

RE: Partial Diversion of Funds from the Judicial Building Funds for the Hero Scholarship Program Fund

Response:

The question of whether USDA Rural Development will favorably consider the use of JBF funds for purposes other than that intended by the loan, was posed to Rural Development in the attached May 6, 2002 request.

Related to use of JBF's funds for Hero Scholarship Program Fund was a legislative inquiry posed coincidentally by Senator Calvo in the May 6, 2002 communication relative to funding a portion of the Residential Treatment Fund. The USDA's attached response reflected a disapproval of the request on the basis that it "... will not strengthen our security and will not facilitate, improve, or maintain the orderly collection of the loan."

The Judicial Council's Resolution for use of JBF funds for paying out a portion of the outstanding Court Appointed Attorney Fees, was similarly denied.

Other similar requests were asked of USDA also received unfavorable replies.

Research on any inquiry to USDA Rural Development regarding JBF funding for Hero Scholarship Program Fund came up empty. However, such a request will likely receive a negative response.