

July 11, 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 & Thomas B. Drage, Jr., Esq. Case No: SC02-2354

Your Honors:

My name is Daniel B. Fowler and I have been a member of the Florida Bar for 12 years, my license number is 0871249. Also, I am an employer of a Barry University School of Law graduate adversely affected by the current rules of admission to the bar in Florida. I am writing today to express my strong support in favor of the above-referenced petition.

It would appear to me that the intent behind the current rules relating bar admission is to ensure that the candidates taking the bar exam have graduated from a law school that has met certain standards. While I agree it is important to ensure a high level of education, the rules have not changed to reflect changes in the ABA accreditation process, and as a result have harmed over 100 men and women. In 1999 the ABA began changing its accreditation process. Florida's rules relating to the definition of "accredited" and "educationally qualified" have not been substantially altered since the early 1970's. As a result, Barry's first three graduating classes were denied bar licenses because Florida's rules still follow the prior ABA accreditation process.

It is for these reasons I strongly urge this court to adopt either of the two proposed rule changes set forth in SC02-2354, to allow graduates from Barry University School of Law and law students at other in-state law schools the opportunity to enter this noble profession and work for the citizens of Florida.

Sincerely,

Daniel B. Fowler

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 _____, 2003.

Daniel B. Fowler