

Biographical Statement

Carol Woods
Director
Lawyer Referral and Information Service
Bar Association of San Francisco

Carol Woods has worked with the Bar Association of San Francisco since 1980 and has served as the director of its Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) since 1986. In 2000, the LRIS program she oversees was the recipient of the ABA's prestigious *Cindy A. Raisch Award*. In 1989, she received the State Bar of California's *Larry Long Award* for outstanding contributions to lawyer referral services in California.

Carol served for more than 10 years on the State Bar of California's Standing Committee on Lawyer Referral and Information Services, and co-chaired the committee for three terms. As a member of that committee, she was involved in drafting legislation that regulates lawyer referral services in the state and in developing minimum standards for LRIS programs. For many years, she participated in planning annual LRIS workshops in California.

A major component of BASF's LRIS is its administration of the Indigent Defense Program for the San Francisco Courts. The Indigent Defense Program provides highly qualified attorneys for appointment by the Court to represent indigent criminal defendants and indigent parties in juvenile delinquency and dependency proceedings. In 1997, Woods was invited by the California Center for Judicial Education and Research to speak at its Juvenile Law and Procedure Institute. Her presentation described the Indigent Defense Program's unique peer review program.

Since 1987, she has been a consultant to referral services throughout the country through the American Bar Association's Program of Assistance and Review; has contributed articles to the ABA's *Dialogue*; and has been a regular speaker at the California and ABA annual Lawyer Referral and Information Service workshops.

Prior to joining BASF, she coordinated a community education program for Bay Area Lawyers for the Arts. As a VISTA volunteer in Oregon, she co-founded a welfare advocacy program, which continues to assist low-income people regarding welfare and food stamp benefits.