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Florida Supreme Court

Gender Bias Study Implementation Commission

Honorable Winifred J. Sharp
Chairperson

January 30, 1995

FILED

SID J. WHITE

FEB 8 1995

CLERK, SUPREME COURT

By _____
Chief Deputy Clerk

- Honorable Debbie Wasserman Shultz
- Honorable Major B. Harding
- Honorable Charles J. Kahn
- Honorable James E. Joanos
- Honorable Durand J. Adams
- Honorable Jennifer D. Bailey
- Honorable James R. Case
- Honorable Mary Jane Henderson
- Honorable Lawrence R. Kirkwood
- Honorable Cindy S. Lederman
- Honorable Joan A. Lenard
- Honorable Thomas S. Reese
- Honorable Laura Melvin
- Honorable Karen K. Cole
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- Honorable Terry P. Lewis
- C. Richard Parker, Esquire
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- Delano S. Stewart, Esquire

Honorable Stephen H. Grimes, Chief Justice
Supreme Court of Florida
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1925

84,390

Dear Chief Justice Grimes,

The Florida Supreme Court Gender Bias Study Implementation Commission met in Miami at the Florida Bar mid-winter meeting. Considering the distance members had to travel in order to attend, it was well attended. Many issues were discussed and one was the Florida Supreme Court's proposed rule which would authorize suspension or denial of a Florida Bar member's license to practice law if he or she failed to meet child support obligations. This is apparently an effort to parallel the statute passed by the Legislature which will have a similar affect on other professional licenses, and even driver's licenses.

The members of the Commission asked me to express to you our al support for the proposed Rule. Members of the Bar should be held to at least as high a standard of conduct as other members of the public, if not higher. We realize the time of comment on the Rule has passed, but as a Commission we had no prior opportunity to study the Rule or take a position on it. We hope that the Rule will be adopted.

Yours very truly,

Winifred J. Sharp

Winifred J. Sharp, Chair
Gender Bias Study
Implementation Commission

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CHIEF JUSTICE