

**NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES, INC.**

**PROGRAM POLICY- CLASS ACTIONS**

**45 CFR 1617  
February 20, 2019**

It is impermissible for any individual, while engaged in legal assistance activities funded by the Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc., to initiate or participate in any class action suit. For purposes of this policy, "class action" refers to a lawsuit filed as, or otherwise declared by the court having jurisdiction over the case to be a class action pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, or Article 9 of the New York State Civil Procedure Law and Rules, or the comparable State statute or rule of civil procedure applicable in the court in which the action is filed.

This limitation does not preclude the representation of multiple parties or eligible groups nor does it proscribe the use of other relevant judicial or statutory procedures, including those related to: third party practice; joinder; interpleader; intervention; consolidation, mandamus; declaratory indament; or injunctive relief.

“Initiating or participating in” any class action means any involvement at any stage of a class action prior to or after an order granting relief. “Involvement” includes acting as amicus curiae, co-counsel or otherwise providing representation relating to a class action.

However, initiating or participating in any class action does not include representation of an individual client seeking to withdraw from or opt out of a class or obtain the benefit of relief ordered by the court, or non-adversarial activities, including efforts to remain informed about, or to explain, clarify, educate or advise others about the terms of an order granting relief.

  
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Sabrina May  
NLS Board President

Dated: 2/20/19

Adopted by resolution of the NLS Board of Directors on 2/20/19.