LAW OFFICES OF

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June 25, 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

Dear Your Honors:

I am a 16 year member of the Florid Bar, license number 0710164, and am writing to express my support for the above-referenced petition.

My interest in the above-referenced petition lies in the fact that I currently employ a Barry Law School graduate who was prevented from practicing law in the State of Florida due to the accreditation snafu that befell Barry. I find it impossible to believe 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 these alumni/students the bar card they so justly deserved.

Surely the harm that the 12-month rule was designed to protect against was not protected by keeping Barry's first three graduating classes from practicing law. I urge this Honorable Court to act swiftly and surely to conform its rules to comply with the reality of the ABA's accreditation process. Further, I urge this Honorable Court to make certain that any law students/alumni from Barry University caught up in this conflict in the rules should be afforded full relief in the form of the release of the bar scores and, where appropriate, admission to the Florida Bar.

Further, I understand that Florida has recently gained two new law schools, FAMU and FIU. My hope is that this Court will change the 12-month rule to protect the students currently embarking on a legal education at these new institutions. Students who endeavor to enter this honorable profession should not be summarily excluded because the 12-month rule does not comport with the ABA accreditation process.

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I request that this Court adopt and implement one of the proposals submitted by petitioners so that the 12-month rule is changed to reflect the current ABA accreditation process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Swanson-Mace, Esquire Kristin Swanson-Mace, P.A. 1516 East Livingston Street

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FL. Bar No: 0710164

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 25th day of June 2003.

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