

THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA



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April 25, 1980

Charles H. Clifford
President, Board of Governors
State Bar of California
44 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California 94104

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Re: State Bar Events at Discriminatory Facilities

Dear Mr. Clifford:

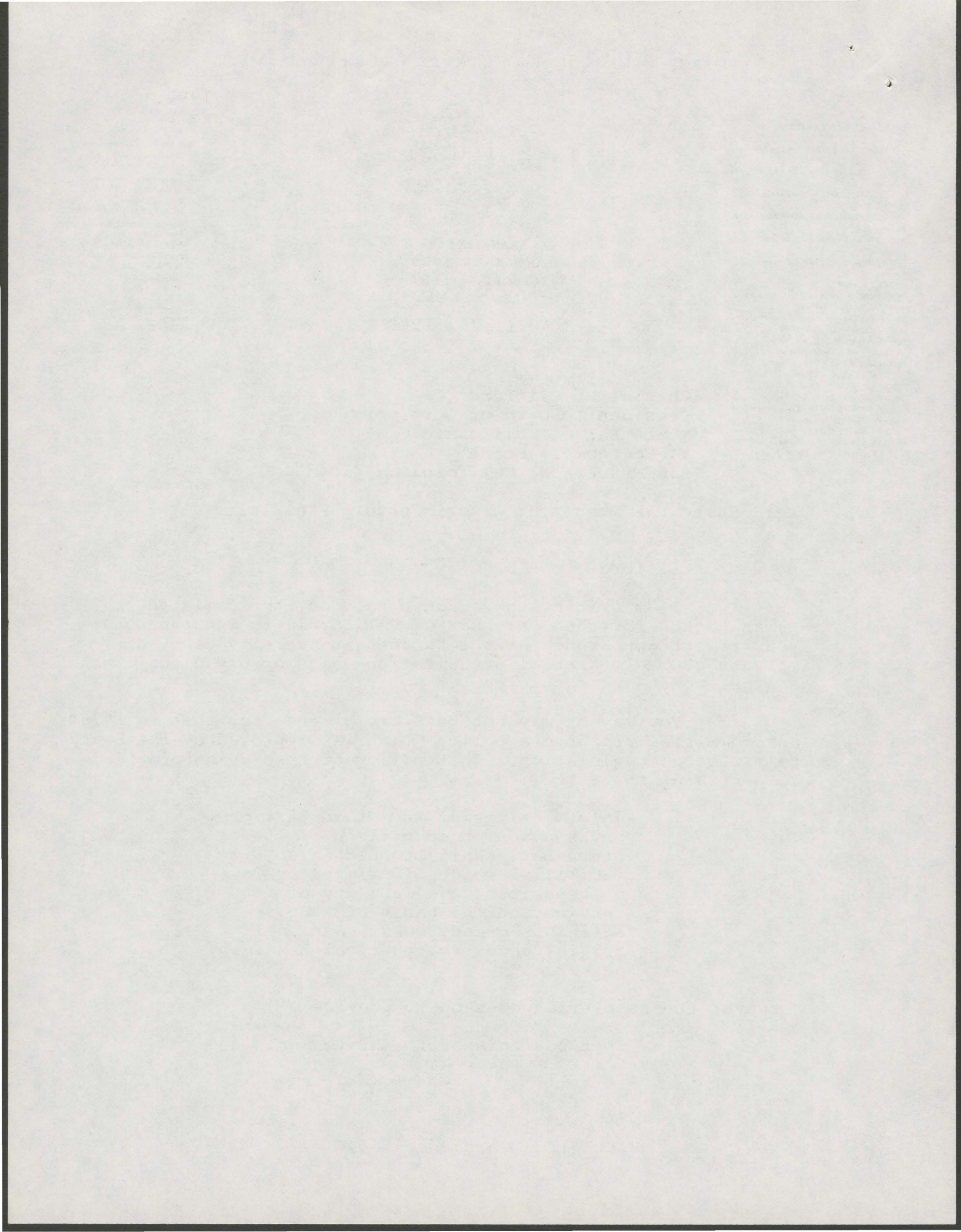
I am writing to you on behalf of the Committee on Human Rights for the State Bar of California to inquire about your recent appearance at the Pasadena University Club, a private club or fraternal organization which openly discriminates against women and minorities.

You may or may not be aware of the fact that in 1979, our committee proposed a policy which was approved by the Board Committee on Legislation. That policy or resolution provided in pertinent that:

[n]o meetings of the State Bar, or any section or committees of the State Bar, shall be held in any facilities which discriminate, in membership or availability of service, on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, or sex.

Moreover the resolution goes on to provide

that no funds of the State Bar



will be expended to reimburse
anyone for any expenses incurred
in such facilities

and that the

Board of Governors [shall] notify
other State-wide and local legal
organizations in California that
the State Bar has adopted a policy
prohibiting the holding of State
Bar functions in the facilities of
the clubs which engage in the above
listed forms of discrimination.

