

A L I & ZHANGABYLOVA

67 BATTERYMARCH STREET, SUITE 400
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02110-3204
TEL (617) 227-3080
FAX (617) 338-1923

OMAR H. ALI
oha@alishangabylova.com

June 30, 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 member of the Bar of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, license number 652245. I am writing to express my support for the above-referenced petition.

My interest in this petition lies in the fact that my good friend, James Daniel Botkins, was one of the 109 pioneers of Barry University School of Law who had to return to law school for two years to enable him to sit for and receive his results from the Florida Bar Exam. I was profoundly 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 Mr. Botkins and his fellow alumni/students the opportunity to take the Florida Bar Examination with the real prospect of becoming licensed to practice law.

Surely the harm against which the 12-month rule was designed to protect was not protected by keeping Barry's first three graduating classes from practicing law.

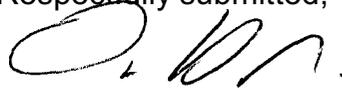
Further, I understand that Florida has recently gained two new law schools, FAMU and FIU. My hope is that this Court will change the 12-month rule to protect the students currently embarking on a legal education at these new institutions. I firmly believe that the students who endeavor to enter this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

Supreme Court

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Omar H. Ali

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 30th day of June, 2003



Omar H. Ali

Ali & Zhangabylova

67 Batterymarch Street, Suite 400