

July 14, 2003

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

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

Dear Mr. Chief Justice and Messrs. and Mmes. Justices:

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the above-referenced petition proposing amendments to Rules 2-11.1 and 4-13.2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court Relating to Admissions to the Bar. I have been a member of the Florida Bar since 2000, and my license number is 0388505.

I support the petition because (a) my office employs(ed) Barry University School of Law ("Barry") alumni as Law Clerks or Paralegals, or my office employs(ed) those Barry Law alumni who are now returning to Barry for a second law degree so he/she/they may sit for the July 2004 bar exam; (b) it should be changed for fairness and equity reasons; (c) the time frame of 12 months is an arbitrary measure of an individual's ability to pass the bar exam; and (d) the 12-month rule is not congruent to the American Bar Association accreditation process which can take up to three years, thereby causing a non-accredited law school student's graduation date to fall outside the 12-month rule.

I respectfully request the current rule be changed to either the First or Second Proposal, or I will leave to the court's discretion which proposal to approve and urge the court to take action and change the rules at issue.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Andrea Richardson

PAR:vkb

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail to attorney for petitioners, Mathew D. Staver, Esquire, 210 Palmetto Avenue, Longwood, Florida 32750 on this _____ day of July, 2003.

P. Andrea Richardson