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Supreme Court of Florida
500 South Duval Street
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Re: Petition to Amend Rules 2-11 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 long-standing member of the Florida Bar, 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 work with a Barry Law School graduate who was prevented from practicing law in the State of Florida due to the accreditation snafu that has fallen on 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.

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,

Mary Sherris
MARY SHERRIS
0138134

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 Palmeto Avenue, Longwood, Florida 32750 on this 7th day of July, 2003.

May Stavis
Name