



# CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO

MUNICIPAL SERVICES BUILDING  
2415 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
2ND FLOOR — COUNCIL OFFICES  
EAST PALO ALTO, CA 94303  
(415) 853-3100

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

RECEIVED  
1986 FEB 25  
CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO  
COUNCIL OFFICE

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Vice-Mayor

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FREDERIC A. HOWELL, CITY MANAGER

February 20, 1986

Anne Murdaugh  
President  
The Initiative for Public  
Interest Law of Yale, Inc.  
100 Yale Station  
New Haven, CT 06520

Re: David Neely Proposal for  
Juvenile Internship Project

Dear Ms. Murdaugh:

It has been brought to my attention that you are presently considering a request for support from David Neely for a Juvenile Internship Project in East Palo Alto. As Mayor of East Palo Alto, I am writing to urge you to favorably consider granting the request.

East Palo Alto is a newly incorporated city (1983) located in San Mateo County. It is an urban community with one of the largest Black populations on the San Francisco Peninsula. Currently, the City's population numbers approximately 25,000 persons and is made up of 59% Black residents, 21% White residents, 5% Asian residents, 12% Latino residents, and 3% other races. In comparison with other communities in San Mateo County, East Palo Alto has a young population which is aging at a slower rate.

The young people in our town are almost 85% minority. They suffer from a 70% drop-out rate in the high schools to which they are bussed. They are in dire need of legal assistance in securing a basic education, including special and remedial education.

As an economically depressed urban area, East Palo Alto has many households with very modest incomes, a large number of single-parent families headed by women, and very high unemployment. However, it is a community on the rise that is destined to fulfill its potential through local control of the governmental marketplace. The East Palo Alto Community Law Project (EPACLP) will certainly contribute significantly to making this happen.

Anne Murdaugh  
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In just a short 18 months of operation, EPACLP has made a tremendous difference in our city. It has served over a thousand clients and made over 300 referrals. It is important to note that EPACLP has taken great steps to tailor the services it offers to meet the most urgent legal needs of the community; it has accomplished this through interviews with community leaders and a very successful community-wide door-to-door canvass. Citizens complained of a need for legal assistance for their young people. EPACLP has responded by hiring David Neely, who will specialize in juvenile law problems.

In closing, I again ask that you approve David Neely's proposal. EPACLP can only afford to hire him at half time. Meeting the problems of youth in East Palo Alto is more than a full-time job.

Sincerely,



(Mrs.) Barbara A. Mouton  
Mayor

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