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NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
October 4, 2005

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Alaska Legal Services Corporation Fundraising Campaign Begins October 12

Compassion Capital Funding Awarded to ALSC Will Expand Private Sector Fundraising

Alaska Legal Services Corporation, having just received notification through Senator Lisa Murkowski's office that it will receive a \$50,000 Compassion Capital Funding grant, is using that momentum to launch its 2005-2006 Robert Hickerson Partners in Justice fundraising campaign on October 12.

The start of the campaign coincides with Robert Hickerson Day, designated as a day to honor the contribution of ALSC's late Executive Director to the pursuit of equal access to Alaska's civil justice system. The campaign goal is \$125,000, donated by members of Alaska's legal community. Private attorneys Walter Featherly and Jim Torgerson of Anchorage, Ann Gifford and Janell Hafner of Juneau, and Charles E. Cole of Fairbanks are co-chairing the campaign.

The Compassion Capital grant award for ALSC is earmarked for the hiring of an ALSC Fundraising Specialist, who will be responsible for expanding ALSC's private sector fundraising activities and diversifying its funding base. Compassion Capital Funding grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services were awarded to 310 faith-based and community organizations throughout the nation to enhance their ability to provide a wide range of social services to those in need including the homeless, at-risk youth, rural communities, the elderly, and families transitioning from welfare to work.

"While this one-time grant award cannot be used to restore the three attorney positions eliminated as a result of the loss of our rural domestic violence grant from the Department of Justice's Office of Violence Against Women, it provides an opportunity to make a long-term investment in our ability to accelerate ALSC's private sector fundraising and to seek other funding opportunities for our firm," noted ALSC Executive Director Andy Harrington.

For 39 years, ALSC has responded to the civil legal needs of low-income Alaskans who otherwise would go without legal assistance. Online donations to the Robert Hickerson Partners in Justice campaign can be made at www.partnersinjustice.org.

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