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July 8, 2003

Supreme Court of Florida 500 So. Duval Street Tallahassee, FL 32399

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

The Orange County Bar Association & Petitioners:

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

Dear Your Honors:

My name is Mark A. Matovina and I have been a member of the Florida Bar for one year my license number is 563943 and I am a graduate of Barry University School of Law. I currently have many friends and future colleagues that are affected by the current rules of admission to the Florida Bar. I am writing you today to express my unequivocal support for the above referenced petition.

The current rule that is in effect does not serve its purpose, which is to protect the public from lawyers who are not qualified. In fact, this law does nothing but prevent future capable lawyers from practicing in our state. As a practicing attorney, I can tell you that my fellow students who are required to repeat two years of education are as qualified, if not more qualified than most of the attorney's that I have been in contact with over the past year. These students, who began their journey six months earlier than I have, who I have shared many classes with, are prevented from practicing in the field of law, mainly due to the ABA process, which is become longer and more drawn out then when the rule 2-11.1 and 4-13.2 was initially instituted. At that time, it was conceivable for an institution to begin an

application for ABA accreditation, and complete that process before the first class had graduated. Currently, this is not the case. In fact the ABA frequently requires a school to graduate a class, and then wait to see what the bar results are for that first class. This is unfair, and is prejudice toward students that live in certain geographic areas who are unable to travel to an accredited school.

Public policy dictates that rules and laws are changed when their function and purpose have not kept up with the changing times. It deeply distresses me that many of my fellow students that sat side by side in classes with me can not practice law due to a new ABA process, which has become more political and filled with red tape then ever before. Surely, the Justices can see how the relief given by the petition will not only help these Barry students, but also helps future students from future law schools.

It is with these reasons that I passionately urge the court to adopt either of the two purposed rule changes set forth in SC02-2354 to allow the graduates from Barry University School of Law and law students in other state law schools the opportunity to enter this noble profession in Florida.

If there are any questions that I can personally answer regarding this process, please do not hesitate to let me know. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark Matovina, Esquire

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail this 8th day of July, 2003, to Attorney for the Petitioner, Matthew D. Staver, Esquire 210 Palmetto Ave., Longwood, Florida 32750.

Bogin, Munns & Munns Attorneys and Counselors at Law