EBBETS CHAVEZ & KOFA X

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW, LLP**

To: First-Year Associates

From: Brandi Bickering, Senior Partner

Re: New Case

Congratulations on joining our firm. I know you have barely had time to get settled here, but we need you to get to work right away on an important task. As you may know, there have been some significant developments involving the role of single-sex schools. With help from the National Organization for Women and the ACLU, a family has recently brought a lawsuit claiming that their 5th and 14th Amendment rights were denied when their son was not allowed to attend the The Bertha Sadler Means Young Women’s Leadership School.. The United States Federal Court System may now have to decide if this school will be allowed to stay open. I will send you an overview of the issue soon.

The father in this family, Adam Connolly, is seeking representation as he wishes to challenge the Austin Independent School District. He wishes to reverse the policy of allowing boys and girls to be separated in the public schools. Our law firm must now decide whether or not to take the case. Before we dedicate ourselves to such exhaustive preparations and financial commitments, we must determine whether Mr. Connolly has a fighting chance to prevail in her claim against the Austin Independent School District. Although our firm can certainly afford to take the case, financially speaking, win or lose, we do not want to take a case without a strong chance of success. That would waste time and resources that could be used to assist another client. However, if we don’t take the case and Mr. Connolly wins, we will have missed an opportunity for national publicity, financial gain, and most importantly the chance to influence our nation’s definitions of constitutional liberty and equity.

Your task is to recommend to the senior partners whether or not to take Mr. Connolly’s case. In making this recommendation, you should consider the strengths of Mr. Connolly’s case in terms of the 5th and 14th Amendments, precedent, and the concerns of our society. This task, if done well, can start your career off with a bang. I look forward to hearing your recommendation.