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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 Rule 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 Esteemed Justices:

I am a writing to support the OCBA's petition for rule change, Case Number SC02-2354.

While I do not profess to grasp the history of Rules 2-11.1 and 4-13.2, I feel capable to comment on the pending petition due to the fact that my son, James Daniel Botkins, graduated Barry University School of Law in year 2000.

He re-enrolled at the law school and he will be earning his second Juris Doctorate spring 2004. I was greatly disappointed that this Honorable Court, the Florida Bar and the Florida Board of Bar Examiners were unable to fashion a remedy, prior to this time, that would have allowed my son the opportunity to take the Florida Bar Examination with the real prospect of becoming licensed to practice law.

My son started law school at Barry in the fall of 1997 and full-filled his obligations as a full-time student to graduate in a timely manner. Several of his classmates prolonged or delayed their graduations in order to meet the 12-month rule requirement. Currently, those alumni have the same education as my son's however based on their dishonorable actions they have Florida Bar numbers.

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

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Botkins
Interested Party

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, Matthew D. Staver, Esquire, 210 Palmetto Avenue, Longwood, Florida 32750 on this 12th day of July, 2003.

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