Presentation to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Complaint of ADA Noncompliance

by Thomas F. Coleman, J.D. Spectrum Institute

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- 1. We are filing a **COMPLAINT OF NONCOMPLIANCE** with the Americans with Disabilities Act
- 2. The county FUNDS LEGAL SERVICES for people with developmental disabilities
- 3. The county has **FUNDING CHOICES** for such a legal services program
- 4. Funding choices can include:
 - a. A variety of QUALITY ASSURANCE CONTROLS
 - b. Systematic MONITORING
 - c. Periodic AUDITS
 - d. A COMPLAINT PROCEDURE for dissatisfied beneficiaries of legal services
- 5. The county has done **NONE OF THESE** for limited conservatorship legal services
- 6. The county can **CHOOSE A VENDOR** to deliver legal services
 - a. Some counties have contracted with the PUBLIC DEFENDER
 - b. Other counties have contracted with **ONE LAW FIRM**
 - c. Yet others have chosen a COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY PROGRAM
 - d. This County has chosen the **SUPERIOR COURT** to run the legal services program
- 7. The county has **RESPONSIBILITIES** under the **ADA** and under **SECTION 504**
 - a. A legal services program must provide ACCESS TO JUSTICE for its clients
 - b. The legal services program in Los Angeles is VIOLATING THE ADA
 - c. The court has been **NOTIFIED OF THE PROBLEMS**, yet the problems continue
 - d. Some **SUPERVISORS WERE ALERTED** of these problems last September
 - e. TWO JUDGES told one supervisor last week: "There is no problem all is well."
 - f. We are here today to reiterate: THERE IS A PROBLEM AN ADA PROBLEM
- 8. The county MUST CHOOSE to fund only ADA COMPLIANT legal services
- 9. This complaint is designed to GET YOUR ATTENTION and to create ADA COMPLIANCE
- 10. Let's have a series of conversations to **FIND A SOLUTION** to this important problem

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