**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Inc. hereby adopts and supports the Amendments to the Rules of the Supreme Court Relating to Admissions to the Bar as they relate to the Proposals under Rule 2-11.1 and 4-13-.2, Educational Qualification and the definition of Accredited. Case Number: SC02-2354.

Adopted by the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers Inc. Board of Directors on June 14, 2003.

July 14, 2003

Supreme Court of Florida 500 South Duval Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1927

> Re: <u>Petition of Amend Rules 2-11.1 and 4-13.2 of the Rules of</u> <u>the Supreme Court Relating to Admissions to the Bar</u> Petitioners: The Orange County Bar Association & Thomas B. Drage, Jr., Esq. Case No. SC02-2354

Your Honors:

Attached is a resolution approved by the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Inc. Board of Directors at its June 14, 2003 meeting that took place in St. Petersburg, Florida. Please accept this letter and the attached resolution as the comments of the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers Inc. in support of the petition to amend the rules of the Florida Supreme Court as stated in the resolution.

The Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Inc. is a voluntary statewide association of more than 4,000 trial lawyers concentrating on litigation in all areas of law. The Academy is pledged to the preservation of the American legal system, the protection of individual rights and liberties, the evolution of the common law, and the right of access to courts. The Academy cares deeply about the integrity of the legal system.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul D. Jess General Counsel Florida Bar #348082

## Certificate of Service

I HEREBY CERTIFY a true copy of the foregoing was furnished to attorney for petitioners, Mathew D. Staver, Esquire, 210 Palmetto Avenue, Longwood, FL 32750, by U.S. mail, on July 14, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul D. Jess, Esq. Florida Bar No. 348082 Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers, Inc. 218 S. Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32301 850-224-9403