December 21, 2015

Katy Englehart
American Bar Association
Office of the President
321 N. Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60610

Re: Comments to “Issues Paper Concerning New Categories of Legal Services Providers”

Dear Ms. Englehart:

The NOBC Board of Directors has reviewed the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services’ “Issues Paper Concerning New Categories of Legal Services Providers.” While NOBC takes no position on the specific issues presented, we applaud the Commission’s innovative efforts to address the problem of unmet legal needs. Accessibility of legal services is an issue of critical importance to the courts, the profession, and the public, and it is appropriate for the ABA to play a leadership role in evaluating and guiding the manner in which the delivery of legal services will be regulated so that all U.S. jurisdictions can make informed decisions.

While it is likely that state judicial decision-makers will take different approaches to regulatory reform, we believe that our membership, which consists of professional legal regulators throughout the United States, will provide an invaluable resource as these discussions and initiatives unfold. NOBC members in every jurisdiction bring the commitment, experience, and technical expertise to issues bearing on the regulation of the practice of law, irrespective of the nature of the regulatory changes that may be on the horizon.

As the Commission on the Future of Legal Services continues its work, NOBC is available to provide the perspective of bar regulators on the important issues facing the profession and is eager to assist in all aspects of the ABA’s work improve the judicial regulation of the practice of law.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Paul J. Burgoyne
President
National Organization of Bar Counsel, Inc.

PJB: me