

July 3, 2003

Chief Justice Harry Lee Anstead
Supreme Court of Florida
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1927

Re: Petition to Amend Rules 2-11 and 4-13.2 of the Rules of the
Supreme Court Relating to Admissions to the Bar
Petitioners: The Orange County Bar Association & Thomas B.
Drage, Jr., Esq.
Case No.: SC02-2354

Dear Chief Justice Anstead:

I am writing to the Court to express support for the Orange County Bar Association's petition for rule change. I have been a member of the Florida Bar for twenty-two years, and while I do not fully understand the history of Rules 2-11.1 and 4-13.2, I feel qualified to comment on the pending petition because of my familiarity with the school and a large number of its faculty members and students.

My understanding of the situation is that while Barry was undergoing the accreditation process, the ABA changed the process so that the House of Delegates can only remand the accreditation decision back to the Council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. In other words, the House of Delegates is no longer vested with the power to make the final accreditation decision. This change has resulted in the distinct possibility that future final decisions could take as long as 36 months, not the 12 months provided for under the current Florida rule.

Page two
July 3, 2003

The 12-month rule has clearly outlived its usefulness and should be changed to 36 months so students at FAMU and FIU do not meet the same fate that befell Barry's first graduating classes. Moreover, by making the rule change retroactive, you have the ability to correct a terrible injustice done to a hundred deserving new lawyers and their families.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott R. McMillen