November 28, 1990

Dear [Name]

RE: Request for Opinion

The Ethics Committee of the State Bar Association of North Dakota has addressed and discussed the question raised in your letter of November 2, 1990.

It is the opinion of the Committee that there is nothing in the Code of Professional Responsibility which would preclude the listing of legal assistants on your firm's letterhead, but the individual's status as a legal assistant would have to be clearly set forth. If the legal assistant is a certified legal assistant, the Committee did not see a problem with listing that fact as well. The letterhead must clearly differentiate between attorneys at law and nonlawyers who are listed on letterhead.

This letter opinion is issued to you for advisory purposes only and is not binding on you, the Court's of North Dakota, the Disciplinary Board, Grievance Committees, or any other member of the Bar of the State of North Dakota.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul F. Richard
Chairman-Ethics Committee
State Bar Association of North Dakota

cc: Sherry Ring
November 2, 1990

Mr. Les Torgerson
Ethics Committee
SBAND
P. O. Box 2136
Bismarck, ND 58502-2136

Dear Mr. Torgerson:

Please consider this letter as a formal request for an opinion from the Ethics Committee to determine whether or not a law firm may list certified legal assistants on its letterhead and any criteria which need to be followed in order to do so.

In my situation, it is intended that any certified legal assistant named on the letterhead would be clearly identified as a legal assistant who has obtained certification.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,