed that, immediately following the June 17th vote on the Oct. 1st deadline, the membership should also vote on authorizing limited strikes prior to the Oct. 1st deadline.

B. **Incorporation** (Bronx CDD)(tabled from last meeting): Incorporate Union entity as legal services provider.

C. **Arraignment Job Action** (Manhattan CDD)(tabled from last meeting): Escalating weekend arraignment job actions over the reopener.

D. **Protest at Late-June LAS Fundraising Events** (e.g. Waldorf-Astoria)

##### **3. Adoption of Bargaining Demands (20 minutes)**

A. **Substance:** Response to areas outlined by Bargaining Committee.

B. **Form:** I.e., long or short).

##### **4. June 17th Membership Meeting (10 minutes)**

A. **Agenda**

B. **Proxy Rules:** Motion from the Bargaining Committee: Actually engaged in hearing or trial; night court; seriously ill and unable to come to work; unable to obtain childcare; previously scheduled vacation of more than 1 day and out of the metro area.

C. **Other Rules**

D. **Strike Committee Preparation**

#### **Union Legal Representation**

(15 minutes)

In recent months, a subcommittee of the Bargaining Committee has interviewed various firms for the purpose of making recommendations regarding ALAA's legal representation. The BC now recommends to the EC that ALAA retain the firm of Vladeck, Waldman, Elias & Englehard (which has performed certain legal work for the Union since 1990) for all purposes.

#### **General Report**

(15 minutes)

1. **CAB:** Beltran firing.

2. **Lesbian & Gay Caucus:** Meeting with Alex Forger.

3. **Health & Safety Committee:** TB & Infection diseases.

4. **Health Trustees:** CIGNA proposed increase and other developments.

Other.

#### **United Auto Workers (UAW)**

#### **June Convention**

(10 minutes)

ALAA must determine what role its representative should play at the convention.

#### **Rodney King Verdict**

(10 minutes)

Discussion of possible Union response.

#### **Endorsements**

(No Contributions)

National Conference of Black Lawyers (NCBL) Forum on the Black Community & the Police.

# Executive Committee Minutes: April 29, 1992

**Legend:** D = Delegate; DVA = Designated Voting Alternate; NVA = Non-Voting Alternate; \* = Bargaining Committee Member; O = Observer; A = Absent; CDD Numbers/Letters = Complex; L = Sister Union Liaison; G = Other Guest

**Officers & Staff:** **President:** Michael Z. Letwin\*; **Secretary-Treasurer:** A\*; **V.P. (Civil & CLO):** Nancy Rosenbloom\*; **V.P. (CAB & Federal):** Elon Harpaz\*; **V.P. (CDD Bronx):** Gail H. Geltman\*; **V.P. (Brooklyn & SI CDD):** Sonya Zoghlin\*; **V.P. (CDD Manhattan & Spec. Lit):** Richard Armstrong\*; **V.P. (CDD Queens):** Barbara Byrne\*; **V.P. (JRD):** Adrian Leshner\*; **Executive Director:** David Addams

**Civil:** **Aging:** A; **Appeals/Homeless Family Rights:** Richard Blum (DVA\*); **Bronx:** Rachel Asher (D), Lisa Krooth (O); **Chelsea:** A; **Far Rockaway:** A; **Harlem:** Yvonne Floyd-Mayers (D); **Park Place:** Michael Williams (D), Brigitte LaForest (O); **Staten Island:** Jane Marcus (D)

**Community Law Office/Volunteer:** Millie Pinott (DVA\*)

**Criminal Appeals Bureau (CAB):** Melissa Johnson (D), Carrie Lamitie (D), Liz Manning (D), Pamela Peters (D), George Albro (NVA\*); **Parole Revocation:** A; **Prisoners Rights:** Michael Wiseman (NVA\*)

**Criminal Defense Division (CDD):** **BxA:** Claudia Montoya (DVA); **BxB:** A; **BxC:** Sallie Manzanet (D); **BxD:** Phyllis Cherebin (D); **Bk1:** Margaret Katze (D); **Bk2:** Andrew Sugerman (D); **Bk3:** Azalia Torres (D\*), Howard Schiffman (NVA); **Bk4:** Anne Aycock (D); **Daniel Ashworth (NVA);** **Bk5:** Robert E. Massi (D); **BkNDU:** Bob Zuss (DVA\*); **M1:** A; **M2:** Susan Burgess-Farrell (D); **M3:** Jonathan O. Heller (D); **M4:** A; **M5:** David Kapner (D); **M6:** A; **MNDU/STAB:** Christopher H. Martin (D); **Q1:** Lorraine Brown (D); **Q2:** Maria Grossman (D); **Q3:** Veronica Nicastro (DVA), Allen S. Popper (O); **Q4:** Mimi Brill (DVA) (D); **S.I.:** A; **Special Litigation:** A

**Federal Defenders:** **Appeals:** Mark Gombiner (D); **EDNY:** A; **SDNY:** A

**Juvenile Rights Division (JRD):** **Appeals:** Ken Rabb (D); **Bronx:** Ed McCarthy (D); **Brooklyn:** Susan Luciano (D); **Manhattan:** Richard Meyerson (DVA), Thomas Curtis (O); **Queens:** Carol J. Hochberg (D); **Spec. Lit:** Michael Scherz (D); **Staten Island:** A

**Guests:** Cynthia Wolff (Brooklyn JRD 1199 delegate), Vanessa Cherena (Brooklyn JRD 1199 member), Jeanmarie DeMay (Brooklyn JRD 1199 member)

## Announcement

Lesbian and Gay Caucus flyers sent to officers and delegates have not been posted in every office as requested. Please be sure that this and all such designated Union material is promptly posted for the benefit of all members.