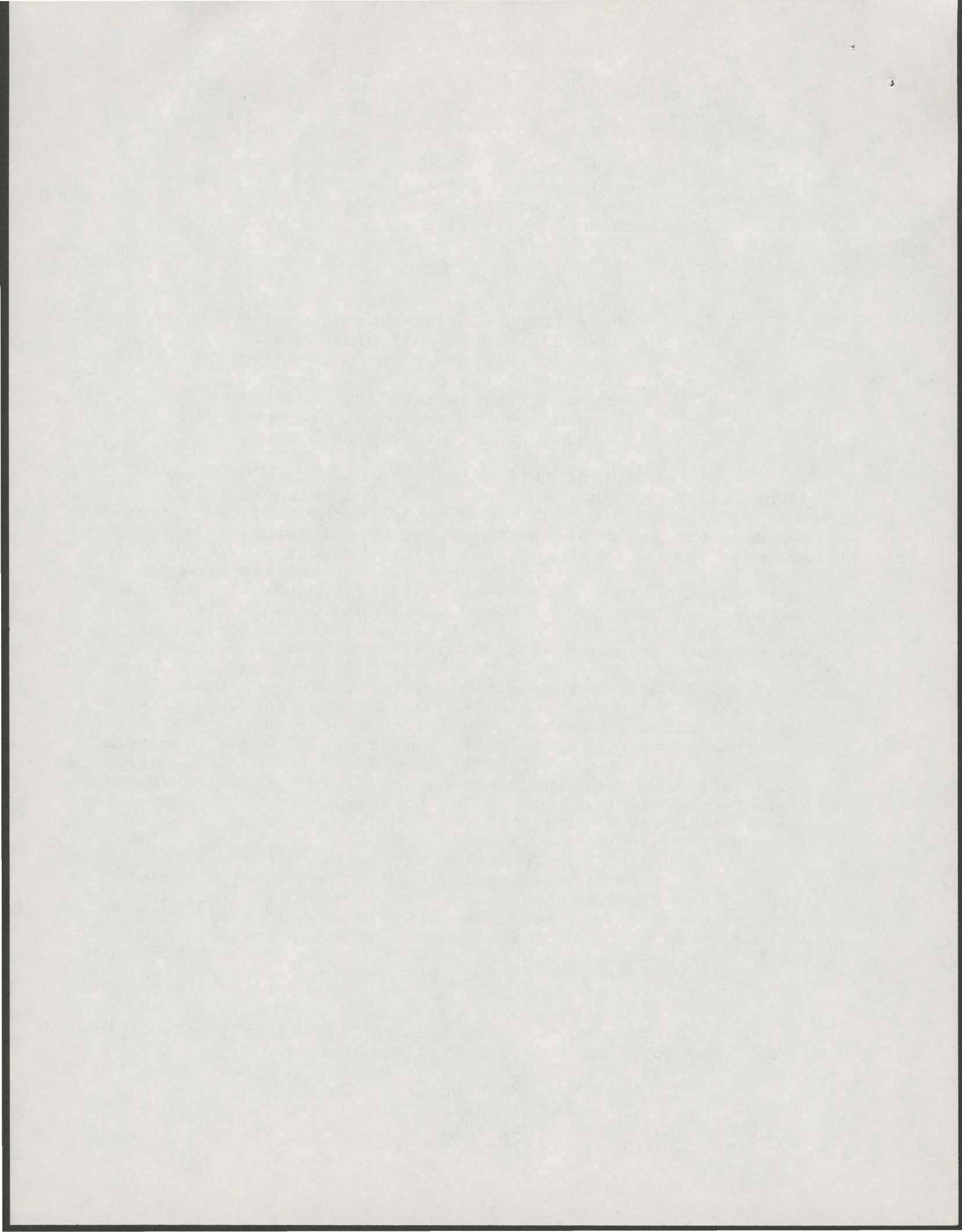
In light of this policy the Committee on Human Rights wishes to know whether or not you attended this meeting in your official capacity as to the President of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of California. If you attended that meeting in your official capacity, the Committee would like to know whether your speech to the Pasadena Bar Association contained any statements regarding: (1) the State Bar's policy on usage of non-discriminatory facilities and (2) the undesirability of local bar's utilizing facilities which engage in overt discrimination.

Second, the Committee wishes to request that you write a letter to the presidents of all local and specialty bars and statewide legal organizations notifying them of the State Bar's policy regarding this matter. Also the Committee recommends that you notify all State Bar staff of this policy, who select or assist in selecting the sites for State Bar and State Bar entity events in order to avoid innocent errors occurring in the future.

Finally, the Committee wishes to inform you that they soon will be submitting to the Board of Governors a proposed revision to the present State Bar Policy regarding discriminatory facilities. The purpose of this revision will be to strengthen the State Bar's existing policy. The Committee hopes that you will support the Committee's revisions when they are presented to the full Board of Governors for their consideration.

If you have any questions concerning this letter please direct them to me at the following address:

Lester J. Marston
California Indian Legal Services
200 W. Henry Street, P.O. Box 488
Ukiah, California 95482



Charles H. Clifford

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Thank you very much for your time and attention
in addressing this matter.

Yours very truly,

LJM/gl

LESTER J. MARSTON
Chair of the Human
Rights Committee

cc: Board Liason to Human
Rights Committee

