

7/9/03

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 & Thomas B. Drage, Jr., Esq.

Case No: SC02-2354

Dear Your Honors:

This letter is written to express my support for the above referenced petition.

I am privileged to be a member of Barry University School of Law's very first graduating class. Like many in our changing world, I was deterred from returning to school to study law, because at the time, there were few opportunities to do so without sacrificing my livelihood. I was so pleased to learn, in 1996, that a law school was slated to open in the very city where I lived and worked that would allow me to attend at night, and thereby keep my employment. Thereafter, unfortunately, I was not as pleased to watch as my personal stake in Barry's outcome seemed to twist, first in one direction than another, finally fizzling out, for me anyway, almost altogether.

I did not fully realize, the extent to which the changes in the American Bar Association (ABA) process for granting accreditation *itself* caused this to occur, until I read this petition. While it is certainly understandable that Florida would desire to avail itself of the ABA's oversight with respect to law school accreditation, *reason* should prevail. The ABA's process and the State Rules Relating to Admission to the Bar should properly mesh. That this situation would be repeated with respect to other schools in this state is unthinkable.

Please, your Honors, implement one of the solutions advocated by the Petition and correct this. It is only a matter of time before the misfit creates additional problems.

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, Esq., 210 Palmetto


Carol L. Sparks