## Adoption of March 18, 1992 EC Minutes

**Motion:** To adopt (passed unanimously).

## Alejandro Beltran (CAB) Firing

Discussion of recent firing of Alejandro Beltran, a Latino member and CAB Union delegate on second stage probation from CAB 19th floor notorious for unfair treatment of attorneys of color. CAB members are mobilizing in support of him.

**Motion:** Authorize consultation with counsel regarding viability of legal action on Beltran's behalf (passed: unanimous).

## Bargaining

**Motion (Bargaining Committee):** The Union will hold a May 13th citywide Union membership meeting to vote on the adoption of an October 1st No Contract, No Work policy, which the EC may modify after consultation with the membership if there is meaningful progress in contract negotiations. **Amendment:** Delete "which the EC may modify..." clause and replace with "unless there is a settlement by that time" (passed by roll-call vote: 19-14-5. *For:* Harpaz,

Armstrong, Byrne, Williams, Johnson, Lamitie, Manning, Peters, Montoya, Sugarman, Torres, Aycock, Burgess-Farrell, Heller, Kapner, Martin, Brown, Grossman, Nicastro. *Against:* Geltman, Zoghlin, Leshner, Blum, Wiseman, Manzanet, Cherebin, Katze, Massi, Rabb, McCarthy, Luciano, Meyerson, Scherz. *Abstentions:* Rosenbloom, Asher, Pinott, Brill, Hochberg). **Amendment (Letwin):** That: all units immediately hold membership meetings to discuss bargaining demands; demands be adopted at the May 19th [now May 20th] EC meeting and immediately presented to management for proposed initial bargaining session in early June; the membership meeting to consider the strike deadline be held on June 17th (passed by roll-call vote: 21-14-2. *For:* Rosenbloom, Harpaz, Geltman, Blum, Asher, Williams, Pinott, Johnson, Lamitie, Manning, Peters, Montoya, Manzanet, Cherebin, Torres, Aycock, Rabb, McCarthy, Luciano, Meyerson, Hochberg. *Against:* Zoghlin, Armstrong, Byrne, Leshner, Wiseman, Sugerman, Massi, Burgess-Farrell, Heller, Kapner, Martin, Grossman, Nicastro, Brill. *Abstentions:* Katze, Scherz). **Amended motion:** Passed: 27-10.

**Motion (Bronx CDD):** Incorporate Union entity as legal services provider (tabled).

**Motion (Manhattan CDD):** Escalating weekend arraignment job actions over the reopener (tabled).

**Tabled:** Proxy rules and strike committees.

## TB

**Motion:** Authorize reasonable expenses to hire doctor to conduct inspection of all offices that request them (passed: unanimous).

## General Report

### Health Benefits

**McKinney's Grievance Decision:** An arbitrator ruled against ALAA in its grievance concerning the withdrawal of McKinney's from CDD attorneys.

**Lesbian & Gay Caucus:** Discussion of upcoming meeting with LAS Board Chair Alex Forger.

**ACLA:** Report on meeting with new LAS Affirmative Action Office, Linda Welch.

## Emergency Loan Request

**Motion (Armstrong):** To authorize \$117 emergency loan for Manhattan CDD member and bar re-taker (passed: unanimous).

## Political Action

**Motion (Albro):** Authorize the Political Action Committee to conduct membership survey formulated by Labor Party Advocates (passed: unanimous).

## Endorsements

**"Good Time" Legislation:** Passed.

**Re-election of Judge Margaret Cammer (Brooklyn Civil Court):** Passed.

**May 16 Save Our Cities March on Washington:** Passed.

# The Association of Legal Aid Attorneys

District 65 • UAW • AFL-CIO

*Officers, Delegates & Alternates: Please immediately distribute & post*

President  
**Michael Z. Letwin**

Secretary-Treasurer  
**Annette DePalma**

Vice Presidents:

Civil & Volunteer Divisions  
**Nancy Rosenbloom**

Criminal Appeals Bureau &  
Federal Defenders Services  
**Elon Harpaz**

Criminal Defense Division  
Bronx  
**Gail Geltman**

Criminal Defense Division  
Brooklyn & Staten Island  
**Sonya Zoghlin**

Criminal Defense Division  
Manhattan  
**Richard Armstrong**

Criminal Defense Division  
Queens  
**Barbara Byrne**

Juvenile Rights Division  
**Adrian Leshner**

Executive Director  
**R. David Addams**

Office Administrator  
**Isabel A. Lobelo**

Office Secretary  
**Ron Luciano**

## Job Notices

May 15, 1992

### Prisoners' Rights Project

The Prisoners' Rights Project, a test case unit of the Legal Aid Society, is seeking a qualified attorney to join its staff. The Project represents inmates of the New York State and New York City prison systems in lawsuits — primarily complex federal civil rights class actions — challenging the constitutionality of conditions of confinement. Recent litigation has focused on medical care, violence by staff and other inmates, overcrowding and racial discrimination. Much of the Project's work is post-judgment enforcement and compliance monitoring.

*Requirements:* Two years' litigation experience, demonstrated commitment to civil rights or poverty law, excellent writing, research and litigation skills. Background in constitutional law and federal civil practice preferred.

Women and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply. Salary commensurate with experience.

Applications must be received by June 24, 1992. Send resume and sample of legal writing to: Project Director, The Legal Aid Society, Prisoners' Rights Project, 15 Park Row - 7th floor, NY, NY 10038.

### Juvenile Rights Division

There are staff attorney openings in the Bronx and Staten Island offices of the Juvenile Rights Division. Contact: Lenore Gittis, The Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Division, 15 Park Row, New York, NY 10038.

